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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
May 11, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable C. Scott Franklin 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 10:50 a.m.

### CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. MALLIOTAKIS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, my parents came to this country as immigrants. Many of my constituents came to this country as immigrants. I think fundamentally Republicans and Democrats agree that we are a Nation of immigrants. Yet, what we are seeing currently at our southern border is a trav-

esty. It is not helpful to the migrants, it is not helpful to our Nation, and it has certainly created so many problems that we are facing right now.

We have seen over 5 million illegal crossings at the southern border, another 1.3 million got-aways. CBP has seized 14,000 pounds of fentanyl at our southern border, enough to kill over 3.1 billion people.

In 2021, more than 71,000 individuals died from synthetic opioid overdoses, and this is roughly 200 people every day. In my city of New York, we have seen overdoses skyrocket since Joe Biden put in place his open border policy, 2,700 in his first year alone. That is the highest in decades. We are seeing fatal overdoses in New York City, on average, every 3 hours. A couple weeks ago, we saw a 16-month-old baby in my district overdose from fentanyl, as well.

The only people that are truly benefiting from this policy are the cartels that are making \$13 billion a year from human and drug smuggling.

We also need to be concerned about who is attempting and is entering our country. In the first 6 months of fiscal year 2023, 80 people on the terrorist watch list were stopped attempting to cross the southern border on top of 98 last year. That is more than the previous 5 years combined.

We can say that we want to support immigration, but it must be legal immigration.

This is completely unsustainable, it is dangerous, and that is why I stand before you to ask in a bipartisan manner that we get behind H.R. 2 and vote to pass it today and that Senator SCHUMER brings it for a vote in the Senate.

In New York City, Immigration and Customs Enforcement is now saying that they are fully booked through October 2023 because two-thirds, at least, of the individuals crossing into our country claiming asylum do not qualify, and they are clogging up the sys-

tem for those who truly are eligible for asylum.

We have seen 60,000-plus migrants come to New York City since last spring. Remember, they have crossed and they entered our country not by the proper channels but by crossing our southern border, and Joe Biden has allowed them to do it.

Our mayor is spending billions of dollars to house these individuals in city hotels. At the same time, he is saying we are going to cut city services by a billion dollars every year for the next 4 years, and we are going to cut everything from libraries to programs for our children, fire, sanitation, parks, and homeless services. We have homeless New Yorkers, and the mayor is saying that he has to put citizens of other countries in shelters instead of our own. It is just completely backward and unsustainable.

As I walked here today, I just got notice that the mayor decided to halt this ridiculous policy. He was basing all of this, by the way, on a right-to-shelter law under Mayor Ed Koch that was meant for homeless New Yorkers. He has abused that, and that is what we are seeing take place today.

We can work to address this issue. Let's protect the taxpayers. Let's protect our Nation's security. Let's put forward the border security plan that is before us today, and then let's also work to make sure that we know who is entering in and out of our country through proper visas, employer visas, family-sponsored visas. I am willing to work with everybody on that, as well. We must stem the flow. Let's stop putting the drug cartels before American citizens, and let's move forward today and pass this bill.

### HONORING JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT CLAY ARMBRISTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

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

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



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North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the president of Johnson C. Smith University, Clay Armbrister.

JCSU is Charlotte's own HBCU and the only accredited historically Black college or university in the 12th Congressional District.

The Golden Bulls have a rich legacy in the Biddleville neighborhood in Charlotte that extends all the way back to 1867. President Armbrister has helped preserve and extend that legacy during his tenure.

I have been so very proud to work with President Armbrister to grow Johnson C. Smith University. For 5 years, President Armbrister has been a transformative leader, not only for JCSU but for the West End and the entire Charlotte community.

Under Clay's leadership, JCSU has modernized its campus, overcome a pandemic, and led a historic fund-raising drive to raise \$80 million to support the university's academic and career-ready programs.

He courageously excused student loan debt for hundreds of students.

Last year, I said President Armbrister is one of the true heroes behind America's progress during the pandemic, and he has continued to earn that compliment with his leadership in our community.

I am so very proud to call him a friend. I wish him and his incredible wife, Denise, the very best in their future endeavors, and I congratulate him on his retirement. May God bless him.

#### STOP MASK MANDATES AT DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS CLINICS

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

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, after 3 years of government overreach, which was blamed on COVID-19, we can all agree that the pandemic is over. The fact is, this very body passed H.R. 382 to end the national public health emergency, the Senate agreed, and the President signed it into law.

The Biden administration is going so far as to allow title 42 to end at midnight tonight, removing the ability of our Border Patrol agents to turn immigrants away due to public health concerns.

Yet, every week, I receive calls from veterans who are being denied care at VA health clinics across Montana over mask mandates. Let me repeat that. The pandemic is over, yet veterans are being denied medical care over mask mandates.

Denying anyone, particularly a veteran, medical care over a personal decision is outrageous and violates the Hippocratic Oath.

In March, I had the opportunity to question the individuals from the VA

and sent them multiple letters over their mask mandates. They responded by allowing each clinic to set its own guidelines.

Unfortunately, instead of eliminating masks, the Montana VA healthcare system doubled down and has dictated that every clinic in the State requires masks.

In Billings, Iraq war veteran Travis Norby has consistently been denied care every time he walks into the local VA clinic. Is this the respect that we show our veterans after they have put their life on the line to protect our freedoms?

First and foremost, we have a duty to ensure that our veterans have access to the medical care they need. It is not just a matter of obligation; it is a matter of respect and gratitude for the sacrifices that they have made. Denying veterans access to medical care over mask mandates is a betrayal of our Nation's core values.

If we can agree that the pandemic is over, to the extent that the Biden administration is allowing title 42 to expire, then we must stop turning our back on our Nation's heroes and stop mask mandates at the VA health clinics.

#### CONGRESS NEEDS TO ACT ON IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act of 2023, scheduled for a vote on the House floor today.

This bill is extreme and wrong. This bill in no way secures the border. In fact, it would only make security worse.

It is an assault on asylum seekers and those who flee poverty, hunger, and violence, including unaccompanied minors and families with children. It exploits challenges on our border for political points. It adds to the human suffering of those who come to our country seeking safety and a better life. It is also about putting politics over people.

We all expect our government to effectively manage our borders and thoroughly vet those who seek to enter as refugees, to join their family already in the country, or to work. We all agree on that.

Instead, what we see is children are in danger, families are separated or detained, and people are dying.

We need reform and we need it now.

The last time Congress passed immigration reform was in 1996, 27 years ago. This Republican-led bill eliminates several legal immigration pathways, essentially making fewer people eligible for legal status while making more people deportable.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is extreme and wrong. Again, session after session, we talk about reform but nothing ever passes, not a single immigration law update, again, since 1996.

Time and time again, Republicans block meaningful legislation for safe and legal immigration from moving beyond this floor. Our job as public officials is to serve and protect our constituents, but we have been failing them for 27 years.

House Republicans focus solely on immigration as a border issue, providing billions of dollars in so-called border security, building walls, increasing personnel, and rapid expulsion policies. That hasn't worked, has it?

The promised security involves a militarized border, wasting the taxpayers' money, and increased violence for those seeking asylum.

Since 1988, at least 8,000 undocumented immigrants have died attempting to cross the border from Mexico to the United States. People are dying every day while we wait on Republicans to budge.

While rightwing media and extreme MAGA Republicans call immigrants "illegals," seeking asylum is a legal right. It is in our immigration law. They are following the law. This law and this right would be denied to thousands under this bill.

The administration and Congress must act. Again, this bill is simply extreme and wrong and does nothing to secure our border.

Meanwhile, we continue to see the violence at the border and violence in my home State of Texas. I was born and raised in South Texas. I am not from Long Island or Boston or somewhere else talking about the border. I am from South Texas. I am talking about our South Texas border.

□ 1015

Over the weekend, it was heartbreaking to see that 8 people were killed and 10 injured when a vehicle was driven into a group of people waiting in line at a migrant shelter in south Texas.

We all know that there will be a surge of migrants coming in as of tonight, and cities like Brownsville, where this occurred, are preparing. We are preparing in Houston because we know we will get some of the impact, too.

We must keep in mind that since migrants will no longer have the protections they have been afforded in the past—this bill will eliminate all that. People are losing their lives as they wait, even at this shelter. People are losing their lives on their way over.

Now more than ever, safe and legal immigration reform is necessary. We must protect all God's children. We must always put people over politics and rhetoric.

Now more than ever, we need safe and legal immigration reform. Now more than ever, we cannot wait another moment.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose this bill and ask my colleagues to do the same.

**RECOGNIZING DETECTIVE CHRISTOPHER DRURY OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

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

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer congressional recognition to Detective Christopher Drury of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department.

Detective Christopher Drury began his career in 2011 and was hired as a deputy sheriff on call. He was assigned to the Sacramento County Main Jail. Detective Drury was hired as a full-time deputy sheriff in 2013, where he remained assigned to the main jail.

In February 2015, Detective Drury was transferred to the Court Security Division, where he remained until he was transferred to the North Patrol Division in December 2015.

Detective Drury was selected to the Rancho Cordova Police Department in 2017. The Rancho Cordova Police Department is a contracted city that is fulfilled by the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office. While assigned there, Detective Drury regularly interacted with the community during his shift and answered numerous calls for service.

Detective Drury quickly became known for his tremendous work ethic and commitment to the community. His proactive enforcement of violent crime prevention was highly appreciated and noticed by his supervisors.

In 2019, Detective Drury was selected to be a narcotics detective in the Impact Bureau. The Impact Bureau focuses on large-scale drug trafficking, which operates from Kern County to the Oregon border. Additional duties include the dismantling of drug clandestine labs.

While assigned to the Impact Bureau, Detective Drury has worked several major narcotics investigations, which have led to the seizure of hundreds of pounds of methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine, and fentanyl. He continues to dismantle large-scale drug trafficking organizations and positively interacts with the community in numerous ways.

Despite having this very demanding position, in his off time, Detective Drury actively contributes to the community. He was a regular volunteer at his children's elementary school. He also volunteers for Sacred Heart Home Tour, which is an organization that raises charity proceeds to help individuals attend private Catholic school. The organization raises roughly \$200,000 a year for the charity.

Finally, Detective Drury is involved with the nonprofit Sponsoring True Advocacy for Challenged Youth, or STACY. This nonprofit is an organization advocating for children with special needs and their families through diverse programs and partnerships in the greater Sacramento area.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons and more, I am honored to include Detective Christopher Drury of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office in the Third District of California's Police Honor Roll.

teacher education experience, meeting so many amazing students and faculty members that have shaped my mind the way I hope to for my own students one day. And each day I have gone in, I have to admit, I have silently wondered if I would come out, if our kids would come out, if my peers would come out, if my teachers and mentors would come out.

#### GUN VIOLENCE IN OUR COUNTRY

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

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, in the 10 years since the Sandy Hook shooting, the NRA has spent more than \$100 million to help elect Republicans who will make it easier to sell more guns so we can kill more kids—\$100 million.

They have gotten what they paid for because we have had 189 more school shootings and 279 people killed on school grounds since Sandy Hook.

Some of my colleagues may be happy about that, but I am angry, and my constituents live in trauma.

Mr. Speaker, I had a student in my district who wrote in to tell me: "We are tired. We are exhausted. We are sick of going to class and any public area and forming an escape route."

I had another constituent who asked me: "How many children and teachers are going to have to be killed by guns before our government takes action?"

The honest answer is that I don't know. In the wake of these shootings, I have to tell them that I work with people who wear AR-15 lapel pins on the floor of the House, people who send holiday cards where their whole family cosplays as Rambo. They actually believe that our Founders envisioned and designed a country where you have a right to shoot innocent strangers dead, but no American has the right not to get shot.

Five months into this year, America has already had 199 mass shootings. Sometimes, we have a moment of silence on the floor afterward, but quite frankly, there are too many to keep up. I am not proud of this, but we ignore most of them. The American people can't.

I had a mother who wrote to me saying: "Each day, as I send my two children off to school and daycare, I find myself fearing that it may be the last time I will see them."

Another wrote to say: "I am the parent of a 5-year-old. I cannot believe that we are living in a country where 5-year-olds die like soldiers at the mall and where another mother will come home today without her child. I do not feel safe in public places. I have no peace while my child is at school, and because I am a teacher, I don't feel safe at work either."

Five months into this year, we have had 15,166 deaths due to gun violence. Yet, my colleagues across the aisle have not allowed a single bill to come to the floor to address that risk.

After the shooting at Covenant Elementary in Tennessee, I got this message from Meaghan, a student teacher. She said:

"After working in over five schools now, I have loved every moment of my

teacher education experience, meeting so many amazing students and faculty members that have shaped my mind the way I hope to for my own students one day. And each day I have gone in, I have to admit, I have silently wondered if I would come out, if our kids would come out, if my peers would come out, if my teachers and mentors would come out.

"I have caught myself dozing off and imagining what I would do if someone came into our room with a gun. I have imagined every person in that room with bullets in them and blood splattered from the walls to the floors.

"I know you all get these messages in your offices. Do you read them? Do you understand the fear, the trauma, and the death that your inaction has caused? Is it worth the NRA money? Do you even care?"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

#### HONORING MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS ON GUAM

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, as we observe National Nurses Week, I rise to honor our medical professionals on Guam and the incredible work they do for our island community.

Nurses are an integral part of our healthcare system, providing patients with compassionate care and support. Shown next to me are some of Guam's nurses tending to the well-being of our island residents.

As the backbone of our healthcare system, nurses work tirelessly around the clock to ensure everyone receives the best possible treatment.

Oftentimes, they sacrifice their own well-being and comfort to provide excellent care to their patients. This can mean working long hours, dealing with difficult individuals, or managing stressful situations.

Not to forget, on Guam and everywhere else, nurses were at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19, putting their own lives at risk to save others.

Today and every day, we honor our nurses for their hard work and dedication.

Happy National Nurses Week.

#### CELEBRATING GUAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 99TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, the Guam Chamber of Commerce celebrated its 99th anniversary. That is nearly a century of promoting the economic, social, and environmental well-being of the island of Guam.

The Guam Chamber of Commerce has taken the initiative in extending and fostering trade and commerce on island, developing and protecting the many industries that call Guam home, advocating for probusiness policies, and providing forums for business entities to grow.

Their Armed Forces Committee has tirelessly continued a decades-long tradition of walking the Halls of Congress and knocking on doors to promote mutually beneficial and responsible military growth in Guam.

As someone who has spent many years in the private sector and proudly sat on the board of directors of this prestigious organization many years ago, it is my honor to stand here in these sacred Halls of democracy to congratulate the Guam Chamber of Commerce on their historic milestone of celebrating 99 years.

On behalf of a thankful nation and island, I commend them for their many services toward both Guam's business community and the people of Guam.

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING GUAM'S CENTENARIANS

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, as our island and Nation celebrate and honor our senior citizens, or manamko, as we refer to them back home, I will to take this time to recognize a handful of centenarians on Guam, who will be celebrating a birthday spanning 100 years or older this year.

This list includes:

Ms. Rosario Flores Leon Guerrero, who is celebrating her 103rd birthday.

Ms. Teodora Andrade, who is celebrating her 102nd birthday.

Ms. Josefina de la Concepcion Diaz, who is celebrating her 101st birthday.

Ms. Lillian Leon Anderson is celebrating her 100th birthday this year.

Also celebrating birthday No. 100 is Ms. Magdalena Perez Taitano Fausto.

Sadly, we recently lost Ms. Victoria Robeniol Rebugio, who would have celebrated her 101st birthday in December of this year.

On behalf of a great nation and a loving island community, and from these sacred Halls of democracy and history, please join me in honoring Guam's centenarians and wishing them a happy birthday.

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DANGEROUS RAIL

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about an extremely dangerous situation in rail corridors across America. This includes the busy mainline rail corridor between Pittsburgh and Chicago that cuts across northern Ohio, including most of my district.

In northern Ohio, rail is the spine of our economy. To stay competitive in today's economy and avoid expensive supply chain delays, industrial and agricultural America must think big about modernizing rail solutions. Our Nation must prioritize rail safety, give people more transportation options, and expand access to national and international markets.

In the past year, three significant train derailments by Norfolk Southern have taken place in Ohio. In October 2022, a 21-car derailment occurred in

my district at Sandusky, where Norfolk Southern has dragged its feet for over half a year in cleaning up the mess. That job is still not finished. This rail corridor again drew national attention with the major derailment earlier this year in East Palestine, Ohio.

The imperative topic of rail safety has many clear and sometimes deadly impacts on students across our Nation.

□ 1030

I include in the RECORD a recent ProPublica news article which highlights the risks for students in Hammond, Indiana.

[From the ProPublica]

AS RAIL PROFITS SOAR, BLOCKED CROSSINGS FORCE KIDS TO CRAWL UNDER TRAINS TO GET TO SCHOOL

(By Topher Sanders and Dan Schwartz, ProPublica, and Joice Sterman, Gray Television/InvestigateTV)

Jeremiah Johnson couldn't convince his mother to let him wear a suit, so he insisted on wearing his striped tie and matching pocket square. It was picture day and the third grader wanted to get to school on time. But as he and his mom walked from their Hammond, Indiana, home on a cold, rainy fall morning, they confronted an obstacle they'd come to dread:

A sprawling train, parked in their path.

Lamira Samson, Jeremiah's mother, faced a choice she said she has to make several times a week. They could walk around the train, perhaps a mile out of the way; she could keep her 8-year-old son home, as she sometimes does; or they could try to climb over the train, risking severe injury or death, to reach Hess Elementary School four blocks away.

She listened for the hum of an engine. Hearing none, she hurried to help Jeremiah climb a ladder onto the flat platform of a train car. Once up herself, she helped him scramble down the other side.

ProPublica and InvestigateTV witnessed dozens of students do the same in Hammond, climbing over, squeezing between and crawling under train cars with "Frozen" and "Space Jam" backpacks. An eighth grade girl waited 10 minutes before she made her move, nervously scrutinizing the gap between two cars. She'd seen plenty of trains start without warning. "I don't want to get crushed," she said.

Recent spectacular derailments have focused attention on train safety and whether the nation's powerful rail companies are doing enough to protect the public—and whether federal regulators are doing enough to make them, especially as the companies build longer and longer trains.

But communities like Hammond routinely face a different set of risks foisted on them by those same train companies, which have long acted with impunity. Every day across America, their trains park in the middle of neighborhoods and major intersections, waiting to enter congested rail yards or for one crew to switch with another. They block crossings, sometimes for hours or days, disrupting life and endangering lives.

News accounts chronicle horror stories: Ambulances can't reach patients before they die or get them to the hospital in time. Fire trucks can't get through and house fires blaze out of control. Pedestrians trying to cut through trains have been disfigured, dismembered and killed; when one train abruptly began moving, an Iowa woman was dragged underneath until it stripped almost all of the skin from the back of her body; a

Pennsylvania teenager lost her leg hopping between rail cars as she rushed home to get ready for prom.

In Hammond, the hulking trains of Norfolk Southern regularly force parents, kids and caretakers into an exhausting gamble: How much should they risk to get to school?

The trains, which can stretch across five or six intersections at a time in this working-class suburb of 77,000, prevent students and teachers from getting to school in the morning. Teachers must watch multiple classrooms while their colleagues wait at crossings; kids sit on school buses as they meander the streets of an entirely different city to be dropped off a half-hour late. Brandi Odom, a seventh grade teacher, estimates that at least half her class is delayed by trains multiple times a week.

The adults entrusted with their safety—parents and teachers, police and fire officials, the mayor—say they are well aware of the pressures on students' minds when they face a blocked crossing on foot. They know some are hungry and don't want to miss breakfast; the vast majority in this 86 percent Black and Latino district qualify for free or reduced-price meals at school. And they know that many of their parents commute to work an hour away to Chicago, trusting older brothers or sisters to pick up or drop off their siblings.

"I feel awful about it," said Scott E. Miller, the superintendent. His district has asked Norfolk Southern for its schedule so that the schools can plan for blockages and students can adjust their routines. The company has disregarded the requests, school officials said.

Mayor Thomas McDermott Jr. said that his experience with the rails has been similar, and that company officials have reminded him the rails "were here first," running through Hammond before it was even a city. "To them, I am nobody," he said. "They don't pay attention to me. They don't respect me. They don't care about the city of Hammond. They just do what they want."

In written responses to questions, a spokesperson for Norfolk Southern said children climbing through their trains concerns the company.

"It is never safe for members of the public to try to cross the cars," spokesperson Connor Spielmaker said. "We understand that a stopped train is frustrating, but trains can move at any time and with little warning—especially if you are far from the locomotive where the warning bell is sounded when a train starts."

He said trains routinely sit in Hammond for a number of reasons: That section of track is between two busy train intersections that must remain open; Norfolk Southern can't easily move a train backward or forward, because that would cut off the paths for other trains, which could belong to other companies. And Hammond is a suburb of Chicago, which is the busiest train hub in the nation, creating congestion up and down the network.

He said Norfolk Southern is working to identify an area where trains can stage further down its line and to have less impact on the community. The company will also review its procedures to see whether its trains can give louder warnings before they start moving. (ProPublica reporters witnessed trains in Hammond start moving without warning.) Spielmaker said that train schedules vary so much that giving Hammond one might not be helpful. He said that the company is in "constant communication" with local officials, and that representatives will discuss any proposed fixes with Hammond.

Rail companies around the country could better coordinate their schedules, parking trains far from schools that are in session.

They could also build shorter trains that fit into railyards so their tall ends don't block towns' crossings. Hammond essentially serves as a parking lot for Norfolk Southern's trains, creating a problem so pressing that Indiana plans to spend \$14 million—about \$10 million of which is coming from federal grants—to build an overpass for cars. The bridge won't help many students, who would need to walk at least a mile out of their way just to reach it. Norfolk Southern, the multibillion-dollar corporation causing the problem, is contributing just \$500,000 of the bridge's cost, despite the city asking for more.

Norfolk Southern did not respond directly to questions about whether it should chip in more to the upcoming project, but the company said it contributes to many safety projects and maintains more than 1,600 grade crossings in Indiana alone. Read the company's full response here.

On three separate occasions during the fall and winter, reporters witnessed Norfolk Southern trains blocking intersections leading to an elementary, a middle and a high school for four, six and seven hours. ProPublica and InvestigateTV showed footage of kids making the crossing, including an elementary student crawling under a train, to representatives of Norfolk Southern, lawmakers and Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, whose remit includes rail safety.

He was shocked.

"Nobody," Buttigieg said, "can look at a video with a child having to climb over or under a railroad car to get to school and think that everything is OK."

The video also stunned state officials who had long known about the problem. "That takes my breath away," said Indiana state Rep. Carolyn Jackson, who represents the Hammond area and has filed a bill attempting to address blocked crossings every session for the past five years. None has ever gotten a hearing. "I hope that they will do something about it and we won't have to wait until a parent has to bury their child."

The blocked crossing problem is perennial, especially in cities like Hammond that are near large train yards. But in the era of precision scheduled railroading, a management philosophy that leans heavily on running longer trains, residents, first responders, rail workers and government leaders told ProPublica it is getting worse as trains stretch farther across more intersections and crossings. "The length of the long trains is 100% the cause of what's going on across the country right now," said Randy Fannon, a national vice president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen. "No engineer wants to block a crossing."

The Federal Railroad Administration, the agency that regulates rail safety, started a public database in late 2019 for complaints about blocked crossings and fielded more than 28,000 reports of stopped trains last year alone. Among them were thousands of dispatches from 44 states about pedestrians, including kids, crossing trains. Someone in North Charleston, South Carolina, summarized the situation in three letters: "Wtf."

A rail administration spokesperson said the agency shares the data monthly with companies. "When railroads fail to act quickly," and if a crossing is reported as blocked three days in a calendar month, officials will contact a company to determine the cause and try to work out solutions, Warren Flatau said. "We are receiving various levels of cooperation . . . and welcome more consistent engagement." Read more about what the agency says it is doing here.

Buttigieg said that this spring or summer, he expects to announce the first grants in a new U.S. Department of Transportation pro-

gram designed to help alleviate blocked crossings. The federal government is putting \$3 billion into the program over five years.

State lawmakers have tried to curb blocked crossings by restricting the lengths of trains. Since 2019, in Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Georgia, Nebraska, Virginia, Washington, Arizona and other states, lawmakers have proposed maximum lengths of 1.4 to about 1.6 miles. (There is no limit now, and trains have been known to stretch for 2 or more miles.) Every proposal has died before becoming law.

Opponents, including the nation's largest railroad companies, claim that the efforts are driven by unions to create jobs and that the measures would violate interstate commerce laws. As ProPublica has reported, train length has been essential to creating record profits for rail companies in recent years.

The industry has also sued to block more modest measures. In Hammond, for instance, police used to be able to write tickets for about \$150 every time they saw a train stalled at a crossing for more than five minutes. Instead of paying the individual citations, Hammond officials told ProPublica, Norfolk Southern would bundle them and negotiate a lower payment.

"We weren't getting anything," McDermott, the mayor, said, "but it made our residents feel good." An Indiana court took the industry's side—as many courts in other states have done—ruling that only the federal government held power over the rails. "We can't even write tickets anymore," the mayor said. "It was more of an illusion, and we can't even play the illusion anymore."

He said the blockages have forced Hammond to keep more firefighters and stations than would normally be needed for a city its size. "I have to have a firehouse fully staffed on both sides of the rail line so that we can respond in a timely manner to an emergency, which is very expensive," McDermott said.

The problem has become so endemic in Hammond that getting "trained," or stalled at crossings, has become a verb.

Police officers are delayed several times a day, said Hammond Police Department spokesperson Lt. Steve Kellogg. Last October, an officer couldn't get backup as he confronted a man who was holding a knife, bleeding and not responding to commands. The officer pulled his weapon and the man ultimately cooperated, but someone could have died, Kellogg said. Hammond's powerlessness over the rails is frustrating, he added. "They're all controlled by the feds, and they do whatever the hell they want to do."

Spielmaker, the Norfolk Southern spokesperson, said: "We work with first responders on a daily basis to assist however we can. For example, there was a situation in Georgia where a train was stopped on a crossing due to a broken down train ahead. The train could not be moved, so we worked with the first responders to make sure the train was safe for them to maneuver through it in place."

In his 24 years fighting fires in Hammond, Mike Hull, president of a local union, said not once has he seen railroads do that for first responders. "They've never come back and said, 'We're going to move this train for you,'" he said.

State and local officials grew hopeful on March 20 when the U.S. Supreme Court invited the federal government to comment on a petition from Ohio seeking the authority to regulate how long a train can block a crossing. The high court will likely hear the case if the solicitor general recommends it, said Tom Goldstein, publisher of

SCOTUSblog, which is widely seen as an authority on the court. Nineteen other states have signaled their support for a Supreme Court case. Goldstein expects the solicitor general to respond in November or early December. A favorable court opinion could allow other states to finally enforce their laws on blocked crossings.

In the meantime, Buttigieg believes federal lawmakers must intervene to give the Federal Railroad Administration the power to compel rail companies to keep crossings clear. This time of intense public interest in railroads has opened a window for action, Buttigieg said, but it is fleeting. "Any moment that the public attention starts to fade, the railroads are then once again in a position to assert themselves in Washington and to ignore some of the phone calls they are getting in the communities," he said.

Buttigieg said his staff is ready to participate in a federal hearing in which it can tell lawmakers what new authorities they would need to regulate blocked crossings.

U.S. Rep. Sylvia Garcia, D-Texas, said she is eager for new law. A fire chief in her district, which covers parts of the Houston area, told her the department has had to detour 3,200 times since 2019 because of blocked crossings. She and other congressional Democrats introduced the Don't Block Our Communities Act in early March, but it has not yet gained bipartisan traction. The proposed law would prohibit rail companies from blocking crossings for more than 10 minutes and would allow the rail administration to fine companies for repeated violations.

Like the other officials, Garcia said she was aghast, but not surprised, about the situation in Hammond. "That is outrageous, look at the little bitty baby," she said while watching a video of a young girl crawling under a train car. "That's what I mean about making sure we do more to protect the safety of our children. That happens too in Houston."

In Hammond, a public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at Scott Middle School to discuss the overpass project. Among those who hope to voice their concerns about the blocked crossings are rail workers themselves who worry about the kids. "It's just a matter of time until there is a catastrophic incident," said Kenny Edwards, the Indiana legislative director for the nation's largest rail union.

Efrain Valdez, president of the parent teacher association, said he hopes officials can adjust plans to help students who need to walk to school. "To see our children in danger like that, that's just downright crazy," he said. "I'm just appalled and heartbroken that [the railroad] would think that's OK. That their money means more to them than a child's life."

Until there's a better solution, the ritual continues. Some parents act as de facto crossing guards, standing beside trains to help their children and others cross. Others ask their kids to call them before and after they make the climb, while warning them about the worst that can happen.

Rudy Costello tells his daughter, who is in high school, to be careful, because if the train moves she "could slip and then there goes your leg and your foot. Or you get pulled under the train and there goes you all together." He added: "That's been my biggest fear, her foot slipping off. . . . But what can you do? Because those trains are always stopping over there, for hours."

Akicia Henderson said she has tried to avoid making the dangerous climb with her 10-year-old daughter. "I called a Lyft," she said. "The Lyft driver actually canceled on me twice because he couldn't get around the train."

So she walks toward the tracks, picturing all that can go wrong—a jacket snags, a backpack tangles, the wheels begin to turn. She prays that this will be one of the days their path isn't blocked and that she doesn't hear the sound she has most come to fear, a horn in the distance.

“It’s like, ‘Oh my God, the train is coming.’”

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, children are forced to crawl over or under very long parked trains that block their path to school. ProPublica and InvestigateTV witnessed dozens of students in Hammond climbing over, squeezing between, and crawling under the train cars just to make their way to and from school.

Railroads of America, wake up.

In my district in northwest Ohio, I have also witnessed situations with students in extremely dangerous and deadly situations.

In December of 2009 along that same mainline rail crossing at McCord Road in Lucas County, Ohio, a train hit two students on foot in my district, killing one of them and putting the other in critical condition at Toledo Hospital where she underwent surgery.

Cody L. Brown, a 15-year-old freshman, was pronounced dead at the scene. Brianna Mullinger was taken in critical condition to Toledo Hospital. The students, both band members, were walking to school when that westbound Amtrak train struck them.

In the wake of this tragedy, our community constructed an underpass below the Norfolk Southern rail line at McCord Road to try to avoid future tragedies at this same rail crossing.

There are numerous such places across this corridor. Our effort protects students, pedestrians, and drivers without interrupting traffic or flow of trains, pedestrians, or cars that pass through this intersection.

These stories are emblematic of some of the longstanding and unaddressed real issues America continues to face to this day.

Railroads of America, wake up.

Let us use our bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to fix these rail problems that exist and take steps to address them coast to coast. Now is a pivotal point where our Nation can fix these challenges with funds available from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and President Biden to pay particular attention to this regional corridor from Pittsburgh to Chicago. It is so dangerous. Help us convene rail stakeholders to relieve congestion and identify key infrastructure improvement projects.

This is a time freight companies like Norfolk Southern, CSX, and Amtrak should come together at the same table. Let us craft solutions to address longstanding issues regarding rail safety.

Communities are begging to work with these companies that never return phone calls to help fix these longstanding, solvable challenges. We must

look to the future and join together to protect the public: our students, our rail workers, and our communities.

Let us deliver both transformative and safe commercial and passenger rail solutions. The tools are at our disposal. The money is there.

Where are the rail companies?

The time is now. Let's do what we in the industrial Midwest do best. Let's get to work.

#### BIDEN'S STUDENT LOAN BAILOUT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Education and the Workforce Committee passed H.J. Res. 45, a Congressional Review Act resolution to overturn Biden's student loan bailout.

I thank Representative BOB GOOD for sponsoring this crucial resolution.

If passed through both Chambers, the joint resolution being debated today would nullify President Biden's radical plan to cancel up to \$20,000 in student debt by executive fiat. For 2 years, President Biden has attempted to push a free college agenda through radical regulations including income-driven repayment, executive actions like blanket cancellation, and his permanent pause on repayment.

Student loan forgiveness is nothing more than a transfer of wealth from those who willingly took on debt to those who did not or had the grit to pay off their loans.

Just 13 percent of Americans hold student loan debt, and over one-half is held by graduate students. In other words, President Biden is forcing the very people Democrats claim to care about—low-income families, disadvantaged populations, and blue-collar workers who never stepped foot on a college campus—to pay someone else's tuition bill.

How much would it cost the American taxpayer?

President Biden's student loan bailout alone will cost taxpayers an estimated \$315 billion according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Coupled with his reckless income-driven repayment plan and other expansive regulations, his student loan scams could cost as much as \$1 trillion. In fact, at a cost exceeding \$3,500 per taxpayer, the President's income-driven repayment plan and mass cancellation represent the most expensive executive actions in American history, period.

These illegal actions also come at a time of rip-roaring inflation as Democrats' reckless spending sprees push our economy to the precipice of recession. The President's debt transfer plan alone could increase inflation by as much as 27 basis points, making it even harder for families to put food on the table and gas in their car. With our national debt quickly approaching \$32 trillion, a bailout for graduate students

and high-income households is the last thing we need on our Nation's credit card.

Our economy is a debt-fueled balloon waiting to pop, and this plan could be the proverbial needle. With all this spending, one would, at the very least, expect the broken student loan program to be repaired. Yet, even if the President is able to move forward with his debt transfer plan, we will be right back to \$1.6 trillion in outstanding debt in less than 6 years.

Why?

Because colleges will increase their tuition and force students to borrow even more because they know taxpayers will foot the bill.

The problems that plague postsecondary education cannot be solved by one-time debt jubilees. Solutions require hard work.

Specifically, it means addressing the lack of accountability for the hundreds of billions of dollars that flow to colleges and universities that charge far too much for degrees with little or no financial value and reforming our student loan program which Democrats are dead set on running into the ground.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

#### ADOPTING THE CONSTITUTION OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this week I was pleased to introduce legislation to adopt the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands and its amendments as the constitution of the Virgin Islands of the United States.

My legislation provides for the adoption of the Revised Organic Act, as it has been approved by Congress, signed into law, and amended, as the constitution of our territory.

While the Revised Organic Act presently serves as the main governing document of the Virgin Islands, we have been unable to enact changes on a territorial level. If the Revised Organic Act and its amendments are adopted as the constitution by Federal law, it would then free the Virgin Islands to make further amendments without congressional engagement or approval.

As such, my legislation includes an amendment process to allow the Virgin Islands to revise the constitution once adopted.

In May of 2020, the Virgin Islands legislature passed bill 33-0292, which included a referendum on the general election ballot on calling a constitutional convention to adopt the Revised Organic Act. This proposal was approved by 72 percent of people voting on this measure.

There is a clear public preference for the adoption of a constitution for the

Virgin Islands. My legislation enables a base constitution to be enacted and a local process for self-determination and a level of autonomy in our constitutional maturation.

I am asking all Virgin Islanders to speak with individuals you know who can help support this act, and I am asking Members of our diaspora living in the mainland to lobby their current congressional and Senate Representatives for support.

**PREVENTING FURTHER GROWTH OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK ON ST. JOHN.**

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this week I introduced legislation to prohibit the net increase of federally owned land in the Virgin Islands National Park Service on St. John. The Virgin Islands National Park boundary encompasses nearly two-thirds of the island of St. John. Within the park boundary, there is both federally owned and privately owned land. There is a finite amount of land for the residents of St. John who are already confronting housing shortages. This legislation takes the necessary steps to prevent an increase in land owned by the park.

This legislation prevents any net increase of federally owned land in the park. Individuals and entities would still be able to donate or exchange land with the park, but if the Virgin Islands National Park acquires any land, an equal acreage of land must be conveyed out of Federal ownership.

The legislation includes stringent guidelines to ensure the park does not utilize bureaucratic processes to cause excessive delays. When the park elects to sell Federal land to avoid an increase in net acreage, it must offer the land for sale within a year at fair market value. Six months after the land is first offered for sale, if it is not under contract or sold, then the price is reduced by 10 percent each month.

This legislation addresses the concerns I hear consistently from Virgin Islanders about an ever-expanding presence of the park on St. John. The park has a responsibility as stewards and also as partners of the Virgin Islands. That has not always been the case.

Unfortunately, often the park seems to be solely engaged in protecting land, not the people who were the original inhabitants of that land or the people brought over as enslaved people who fought for freedom and through sweat and toil were able to obtain land on that island.

Albeit sometimes well-intentioned, what they have done is effectively crowded out Native people in furtherance of neocolonial bourgeois wildlife ideals acting under the assumption that the local people—interestingly, people of color—cannot care for the land themselves.

As we look at the history and the future of the Virgin Islands National Park, our decisions must be intentional to support St. John and the entire Virgin Islands, which includes its land, its people, its history, its culture, and our future.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance this legislation.

**SOLVING THE WORST BORDER CRISIS IN AMERICAN HISTORY**

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, since his first day in office, President Biden has actively worked to weaken our southern border through radical open border policies that have resulted in the worst border crisis in our Nation's history, turning every community—including mine, the Sixth District of Virginia—into a border community.

Despite the President's and Secretary Mayorkas' desperate attempts to downplay the crisis and tell Americans to deal with it, the facts don't lie.

Under Biden's failed leadership, Border Patrol officials have encountered a record high of more than 5 million illegal immigrants at our southern border, and nearly 2 million of them have been released in the United States by the Department of Homeland Security. At the same time, over 1.5 million known got-aways have illegally crossed the border undetected.

From halting construction of the border wall to reinstituting Obama-era catch-and-release policies and deciding to halt title 42, President Biden has willingly and knowingly failed to protect the southern border and uphold the rule of law.

Now our Border Patrol is underresourced, our national security is jeopardized, and drug cartels are empowered to smuggle deadly fentanyl into our interior.

In fact, Virginia communities are being overrun. According to the Virginia Department of Health, in 2021, Virginia had a 15 percent increase in overdoses from 2020, with synthetic fentanyl being the leading cause of those 2,033 deaths.

This is an invasion, and it must be stopped. House Republicans know that border security is national security, which is why we have brought to the floor H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act.

The Judiciary Committee played a leading role in crafting this legislation, and I am proud of the work we have done to make this the strongest border security package that Congress has ever considered. However, we must get it enacted.

H.R. 2 will secure America's borders by improving the asylum system, deploying urgent resources to the southern and northern borders—including walls, manpower, and technologies—and ending incentives for illegal immigration.

Mr. Speaker, innocent lives are at stake. Our Nation's sovereignty is at stake. We owe it to the American people to tackle Biden's disastrous border crisis. That starts with passing this legislation, and I urge every one of my colleagues to join us in supporting this bill to address this national crisis.

□ 1045

**CONGRATULATING STATE CHAMPIONS GLENVAR HIGH SCHOOL BOYS INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD TEAM**

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Glenvar High School Boys Indoor Track and Field Team on winning the combined class ½ State championship held at Liberty University.

The Glenvar Highlanders won the trophy at the 2-day meet with a score of 58 points, a 9-point victory over the runners-up.

Glenvar's senior Heath Bowker dominated the meet, winning the boys 500-meter dash in 1:08:20.

Highlanders Jackson Swanson, Zach Curfiss, Avone Noel, and Heath Bowker joined forces to win the 4x200 relay in 1:33:25.

Another Highlanders squad of Heath Bowker, Caeden Bowker, Colby Thompson, and Zach Curfiss won the 4x400 relay in 3:29:88.

Congratulations to all these athletes, including Marshall Berryman, Caeden Bowker, Zach Curfiss, Tyler Davis, Charlie Horrell, Bryce King, Nathaniel King, Aldin Smith, Colby Thompson, Aiden Woodie, Josh Woods, and seniors Heath Bowker, Avone Noel, Davis Norman, and Jackson Swanson.

The team is led by head coach Bekka Loder and assistant Madison Bourne.

Congratulations again to these athletes, parents, coaches, and staff on an incredible season and well-deserved victory.

**CONGRATULATING NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM**

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Northside High School boys basketball team on winning the Virginia Class 3 Basketball State Championship held at the VCU Siegel Center.

The win marked the second basketball State championship in school history and the first since 2019.

Northside came out strong, leading by 17 in the first quarter. As the game entered the final minutes, Northside was down by 4, but this squad dug deep to come out with the trophy and pull out the 58–52 victory against Hopewell.

The Vikings' final push was led by double-digit scorers, Lawrence Cole, Cy Hardy, and Mykell Harvey, a trio that combined for the 53 of the Vikings' 58 points.

I extend congratulations to all the players, including Cy Hardy, Xavier Garrison, Nick Crawford, David Via, Mykell Harvey, Michael Pankey, Kai Logan, Jamareay Lavender, Javin Gibson, Will Smith, Kavon Brown, along with special recognition to seniors Ja'Chan Anthony, Lawrence Cole, Jayden Smith, Elijah Trigg. Congratulations also to the head coach, Billy Pope, and assistants Jake Paysour and Josh Malave.

Congratulations again to all the players, coaches, parents, and staff on a historic season.

## PARENTS PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against attacks on parents across our Nation.

Parents and adult guardians play a critical role in children's lives as nurturers, providers, and confidants.

However, how can they protect or provide for their children when their elected officials choose time and time again to disregard the will of the people, ignore legislation that could save lives, slash funding to critical programs for our children and families, and then defame them for being who they are.

Let me tell you who they are. In the United States, there are over 200,000 foster parents. Forty percent of married couples with children are stepcouples. Sixteen percent of children live in blended families. There are over 100,000 adoptions each year, and 4 million Americans are adopted. All of these statistics represent parents, and it is not up to any of us to define what a parent is.

As a mother, I am appalled by the state of our country. MAGA Republican legislation confuses guidelines around abortion care, threatening the lives of mothers across the country.

Our children aren't safe to go to the grocery store, school, houses of worship, or the mall. They can't turn around in a driveway or retrieve a basketball. Our children go hungry when the government decides to cruelly slash programs like SNAP and WIC that put food on our families' tables.

This Sunday is Mother's Day, and I will be celebrating with my family, but the voice in the back of my head will ask me, what kind of world are they growing up in? This is not what our country is meant to look like.

Every bio-parent, stepparent, adoptive parent, foster parent, or guardian who loves their child is a parent, and we are all scared about the world our children are set to inherit.

## CONGRATULATING STATE CHAMPIONS JOHNSON KNIGHTS BOYS SOCCER TEAM

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

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2023 Georgia High School Association 4A State Champions, the Johnson Knights Boys Soccer Team.

Last week, the Knights became back-to-back State champions, defeating the Westminster Wildcats, boasting a final score of 4-2.

Combined with their 5A championship titles from last year and 2018, this latest victory marks the Knights' third title in the last five completed seasons.

Fueled by adrenaline, filled with talent, and led by Coach Frank Zamora,

these gifted young men continue to dominate the competition and make the 9th District proud.

Congratulations, Johnson High School Boys Soccer Team, on an exciting win and becoming back-to-back Georgia State champions.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 11 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1100

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 11 a.m.

## PRAYER

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

Gracious and generous God, every good and perfect gift comes from You. We need only pause and reflect on how our lives have been blessed with family, children, loved ones, and friends, and our hearts are filled with deep gratitude that You allow us these loves in our lives.

So, too, is Your munificence bestowed on us with every skill, every talent, every opportunity that we exercise here in this place and enjoy sometimes without thinking how blessed we are. We need only stop and remember that these qualities which have brought us success in our careers and comfort in our circumstance have been afforded to us by Your kind provision.

In times of growth and grief, faith and fear, accord and acrimony, we need only turn to You in whom there is no variation and whose steadfast love never fails. We need only remember You are always the provider of every gift and, without fail, the answer to our every concern.

All good gifts around us are sent from Heaven above. We need only take the time to thank You, O Lord. Hear our prayers as we offer them in appreciation for all that we have and all that You have allowed us to enjoy.

We offer our prayers in the strength of Your name.

Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

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

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

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. TIFFANY) come

forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TIFFANY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

## HONORING WISCONSIN'S FALLEN HEROES

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

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, my district tragically lost the life of another police officer in the line of duty. We mourn the loss of St. Croix County Sheriff's Deputy Katie Leising.

No amount of words can express the loss that Wisconsin has felt for our fallen heroes this year. Katie Leising, Emily Breidenbach, Hunter Scheel, and Peter Jerving dedicated their lives to protecting us, and my prayers are with the friends and family of the fallen.

This cannot continue. In spite of these tragedies, many lawmakers still continue to vilify police at every turn and even call to defund them while allowing criminals to stay on our streets.

Let me be clear: Our law enforcement needs our support now more than ever.

I thank all of Wisconsin law enforcement. These past few months have been tough, but we will get through them together.

Violence toward our police officers is something that we will not tolerate, and please know that Wisconsin's Seventh District stands behind law enforcement.

## CALLING FOR GOP BILL ON GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, every day 30 people are killed by someone using a gun. Gun violence is the leading cause of death for children in the United States. When will you be bringing a bill to the floor to help put an end to this carnage?

Mr. Speaker, our country is averaging 1.5 mass shootings every day. There are over 70 suicides and accidental shootings every day. When will you bring a bill to the floor to help put an end to this?

Mr. Speaker, every day our cops are on the street protecting Americans, and they are confronted by criminals who have access, easy access, to guns that they shouldn't have. When will the Republicans be bringing a bill to the floor to help put an end to this, Mr. Speaker?

It is sad. It is sad that there is not even no word but there is no action on this. When will the Republicans work with us Democrats to help put an end to gun violence?

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#### THANKING CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

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

Mrs. BICE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise and thank the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and Chairman Rocky Barrett for their response to the storm damage in late April throughout central Oklahoma.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation dispatched more than 20 emergency management units and agencies and even began working to anticipate community needs before the tornado hit Potawatomi County.

The widespread destruction suffered in Shawnee and its surrounding community was devastating. At least 1,800 structures in Shawnee were affected, with 300 heavily damaged and 42 completely destroyed.

My heart goes out to the community, and I am proud of the way Oklahomans have come together as we continue rebuilding and look forward to the future.

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#### CELEBRATING NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

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

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise today in honor of National Nurses Week and to honor the life and legacy of America's first professionally trained Black nurse, Mary Eliza Mahoney.

Today, I am proud to introduce a resolution supported by the National Black Nurses Association and National Nurses United to uplift and celebrate the timeless contributions of Mary Eliza Mahoney.

Mary Eliza advanced the nursing profession by confronting issues affecting professional nurses, such as poor working conditions and racial discrimination.

She was one of the founders of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, whose mission was to improve access to educational and nursing practices for all Black Americans.

Her legacy lives on in the hearts and minds of Black nurses across this country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating America's first Black nurse and in honoring Black nurses who are saving lives across our country every day.

#### HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF STAND UP FOR AMERICA PARADE

(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 recognize my hometown of Port Wentworth, Georgia, and to honor them for celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Stand Up for America Day Parade.

For 50 years, on the last Saturday in April, residents of Port Wentworth and the surrounding areas have gathered to pay homage to members of the Armed Forces, both past and present.

When the parade first started, America was still embroiled in the controversy of the Vietnam war. It was started by then-Mayor P.B. Edwards, who was permanently wounded in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II.

The people of Port Wentworth decided to put on this parade in honor of those Vietnam veterans and all veterans who served in armed conflicts abroad.

After a 3-year hiatus, this year's parade drew over 50 entries, ranging from bands to golf carts, all with one purpose in mind: to honor those who have served us.

I thoroughly enjoy attending this event every time I am able. It reminds me of just how great our Nation is and how grateful we are for our servicemen and—women.

I thank everyone who has helped continue this tradition, from local officials to the community, and wish them the best of luck for the next 50 parades.

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#### BIDEN BORDER POLICY HARMS FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Biden border policies jeopardize national security and endanger all American families everywhere from terrorist attacks by illegal aliens.

According to The Washington Times editorial of April 4, "The effects of the President's policies have been glaringly apparent, particularly to citizens residing along the northbound thoroughfares into the Southwest."

U.S. Customs and Border Protection reports 212,266 border encounters in February, bringing the figure thus far in fiscal year 2023 to 1.3 million illegal aliens.

The cause of the border chaos can clearly be traced to Biden administration policies. Title 42, a Trump-era policy allowing rapid deportation of border crossers, expires May 11, today. There is every reason to anticipate a larger surge of eager recipients.

For Mr. Biden, immigration reform is to be achieved without the bother of

congressional approval. Rather than lifting civilizations to new heights, he is splintering its foundations.

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.

In the real world, if guns are outlawed, only outlaws will have guns.

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#### CELEBRATING TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, as Teacher Appreciation Week draws to a close, I am thrilled to recognize one of the many educators who has made an incredible impact on the lives of kids in my community: Mr. Mark Lavine from the Panther Valley School District.

A sixth grade math teacher, Mr. Lavine has been a Panther Valley educator for 21 years. His love for teaching and mentoring extends beyond the classroom as the high school football coach, adviser for the academic quiz challenge, and organizer of school spirit day.

Hardworking and compassionate, Mr. Lavine doubled the size of his math class to cover for a colleague on a leave of absence—twice.

He is known as the big brother on staff as a mentor to new teachers, and his energy inspires a loving curiosity for math in his students.

Mr. Lavine epitomizes the dedication of so many educators across Pennsylvania-07 who foster a lifelong love for learning in our kids.

This week and every week, thank a teacher who made a difference in your life, your child's life, or a loved one's life, someone like Panther Valley's Mr. Lavine.

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#### PROHIBITING SALE OF BODY ARMOR

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago, a racist, hateful individual traveled to my community of Buffalo, New York, to commit mass murder at a supermarket on Jefferson Avenue.

Armed with an AR-15 assault weapon, he shot 13 people, killing 10 of them in less than 2 minutes.

It is often said that the best way to stop a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun. Retired Police Officer Aaron Salter, Jr., the security guard on duty that day, was a good guy with a gun, but he was outgunned by the bad guy with a bigger gun, and his weapon was no match for the military-grade body armor the shooter wore. Body armor designed for war zones has no place in our neighborhoods.

The Aaron Salter, Jr., Responsible Body Armor Possession Act prohibits

civilians from buying and selling enhanced body armor. It protects communities as well as law enforcement answering the call when public safety is at risk.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this commonsense safety bill for the Buffalo community and for the many others who have forever been changed by mass shootings.

□ 1115

#### SECURE THE BORDER ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ELLZEY). Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2) to secure the borders of the United States, and for other purposes, will now resume.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 60 minutes.

The chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK).

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

Mr. Speaker, on Inauguration Day, our border was secure. The Trump policies had slowed illegal immigration to a trickle. That afternoon, Joe Biden reversed these policies, and in the last 27 months the Democrats have deliberately admitted into our country more than 2.1 million illegal aliens.

Now that is larger than the entire population of the State of Nebraska, and while the Border Patrol was overwhelmed, more than 1½ million known got-aways entered as well. That is an additional population larger than that of Hawaii. All of this occurred in 27 months.

As we can see at this very moment, this was only a prelude to the mass invasion now unfolding before our eyes. The Border Patrol Union warned us yesterday: “Field reports from agents across the southern border verify the enormity of this tidal wave of illegal aliens coming now. Huge groups are overwhelming stations, and it is completely out of control. Massive releases beginning and it’s going to get much worse.”

Now for Americans, this means classrooms packed with non-English speaking students, hospitals flooded with illegals demanding uncompensated care, violent criminal cartels and gangs introduced into our communities, fentanyl killing an average of 300 Americans every day, suppressed wages for working Americans, and the collapse of the social safety net that was supposed to take care of Americans in need.

For the millions of illegal migrants, it means exposure to hazardous conditions that have claimed 2,000 lives that we know of. Many arrive sick, traumatized, starved, brutalized, raped, and deeply in debt to the cartels.

These are not asylum seekers. Asylum is a specific refuge for those singled out by their government for persecution because of race, religion, or political beliefs. Asylum is achieved by crossing the first international border that separates you from that government. Asylum is not an open invitation to bum-rush our borders, but the Democrats have made it precisely that.

If you make a fraudulent asylum claim, you are now guaranteed to receive immediate admission into our country, you get cash, a range of free goods and services, indefinite residency, and indefinite work authorizations. Then, when your claim is ultimately rejected by a clogged court system years in the future, you will not be deported, and you only need to wait for the next amnesty.

This makes a mockery of legitimate asylum, the sovereignty of our Nation, and the rule of law. Our bill removes the incentives to break our laws by reinforcing the existing requirement that forbids releasing asylum claimants into the country until their claim is resolved.

This bill also returns unaccompanied minors safely home as we already do with children from Mexico or Canada, but this administration sends all other children to poorly vetted so-called sponsors in this country with little concern or follow-up over the conditions into which we have abandoned them. Many become indentured servants, slaves to the cartels and their gangs, forced into sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and drug trafficking under horrific conditions.

The only way to stop this trafficking is to return these children safely home. The cartels are paid thousands of dollars to bring them to the United States, and that will stop the moment we return these children to their homes. Every Border Patrol agent I have talked to tells me that this is the only way to stop this heartbreaking tragedy.

For those crossing as families, this measure keeps them together. It allows them to make their asylum claim and then to wait in Mexico or in a family residential center until their claim is heard.

This measure removes the incentives for cartels to traffic children to pose as families in order to be automatically released into our country as the Democrats are doing.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. BIGGS, Mr. ROY, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. MORAN for their work that comprises the judiciary section of this bill and my thanks to the many Members who helped craft it into its current form.

Yes, we are a nation of immigrants. We are also a nation of laws. Millions of immigrants come to our country legally every year. They obey our laws. They wait patiently. They do everything our country asks of them. Meanwhile, millions of illegal immigrants

are cutting in line in front of them aided, abetted, encouraged, and rewarded by Democrat officials.

It has been said that this bill has no chance in the Senate and if it did pass that it would be vetoed by the President. Well, that is a question that the American people must ultimately decide before it is too late.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, today, the majority has brought forward a cruel, extreme, and unworkable piece of legislation, which would wreck our economy, destroy the asylum system, criminalize visa overstays, send unaccompanied children back to dangerous situations, and jail children indefinitely.

Once again, my Republican colleagues show us that they are not interested in finding real solutions to tough issues. This bill attempts to combine a variety of different bills, each one more cruel and heartless than the last into one contradictory and overlapping mess. This bill has no chance of being enacted into law and it is nothing more than pure political theater.

My Republican colleagues are trying to take us back to the failed, illegal, and immoral policies of the Trump administration. Former President Trump’s radical, inhumane, and racist immigration actions weakened the U.S. economy, undermined our moral standing in the world, and did not make us any safer.

While trampling on some of our most deeply held American values, his erratic approach also failed to stem the flow of migrants across our border. Let’s be very clear about what this legislation would do. When taken together, this bill serves as a wholesale ban on asylum. No one would be able to seek asylum in the United States if they cross between ports of entry or if they had or could have had even temporary status in a third country.

Let me give you an example of what this means. If the Russian dissident Aleksey Navalny, who Putin attempted to poison twice, was somehow released from his prison in Siberia and took a flight to seek political asylum in the United States, but the plane touched down for refueling in Bulgaria, he would have to stay in Bulgaria. He couldn’t come to the United States.

During the Judiciary Committee’s markup, Democrats offered a variety of amendments to exempt the most vulnerable from some of these draconian requirements. This included those fleeing Communist and totalitarian regimes and unaccompanied children, but the majority was not even willing to exempt children under a year old.

The one place where we were able to make some bipartisan headway was on the issue of E-Verify. E-Verify is an electronic employment eligibility verification system that began as a voluntary pilot program and is currently

used by a small percentage of the Nation's employers.

This bill would make that system mandatory for all employers in the United States. Without providing other reforms, however, including any meaningful opportunity for undocumented workers to regularize their status, this title would damage the U.S. economy, harm American workers, and result in billions of dollars in lost government revenue.

In particular, mandatory E-Verify would decimate the agriculture industry, putting U.S. farms out of business, shipping millions of American jobs overseas, and increasing U.S. reliance on imported food. Mandatory E-Verify would result in hundreds of thousands of unfilled farm jobs and would leave unpicked crops rotting in the fields as we saw in Georgia in 2011 when a mandatory E-Verify law in the State resulted in over 11,000 farm jobs going unfilled during the peak harvest season.

Unfortunately, it appears that some of my Republican colleagues with significant agricultural interest in their districts are now willing to support this draconian legislation. Despite sincere concerns about how this provision would affect their constituents, they have caved to Republican leadership with the mere addition of a sense of Congress. That is pathetic.

I have only scratched the surface of the many problems contained in this legislation. I have not even mentioned how this bill strips all protections from unaccompanied children and requires all families who come to our borders seeking protection to be detained indefinitely or the extreme lengths to which it goes to narrow the eligibility grounds for asylum or how this bill would severely restrict this and any future administration's ability to parole individuals into the United States, even going so far as to end the current parole initiatives for Ukrainians fleeing Russia and for certain military families.

What this means is that no Ukrainians fleeing the war with Russia would be allowed into this country. It also means that all Ukrainians here after a certain time would have to return to Ukraine, even if the war is still going on.

Mr. Speaker, immigration reform is a complicated problem that requires complicated solutions, and an enforcement-only strategy simply doesn't work. Democrats have put forward real proposals, and we stand ready to work with serious Republicans to pass meaningful solutions.

Democrats take this humanitarian crisis seriously. Our proposals address the root causes of migration, improve border security, and create additional legal pathways for people to enter the United States lawfully.

□ 1130

But Republicans have chosen a narrow path that imposes extreme pain

and hardship on the most vulnerable people, while doing nothing to actually solve the problem.

I encourage my colleagues to oppose this wrongheaded bill, and I ask the majority to go back to the drawing board.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, which is the most comprehensive border bill to reach the House floor in modern history.

The Biden administration's border policies have led to a national security and humanitarian crisis at our southern border, turning every community into a border community.

This administration's failure to secure the border has led to a record amount of illegal drugs, both around the border and in our communities, and has enabled human trafficking and the exploitation of children.

Recently, law enforcement in my community announced that they have seized enough fentanyl to kill every Floridian.

In addition to the drugs flowing into our communities, we have seen a tragic flow of unaccompanied minors across our border, which has led many of them to fall victim to human trafficking, abuse, and mistreatment.

A grand jury in Florida recently uncovered alarming details about Federal agencies losing track of more than 20,000 children, and failing to perform background checks on minors' sponsors, again, leading to incidents of trafficking, exploitation, and abuse. An open border is not humanitarian. When we fail to control our borders, the drug cartels will.

House Republicans know that border security is national security, and that is why we must pass the Secure the Border Act. This legislation will increase the number of Border Patrol agents, strengthen current law to protect unaccompanied children, and bolster our border's infrastructure.

We have a constitutional duty to secure our border and to ensure our communities back home are kept safe. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. ESCOBAR).

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2, a shameful, unserious bill that would shutter our country's asylum system and make the situation at the border much worse.

For decades, Congressional Republicans have blocked efforts to reform outdated immigration laws, choosing to focus only on the border, believing that if we can be cruel enough, that would deter desperate people from seeking asylum at our Nation's front door. That hasn't worked, and H.R. 2 is more of their same failed approach.

We all want an orderly, well-managed border, especially those of us who live and raise our families on the border, but there is a critical difference that exists from there.

Many of my Republican colleagues want no immigration at all, and many believe cruelty is an effective deterrent. But my Democratic colleagues and I and, indeed, most Americans, know that we must and should have legal pathways coupled with enforcement and strategic investment in order to achieve a functional system.

This bill is an extremist Republican wish list that caters to the party's most warped values by jailing children and families and extinguishing asylum. The cruelty, unfortunately, is the point. It is no wonder that this bill has been called un-Christian.

I represent El Paso, Texas. I am a proud third-generation El Pasoan, and it is where I raised my two children. My community has been at the forefront of immigration for decades, and El Pasoans have always stepped up to help migrants.

Our local governments and NGOs work alongside U.S. Customs and Border Protection to provide migrants with food, a place to sleep, and assistance finding transportation to their next destination. We collaborate the best we can, united in our shared humanity.

In 2019, for the first time, local partners became eligible to receive Federal funding for this work, and that has been critical to El Paso and other border communities.

H.R. 2 will bring that funding to an end and would make it illegal for NGOs to provide any services, from a bottle of water to a safe place to sleep.

Let me remind you of Matthew 35:36, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I need clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me."

This bill would decimate the systems that border communities have built and would literally, by design, create a humanitarian catastrophe.

Because of this and many other shameful provisions, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand against this bill and work with those of us who are committed to a real bipartisan solution.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. MOORE).

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to make it clear that Biden's border policies are anything but compassionate.

Nearly 300 suspected terrorists have been caught trying to cross our border this year, and those are just the ones we caught. How many actually made it through?

As we speak, American border towns are being flooded with unvetted migrants that have nowhere to go. City streets are becoming homeless encampments. Farm land is being trampled.

Migrants from over 100 countries, including China and Russia, are paying up to \$15,000 a piece to be smuggled across our border by criminal cartels. If they can't pay, migrants are forced to work off their debt. The administration is creating a program of either drug mules or indentured servants.

Many of these migrant children are brought here by false advertisements of free passage in their countries. The Biden administration has lost 85,000 children. This is unacceptable. These are the things that should keep Americans awake at night.

Our border is dangerous, not only for the American people whose communities are being pumped full of drugs and crime, but also those seeking to cross illegally who turn into slaves or drug mules.

The numbers are clear: 85,000 children have been lost; 1,000 migrant bodies found along the southern border; 120,000 fentanyl deaths in our country, and the numbers continue to rise. Where is the compassion in that?

President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas must answer for the fentanyl deaths, the illegal encounters, and the unaccompanied children we have lost.

A closed border is a compassionate border, and this week, Republicans have brought a real solution to the table by introducing H.R. 2. I urge all my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Ms. LOFGREN).

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, there is lots wrong with this bill, as has been mentioned by others, turning children back to their smugglers at the border and the like, but I will focus on the issue of those fleeing communist oppression.

For years, we had bipartisan agreement. We welcomed those who flee communist oppression. Today is Vietnam Human Rights Day and it reminds us that we welcomed a million refugees fleeing communism in Vietnam. We welcomed Cubans fleeing Fidel Castro. We welcomed Nicaraguans and Venezuelans who fled communist oppression.

This bill would upend that tradition. It would turn away people who are fleeing oppression from communist and totalitarian persecution.

Now, there was a time when both sides of the aisle opposed communism and welcomed people who were fleeing communist oppression. What happened to you?

I stand on the side of political dissidents who believe in freedom and who are fleeing communist oppression.

There is one more thing. This bill would cripple American agriculture. I realize there was a fig leaf added about an assessment on ag. We all know that will.

The bipartisan Farm Workforce Modernization Act, which this House passed twice, had E-Verify in the bill, but only with the reforms for ag. I be-

lieve our laws ought to be enforced, but we need laws that can work, and that is what our bipartisan farm workforce bill did. This bill doesn't do that.

An estimated half of farm workers in America are undocumented. Kick them out of the fields, and farmers are going to hurt big time. The cost of food will skyrocket. This is a very poor idea.

I will just say this: All of us want to have an orderly system. The disorder is obvious at the border, but this bill is mean, and it won't fix it.

We have a variety of proposals to reform the immigration laws. We are still working on the outline from the 1965 act. It is a small wonder that it doesn't work very well for America in 2023.

I urge a "no" vote on this bill, and I urge all of my colleagues to work with us together to craft measures in immigration and immigration enforcement that will actually work for the United States. This bill doesn't do that.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART), the sponsor of H.R. 2.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, in just a few hours, the Biden administration will end the enforcement of title 42. This administration estimates that we could see 13,000 immigrant encounters per day at the border.

So clearly, allowing title 42 to end with no plan to secure our border is not only negligent, but it severely jeopardizes the national security interests of our country.

But you see, the cataclysm facing our border is not just due to the end of title 42, Mr. Speaker, but also to this administration's complete abdication to do even the bare minimum to secure our southern border.

It is negligence and incompetence, Mr. Speaker, with fatal consequences. Instead, the administration has relinquished control to the narco-terrorist cartels who now control the southern border of the United States.

The Biden administration's policies are dangerous to our national security, Mr. Speaker, but they have deadly consequences for Americans and for immigrants alike.

Heck, even The New York Times has highlighted the fact that 90,000 unaccompanied minors are unaccounted for and, frankly, are possibly being trafficked.

It is immoral, Mr. Speaker, that the Biden administration refuses to take action to end human trafficking, stop the deadly influx of drugs into the United States, confront the cartels, protect those minors that are being trafficked, and enhance our outdated asylum process.

Those, by the way, who have legitimate claims, those folks are also victims of this broken system.

However, today, this House has a solution to help take back control of our border. H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, which I am so proud to have sponsored with my colleague and friend,

Mr. MCCLINTOCK, provides real solutions to restore order to the southern border, strengthen our national security, enhance our broken immigration system, and protect innocent minors while enforcing the rule of law, the rule of law, Mr. Speaker.

So if you are concerned about our national security, or the safety of our fellow Americans, and immigrants, the safety of our immigrants, or the rule of law, I respectfully but, frankly, strongly urge you to vote for this great bill, H.R. 2.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. IVEY).

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I will support legislation that fairly and appropriately addresses the serious shortcomings in our country's immigration laws, but, unfortunately, H.R. 2 is not that bill.

H.R. 2 is a false promise to the extreme Republican base. The Senate has already made it clear that this bill is dead on arrival. But even if the bill somehow passed, it does not provide funding to build a wall, nor hire more Border Patrol officers, nor retain those we already have.

A cornerstone of H.R. 2, and its first major provision, is a return to Donald Trump's quest to build a wall along our southern border. But the Republican bill doesn't even provide the money to pay for it.

The bill calls for a wall that is at least 900 miles long, but it would not stop the flow of fentanyl. The Sinaloa cartel in Mexico routinely drives by the wall that is already there, flies over the wall, and tunnels underneath it, as we learned during the DOJ take-down of the Sinaloa cartel a few weeks ago.

The wall would also be a financial disaster. H.R. 2 presumes that the wall would be funded with unspent money that has been allocated for the wall. But former President Trump siphoned away much of the unspent funds for the wall from other departments and the programs for those funds were eventually returned to them.

According to the CBO's analysis, another 160 miles of the wall would have to be built to reach the 900-mile mandate that is in the bill. In estimating these costs, CBO wrote: "CBO estimates an average cost per mile of \$25 million. . . . CBO expects that previously appropriated amounts could cover the cost of 80 miles of construction; thus, CBP would need an additional \$2 billion to complete the other 80 miles."

On top of that, the Republicans just announced that they proposed a 22 percent cut across the board for much of the government, including DHS.

In March, I joined my colleagues on a visit to the southern border. We met with Customs and Border Patrol officers. The border officers were unanimous in the need for more resources, more agents, and more technology. We took their comments to heart.

During the markup, Democrats sought to provide more immigration judges, more processing centers that combined Federal, State, and local resources, but those amendments were also voted down by Republicans.

Democrats also sought to ensure that Border Patrol officers were paid according to the established civil pay scale; expand technology to x-ray trucks at the border, where over 90 percent of the fentanyl enters the United States; boost the quantity and quality of drones used by our officers to cut the cartel's 17-1 advantage in drones they now use to traffic drugs and other contraband; and add 1,700 Border Patrol officers to manage the border and intercept the flow of illegal drugs, such as fentanyl.

□ 1145

But all of these amendments were rejected by our Republican colleagues.

Worse still, the Republican bill prohibits NGOs, like the American Red Cross and The Salvation Army, from providing essential goods and services to migrants who desperately need them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, this is why many groups have written letters of opposition to H.R. 2, including the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, the AFL-CIO, Catholic Charities, and 136 humanitarian aid organizations who signed a joint letter of opposition.

For example, the bishop of El Paso and the chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration wrote: "As drafted, these provisions could even be interpreted to prevent schools, houses of worship, and other organizations from qualifying for the Nonprofit Security Grant program amid a rise in violent attacks on those places."

The bishop also noted that DHS's ability to rescue persons encountered in the desert in life-threatening circumstances and process unaccompanied children, victims of trafficking, victims of torture, and others, who even under this bill's terms would warrant such processing, could be precluded.

Mr. Speaker, for these and many other reasons, I thoroughly oppose H.R. 2.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN).

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2, because protecting America's borders also means protecting my community.

Guam is geographically closer to China than any other part of the United States. For that reason, I view border security as an important piece of national security.

While securing the border, H.R. 2 also makes it easier for employers to hire

H-2A workers. I support these efforts, because the similar H-2B visa program is an irreplaceable source of labor for the Department of Defense and is absolutely necessary to supplement Guam's construction labor force, which ultimately serves the purpose of protecting our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their work on H.R. 2.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA).

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act of 2023, scheduled for a vote on the House floor later today. This legislation is harmful, dangerous, irresponsible, and just plain wrong.

Instead of securing the border, this bill will separate families, put human lives at risk, lead to more unlawful migration by blocking off lawful pathways to protection, and waste taxpayer dollars on an ineffective wall that can't even withstand wind much less criminal smuggling cartels.

Instead of treating this like the emergency that it is, House Republicans focus on immigration solely at the border, providing billions of dollars in so-called border security, building walls, increasing personnel, and rapid expulsion policies.

Since 1998, at least 8,000 undocumented migrants have died attempting to cross the border from Mexico to the U.S.

People are dying. They are dying every day. Children are exploited. They are exploited every day. Families are being separated. They are being separated every day.

We have all been waiting for many years, 27 years, in fact, since the last meaningful legislation on immigration reform was passed by this body.

Since then, Republicans have rejected every bill that has been proposed. This bill, again, is wrong. It is not a solution. It is a slap in the face to our immigration system.

There is no time left, Mr. Speaker. This bill is extreme, it is wrong, and what we really need is safe immigration law now.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "no" vote on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to add the text of my amendment into the RECORD immediately prior to the vote on the motion to recommit.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MORAN), the author of one of the measures in the bill.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Mr. JIM JORDAN of Ohio, and my colleagues, Mr. DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. MCCLINTOCK of California, and Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, for working so diligently on this comprehensive border security package.

This package will work to physically secure our borders; protect the sovereignty of our Nation; protect the lives, livelihoods, the property of current American citizens, those that are here legally, and give hope to those from outside our country who seek to find a better life here by restoring safety and sanity to the immigration process.

The ability of our Nation to continue to be the world's haven and leader in both liberty and generosity is directly related to our ability to first preserve the rule of law here, protect the sanctity of America's geographic boundaries, and preserve the greatness of our Nation from within.

Earlier this year, in a hearing in the House Judiciary Committee, the El Paso county judge said explicitly and without reservation that there was "no crisis at the southern border," but the facts, the pictures, the videos, and the personal testimonies of those on the border tell a different story. Ironically, just last week, the mayor of the city of El Paso declared a state of emergency for the city because of this very border crisis.

For 2 years now, Secretary Mayorkas has told the American people that the Department of Homeland Security has "operational control" of the southern border. We know better.

Despite the administration sending 1,500 U.S. troops to the border just in the past couple weeks, these actions are too little, too late. More correctly, they are illusory in nature.

Though we do need additional personnel on the border, what we really need is an administration with the resolve to simply enforce the rule of law and put American families ahead of politics.

For too long, this administration has turned a blind eye to the crisis at the southern border. They have not enforced the policies and laws currently in place, and as a result, we have seen an influx of migrants crossing our border and illegally entering the United States over the last 2 years.

These eleventh-hour measures taken by the Secretary of Homeland Security will sadly have little to no effect on stopping this historic surge because there is no will, no resolve, and no determination by the administration to stop this invasion.

That is why House Republicans today are going to take decisive and historic action to do just as the American people need, and that is to secure our border.

In East Texas, we see the direct and dire consequences of nonexistent immigration policies. Many more outside Texas in the past couple of years are beginning to see this, as well. Now is the time to take action. Now is the time to act with courage and boldness. Now is the time to pass H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act of 2023.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA).

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleagues on the other side of the aisle for taking on such an important and difficult task: immigration reform, the refugee crisis.

My friends on the other side are absolutely correct. Title 42 is ending today. I have to remind you, when many of you voted to lift the COVID-19 emergency, you legally, effectively, voted to end title 42. Don't forget that. You voted to lift title 42.

Today, we are facing a worldwide refugee crisis, the likes that we haven't seen since World War II. In World War II, we had 60 million refugees moving throughout Europe. This is what we are facing today.

It is not only the United States. It is also Mexico, Guatemala, and Colombia, who is housing 2.4 million Venezuelan refugees. This is a challenge for all of us.

We need real solutions. Under existing laws, we do have some solutions.

I am probably the only legislator here today that went to visit the Ukrainian refugee camps in Tijuana, Mexico, about a year ago. Let me tell you what I found: Ukrainian refugees in Tijuana waiting to cross into the United States.

What did we do? We lifted title 42. We gave them temporary protective status, and walked them into the United States. Today, that refugee camp is gone. Why? Because those refugees can apply for status from Europe directly. That is a model that worked under existing laws, and the administration, this Biden administration, is implementing something very similar to that as we speak.

Your proposal, my good friends on the other side of the aisle, has some challenges. I will start by talking about the biggest one: E-Verify, mandatory E-Verify.

We have a labor shortage in this country. Every time I get the small businessmen here, the large businessmen, or the farmers especially, 50 percent of our farmworkers are undocumented today in this country. They are the ones who pick our crops. With forced E-Verify, you are essentially forcing, making small business owners criminals. They are going to have to choose between firing those employees, harvesting their crops, or becoming criminals. That is not the intent of your legislation, but that is effectively what you are doing today.

My colleague from California knows that because that is why he pushed an amendment for the farming industry, for this exact reason.

But we not only have farmers, we have small businesses as well in this country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from California.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I would say E-Verify, without true immigration reform, is not going to work.

My friends, I reach out to you across the aisle and say: Let's do this for America. Let's fix our broken immigration system, and let's address this worldwide refugee challenge right now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BERGMAN). Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. McCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CISCOMANI).

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud product of the American Dream. I became a U.S. citizen in 2006, and today, 17 years later, I stand here as a Member of the United States Congress.

I also stand here as a representative of southeastern Arizona. What is happening at the border is not part of the American Dream my family pursued and thousands of other families continue to pursue.

We have seen babies abandoned in rivers, migrants dying in deserts, high-speed car chases through neighborhoods, and 85,000 children disappear after being released from HHS custody.

We have a border crisis, a humanitarian crisis, and on the front lines are our border communities. Americans have been failed by the government designed to protect them.

While our country suffers because of this administration's inaction, House Republicans have proposed a solution. H.R. 2 gives our agents and officers the resources they desperately need, closes loopholes in an abused asylum system, and protects innocent children from harm.

This bill is a step away from the chaos we are seeing and a step closer to helping others achieve the American Dream I have been so blessed to live.

□ 1200

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is important that we take a look at what we are doing here today. It is very obvious that we are addressing this question from the perspective of punishing families and punishing our children—yes, the children. The children are of all of us because we know that no matter what country, the children are our future.

This legislation is supposed to be a border security bill done without bipartisanship and extensively rejecting thoughtful amendments given by the members of the Judiciary Committee and the Committee on Homeland Security.

In Houston, this is to create an added nightmare in order not to be able to help those who are in need because they are coming. In fact, there are processes where they are able to access the process of asylum.

The fear that is made and given to the American people is to create hysteria rather than reason. I don't know what happened to the very reasonable, comprehensive immigration

reform led by the late John McCain. Republicans ditched it, leaving DACA recipients, people who are EMS, doctors, and lawyers, still in limbo.

Here we come again with this bill that is the child deportation bill. It says in Houston to Catholic Charities, or the National Association of Christian Churches that is helping in New York, that they will be made criminals because we will not allow them to help those who are coming forward who have status with paperwork for asylum, but yet, they are still unstatus and undocumented.

It makes it absolutely impossible to come to the border to seek asylum. It upends the process and protections in place for unaccompanied children and requires all migrants seeking admission without a visa either to be detained or subjected to a program that Trump had. We know if we have someone who is going to, in essence, pardon all the January 6 persons, that is not a reliable policy.

It is clear that mandating indefinite detention for all asylum-seeking families and children is a deportation bill for children. Allowing children to be detained in Border Patrol facilities for an entire month is a cruel and inhumane act.

Hold a 9-month-old baby in your arms who was separated from their family, and maybe then, as I did almost more than 6 years ago, almost 10 years ago—this has been ongoing through all administrations. The only reason that the past administration had a title 42 is because of the pandemic.

We need not to have that patchwork of disaster. We need to be able to ensure that we are working studiously to ensure it. Let me share with you these numbers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, people are, in fact, alarmed. They need to know that the migrants coming in are from Mexico. We do have an OTM, other than Mexican, people already going back—India, China, the Philippines, El Salvador, Vietnam, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Korea. It is widely diverse, based upon the persecution that people are feeling or the economic lack of life.

As we proceeded to do this work, do you know, as I leave this podium, that if you are an overstayer in a hospital, you can automatically be criminally charged? In an amendment, I said: What is the intent? Do you know whether they were in a hospital, or they had a funeral, that they were, in essence, near death? There is no mercy.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation needs to go back to the drawing board. Americans and Houstonians are asking for us to do the right thing and to get security at the border and not have a bill that does nothing. That is what it does—absolutely nothing.

Mr. Speaker, I am here today to reassert my opposition to the proposed legislation, H.R. 2—Secure the Border Act of 2023, and to again assert the need for strong reconsideration for the harm and damage this bill will do to the American people and those seeking citizenship into our country. I do believe America must have a secure border!

I, along with my colleagues, have attempted to address some of the most glaring challenges this bill poses by offering common sense amendments, yet Republicans have continued to refuse any meaningful consideration. Let's work together for a secure southern and northern border.

H.R. 2 is in no way a serious measure that is being offered to resolve our current and ongoing dire needs to resolve immigration challenges and demands here in America.

We need the American people to understand that this is merely an unfortunate patchwork of extreme anti-immigrant proposals that would only add to more chaos at the border.

It includes a variety of illogical measures that would shut down the U.S. asylum system and target families and children for the cruelest forms of treatment.

One measure would make overstaying a visa a crime—for the first time in our history.

During the Judiciary Committee markup and the Rules Committee hearing, my Democratic colleagues and I could not get any Republican to roll back their punitive and damaging intent to harm any and all individuals seeking refuge and citizenship here in the U.S.—no matter the vulnerability of their age or their circumstances.

One of my amendments in particular would have added a mens rea requirement such that in order to be criminally liable, a person must “knowingly and willingly” overstay their visa.

It is important to remember that an individual can make an honest mistake about when they need to depart the country, be physically incapable of departing the country, or unable to return because of circumstances beyond their control in their home country.

Yet this bill has no exceptions or flexibility when it comes to overstaying a nonimmigrant visa.

For example, a person who has a medical emergency in the United States and cannot leave within 10 days of their visa expiring would violate this new law and face up to six months in prison and a fine of up to \$1,000.

Or if a natural disaster prevents an individual from returning home for more than 10 days past the expiration of their status, they would be guilty of this crime and face 6 months in federal prison.

It is also important to remember that if a person overstays their visa, they are already subject to removal.

The addition of a criminal penalty is both cruel and unnecessary.

This bill is extraordinarily punitive, with far-reaching implications that may go beyond what my colleagues intended, unless they wanted to make following current immigration a crime punishable by up to 6 months in prison and a fine of up to \$1,000.

Our immigration system needs reforms, and we are absolutely interested in bold new ideas to fix it, but this is not one of them.

That is why I also offered another amendment that would have simply created a critical exemption for Temporary Protected Status holders who overstay their visas.

If this bill had been in place last year, a Ukrainian student would have broken the law and faced a fine and jail time if they had been approved for Temporary Protected Status after Russia invaded their home, and then stayed in the US in Temporary Protected Status for longer than the validity of their student visa.

Perhaps if the majority had held a hearing on this topic, as they are supposed to under the regular order they love so much, they would understand the substantial problems with this legislation; perhaps we could have explored more realistic changes to our legal visa system.

I also offered another commonsense amendment during the Judiciary Committee Markup to the provision of H.R. 2 restricting parole.

H.R. 2 seeks to drastically limit the use of parole power but contradicts itself about how parole can be granted.

The bill claims that it limits DHS from granting parole based on eligibility criteria describing an entire class of potential parole recipients.

Immediately following this prohibition, the bill outlines the eligibility criteria for two classes of people it deems worthy of receiving parole: the spouses and minor children of active duty servicemembers and certain Cuban family members of US permanent residents.

The provision allowing parole for Cubans is modeled after Cuban Family Reunification Parole, which was created in 2007 to allow Cuban nationals with pending immigrant visa petitions to join their sponsoring family members in the United States.

This program was suspended during the Trump administration in 2017, but processing resumed in September 2022.

I am thrilled that Republicans have deemed this program worthy of keeping in place.

Their previous anti-parole bills certainly didn't seem to think it was worth saving.

However, I'm confused. There is another parole program, the Haitian Family Reunification Parole, which was created in 2014 and modeled after the Cuban program.

This program carries nearly identical eligibility requirements, with more limitations.

The Trump administration announced that it would terminate this program in 2019, about a year and a half after calling Haiti a “s---hole country.”

Fortunately, the administration was unable to do terminate the program before leaving office and the Biden administration reversed this decision.

The ongoing situation in Haiti is dire.

Earlier this month, human rights groups released figures showing that kidnappings in the country had dramatically increased in the first three months of the year.

The risk of kidnapping for Haitians is just one small piece of a wider crisis with escalating gang violence, a food shortage, a constitutional and law enforcement crisis, and a Cholera outbreak.

I cannot think of any legitimate reason why we would keep the Cuban parole program, but not the Haitian program.

My amendment simply would have added a provision to the parole section of this bill exempting this population from restrictions.

It is time we stop the negativity and counterproductive efforts that are ripping apart our country, and to instead focus on coming together to work towards sensible and effective

solutions that can work for the betterment and growth of our country.

H.R. 2 is simply just another incredibly misguided Republican bill that further includes nonsensical and harmful changes to the current system for unaccompanied children (UACs) crossing the border.

Under this bill, all unaccompanied children would be subject to a summary removal process, which would give them even fewer protections than current law provides for unaccompanied minors from contiguous countries like Mexico.

H.R. 2 would eliminate the right of many children to seek protection in immigration court from human trafficking and other dangers, leaving them with only cursory screenings by law enforcement personnel lacking child welfare expertise.

The incredulous bill would also bar existing efforts to provide government-paid counsel to unaccompanied children and subjects all unaccompanied children to an expedited screening and removal process, giving them just 14 days to prepare their case without a government-provided attorney.

Additionally, the bill prohibits anyone who entered the United States between ports of entry (unless they were interdicted at sea) from being able to seek asylum—notwithstanding the Majority's rejection of multiple amendments that would have exempted unaccompanied children from this restriction.

Whereas, Democrats have proposed a range of solutions to address the humanitarian crisis at the border and improve protections for unaccompanied children.

These proposals include increasing funding for HHS and DHS to ensure that unaccompanied children are properly cared for, and their sponsors are thoroughly vetted, expanding access to legal counsel for these children, and addressing the root causes of migration from Central America through diplomatic and development initiatives.

Democrats also support comprehensive immigration reform that would create a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants and improve border security measures while respecting the rights and dignity of all individuals.

In March 2021, President Biden signed a memorandum creating a task force to reunite families separated at the U.S.–Mexico border during the Trump administration's “zero tolerance” policy.

The task force is composed of officials from several agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Democrats have proposed legislation, such as the Dream Act and the American Dream and Promise Act, that would provide a pathway to citizenship for young undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children, also known as Dreamers.

In July 2021, the House passed a bill that would create a pathway to citizenship for undocumented farmworkers and their families, called the Farm Workforce Modernization Act.

This would protect workers from exploitation and abuse and would provide stability for the agricultural industry.

Democrats have advocated for a comprehensive immigration reform package that would address the root causes of migration, improve border security, and create legal pathways for people to enter the U.S. lawfully.

In September 2021, the Biden administration announced plans to increase the number of refugees admitted to the U.S. annually, following a historic low under the previous administration.

This move would provide opportunities for people who are fleeing violence and persecution to find safety and stability in the U.S.

Over the years, the Democrat party is making sure that these unaccompanied children stay safe and have a legal documentation in the United States, while the Republican party sadly has steadfastly opposed all the legislation that benefits these children.

I ask my colleagues to come together and move past the discord and to stand true to our ideals as Americans and protect our most vulnerable—to protect all children who come to us in need.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN), the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, since Joe Biden took office: 5 million illegal border crossings have been encountered, another 2 million illegal aliens have been released into the country, and over 370,000 unaccompanied alien children have been encountered on the border. The Biden administration has lost track of 85,000 kids of that number. Nearly 200 on the terrorist watch list have been encountered on our border. At midnight tonight, it gets worse. It gets worse tonight.

Here is the kicker. It has all been done intentionally. Day one, January 20, 2021, Joe Biden said: No more wall. No more remain in Mexico. If you get to the border, you get released into the country.

Well, shazam, everyone is going to come. That is exactly what has happened. They are all coming. Tonight, it gets worse.

It was done in a premeditated fashion, deliberate fashion, purposely. It was all done intentionally. I cannot figure out why they would do this.

Who seized on this? The cartels. They are making tons of money exploiting people and kids. It is terrible.

This bill, the strongest immigration enforcement legislation in modern times, does all kinds of good things on E-Verify, visa overstay, parole authority, the Flores decision, unaccompanied alien children, and asylum reforms.

The best part of this bill, the key component of this bill, is where we say that if you come to our country, you will get, according to the law, to file your asylum claim. We are going to follow the law, but you will be detained or returned while your claim is adjudicated.

We changed the incentive. If you don't do that, you never solve this problem. That is what this legislation does.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the leadership of our Conference, the Speaker, the leader, the whip, and the Conference chair, their staff, Andrea Loving and her staff for doing an amazing job.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BENTZ, Mr. ROY, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. CAL-

VERT, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CARTER, Mr. MORAN, Chairman GREEN, and Mr. DIAZ BALART, who sponsored the legislation.

The guy who deserves the most thanks is the chairman of the Subcommittee on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement. Without his work, his effort, and how he has stuck to this issue and got it done, this doesn't happen.

This is a good day for the country. Let's hope that the Senate will take up this bill after we pass it. This is the only thing that will help stop the craziness that, for 28 months now, has been going on, on our southern border.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, when I hear the rhetoric on the other side, it is one of the very few times I say to myself: Thank God for the existence of the United States Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL).

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act.

From day one, Republicans made clear that they would pursue an unworkable enforcement-only approach. I was encouraged when I saw some of my Republican colleagues courageously standing up to their caucus to fight to protect access to asylum.

Yet, here we are today, debating a cruel, extreme, and unworkable bill that guts asylum for everyone who does not live in a neighboring country or cannot afford to fly directly to the United States to seek protection.

It is a bill that bars anyone who seeks protection by entering the country between ports of entry from ever being able to obtain asylum, even if they are an unaccompanied child or fleeing from a totalitarian dictatorship.

It is a bill that decimates Customs and Border Protection's ability to process people for asylum at ports of entry.

It is a bill that mandates indefinite family detention and the detention of children.

One Republican colleague told us that "trying to ban legitimate asylum claims . . . is very anti-American." His words, not mine.

Another Republican said: "It will never pass the Senate if we are only talking border security."

Yet another Republican cautioned against only moving border security legislation, saying: "It is immoral. . . . And it is wrong that we as a society allow for millions and millions of people to live in the shadows."

Mr. Speaker, I was encouraged by those comments because it showed me that there were people on the other side who understood, at least at some level, that what happens at the border is simply a symptom of an improper immigration system that desperately needs to be modernized to meet the needs of our economy and our families.

I thought that perhaps we would be able to work together in a bipartisan

way on those pieces instead of trying the same 30-year-old failed strategy of cruel enforcement-only methods that can continue to destroy legal pathways and violate our values. We all know those simply don't work.

Unfortunately, it sounds like the Speaker has tempted those individuals who were talking with their values to now vote "yes" with a few meaningless concessions and promises. Their constituents will still know exactly what they are doing when they vote "yes" on this bill.

The bill before us today has only gotten more extreme than when those initial comments were made. It still ends asylum. It still strips protections for unaccompanied children. It still mandates the detention of families and children. It will still wreck our economy.

What Democrats are committed to, what our families and our country need, is to have an updated, orderly process for people to come to America, to stay, to work here, to be with their families and their loved ones, to have the ability to travel back and forth, to be seen in a country that too often uses immigrants without giving them full dignity and respect.

The immigration system is made up of many different legal pathways—whether you are a refugee fleeing war and economic devastation, an asylee who is fleeing persecution, or a worker who is seeking to come here and work in the many fields that demand immigrant labor and skills, from agriculture to healthcare; whether you are a child, a parent, or a sibling who seeks to be reunited with your immediate family; or whether you are somebody who wants to start a small business or lead a major company.

Unfortunately, the previous administration stripped so many of those pathways, decimated the funding to process those who seek to come in, and did nothing for those who have been here often for 15 years or more.

That is why Democrats have put forward real, bipartisan solutions to humanely fix and modernize the immigration system, including the recently introduced comprehensive bill by LINDA SÁNCHEZ to reform our immigration system in a humane way.

Immigration has been the unique genius of America's history, necessary to our economic vitality, necessary to the success of the country.

We know what we need to do to fix the system, Mr. Speaker. That is not a question in terms of policy. In fact, just 10 years ago, a bipartisan, comprehensive immigration bill passed the U.S. Senate with 68 bipartisan votes only to come to this floor, the floor of the House, where the Republican majority refused to bring it to a vote. Why? Why, Mr. Speaker, did it not come to a vote in the House with that huge of a bipartisan majority in the Senate? Because Republicans in the House knew that it would pass in a bipartisan way, and somehow my friends

on the other side think that it benefits them to have an immigration system that is broken so they can continue to vilify and demonize immigrants who are here and stop them from doing the work they need to do and from being respected. We need to call this hypocrisy out over and over again.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, the American people support immigration. We are ready to work with serious Republicans to pass meaningful reforms, not an enforcement-only strategy that will continue to be a failed strategy no matter who is in the White House, but actually a strategy that allows people to come to this country that upholds our values and that is not un-American but is the very essence of what America stands for, for so many people around the United States, including me, somebody who came here at 16 years old by myself to this country.

Now, after so many years of fighting for this country, I am able to be here as a United States Congress Member. Those are the values that we need to remember.

Vote “no” on this extreme, unworkable, cruel bill. It is a patchwork of overlapping and contradictory bills that are just about enforcement only, not about real solutions.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that my friends on the other side do not have real solutions to this issue and just want to keep this out there so we can continue to demonize immigrants. Democrats will not stand for it. Vote “no.”

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEHLS).

Mr. NEHLS. Mr. Speaker, let’s be clear. We are here today because Joe Biden opened his mouth.

When Joe Biden took office, he had to do nothing. He had to do nothing to secure our southern border. All he had to do was keep President Trump’s policies in place. Instead, he halted the construction of the Trump border wall and left over 150 miles of planned border wall unbuilt.

□ 1215

As I stand here today, materials are lying at our border, they are lying on the ground, and they are rusting in the sun as hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens wait to flood into our country.

To date, Mr. Speaker, over 5 million illegal aliens have invaded our border, and an additional 1.5 million of them, the bad hombres, have evaded capture since Joe Biden took over.

This historic legislation restores Trump-era immigration policies that prioritize the safety of the American people, take away the incentives that the Biden administration created to encourage illegal aliens to enter our country, defend our brave Border Pa-

trol agents, and, of course, reform the asylum process.

H.R. 2 criminalizes those who overstay their visas, stops the abuse of parole authority to bypass immigration law, and helps employers to ensure that the workers they are hiring are legal and authorized to work in the United States.

It is past time we restored law and order at our southern border. We cannot continue to allow illegal aliens to infiltrate our country, kill American citizens, rob hardworking Americans of healthcare and other services, increase housing costs, crowd our Nation’s public schools, and create a country filled with chaos.

Mr. Speaker, if you think the homeless problem is bad now, just wait. The Biden administration has failed to prioritize the safety of our country, our families, our livelihoods, and our children’s future.

House Republicans are committed to securing the border and ending the national security crisis that the Joe Biden administration has created and ignored.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote “yes” on this legislation. Let’s take back control of our southern border and restore the rule of law.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, rain can be a blessing or a curse depending on whether we get too much or too little. Like water, America can sustain our prosperity and our strength by the flow of people who want to come here, if they can come here legally. What Republicans rave about as a crisis, if properly addressed, represents a great opportunity for our country.

By overcoming Republican opposition last year, we have achieved the lowest unemployment in America in 50 years. If every single American who is reported as unemployed today were to take a job, we would still have millions of unfilled jobs in this country.

Our economy is crying out “help wanted” to which Republicans respond, “keep out,” and “let’s build a wall to wall us off from the rest of the world.”

We have a serious worker shortage. Our economic growth today is being slowed because so many businesses cannot find the workers they need to fulfill the needs of their customers.

Yet, just across our border are a host of people who are looking for a job. We need construction workers. We need workers to care for the old, the ill, and the young, and restaurant and other service jobs. Some of them are very highly skilled, and some of them are hardly skilled.

If some immigrants could work in this country and come here legally and go home when they need to, then they wouldn’t be risking their lives in deserts, dying in dangerous rivers, and sitting on the streets of our border communities.

Certainly, we cannot take everyone who wants to come here. We need rules for orderly immigration and for fairness. They are the rules that Republicans have blocked in this Congress for years. So long as they see any immigrant hysteria as more valuable to them politically than finding a solution, then we are not going to get there. Today’s vote represents just their latest refusal to accept reality and another refusal to enact a comprehensive and reasonable system for legal entry for workers.

There is, of course, a humanitarian aspect. Our Dreamers, who were brought here as little children and many of whom are now adults, are facing years of uncertainty. A nurse, a Travis County prosecutor, a teacher, and many students whom I have met personally, still don’t know how long they can tell their employer they can work. There is so much they have to contribute. Multiple studies show they will only strengthen our economy.

There are other families in Texas border towns today who have risked everything to escape oppression and corrupt and authoritarian governments like Venezuela. Many of them have legitimate claims for political asylum, but the Republicans have abandoned the promise of our Statue of Liberty.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. DOGGETT. America’s strength has always been found in our diversity. Let’s overcome the fearmongering and the anti-immigrant hysteria and do the serious, hard work of passing genuine comprehensive immigration reform. Let’s turn immigration into a true win for the American people.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY. Secure the border. Mr. Speaker, this isn’t something we should have to insist upon. It shouldn’t be controversial. It shouldn’t be a source of partisan contention. It is a basic and foundational responsibility of government, and one that is currently being neglected like never before with devastating consequences all across the country.

Perhaps the worst of those consequences is the fentanyl crisis. We are seeing staggering amounts of fentanyl pour across the southern border, flooding our communities with illicit and lethal pills killing tens of thousands of Americans every year.

We know exactly where these drugs are coming from. The Biden administration’s own Drug Enforcement Agency admits that Mexican-based cartels are responsible for the vast majority of fentanyl and meth that is killing Americans. Just over the past year alone, the DEA seized 193 million deadly doses of fentanyl. This is now the leading cause of death for young people

in our country—more than car accidents and more than suicides—more than anything.

It is affecting every community in our country, including my own. During the State of the Union, I was honored to have as my guests two of the Nation's leading advocates for fentanyl awareness, and those are the parents of a young man named Zach Didier, who tragically lost his life. He was a senior at Whitney High School, a standout student with no history of drug use, and from one pill, he tragically lost his life. His parents had to go through the gut-wrenching experience of seeing him get letters in the mail accepting him to some of our Nation's leading universities after he had passed away.

There simply can be no doubt—it is beyond doubt—that the current failure to secure our border is resulting in tragic and avoidable loss of life every day.

Today, we have a chance to do something about it by passing H.R. 2. This is one of the most important bills that will be considered in the 118th Congress. It is one of the most important pieces of legislation that we will ever vote upon.

It is a comprehensive border security package, Mr. Speaker, and I urge an “aye” vote.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2—this harmful, partisan, Republican legislation—for many reasons, but especially because it will endanger people seeking asylum.

This bill takes us backwards after years of acknowledging the need for comprehensive immigration reform. The expansion of family detention in this bill will hurt children and families. It is costly, and it does not work as the majority claims.

Mental health and medical experts agree that jailing immigrant families exposes children to high levels of trauma and distress. We should be expanding effective programs like Family Case Management, but this bill guts the program and will undermine its proven record of close to 90 percent compliance.

We live in a country of immigrants, and our Nation is stronger because of its diversity.

I urge all of my colleagues to oppose building walls and detention centers and support comprehensive, humane immigration reform that will strengthen our economy, enhance our security, and reflect our core values as Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an article from Social Science & Medicine about the high levels of mental health distress experienced by children who are held in immigration detention.

[From Social Science & Medicine, Apr. 29, 2019]

#### MENTAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN HELD AT A UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION DETENTION CENTER

(By Sarah A. MacLean, Priscilla O. Agyeman, Joshua Walther, Elizabeth K. Singer, Kim A. Baranowski, Craig L. Katz)

##### 1. INTRODUCTION

Immigrant children who are newly arrived in the United States demonstrate more positive developmental outcomes, such as resilience and positive academic attitudes, than their U.S.-born peers (Marks et al., 2014). However, several environmental factors could contribute to the development of psychological distress in these children and their families once in the U.S. In addition to exposure to acculturation stressors (Alegria and Woo, 2009; Suárez-Orozco and Suárez-Orozco, 2001), immigrants may also encounter deleterious medical and mental health outcomes associated with perceived discrimination (Pascoe and Smart Richman, 2009). Latinx immigrants also face health disparities driven by state-level immigration policies (Philbin et al., 2018). Furthermore, immigration policy and fears associated with deportation may increase the risk of emotional distress among immigrants who enter the U.S. without inspection or who remain without a valid visa (Cavazos-Rehg et al., 2007; Martinez et al., 2015). The forced dislocation from family, communities, and employment associated with deportation from the U.S. is also related to negative mental health outcomes (Bojorquez et al., 2015; Morris and Palazuelos, 2015).

Beginning in 2014, there have been significant increases in the number of individuals and their families from Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras seeking asylum in the U.S. (Mossaad and Baugh, 2018). Many women and children fleeing these nations have reported experiencing human rights violations in their countries of origin associated with gang-related and intimate partner violence in the context of un-responsive law enforcement and government presence (UNHCR, 2014, 2015). Asylum seekers may experience a range of mental health outcomes associated with their experiences of persecution (PHR, 2012). They may continue to be emotionally affected by trauma experienced in their home countries, as well as the dangers and violence they often encounter during migration (Temores-Alcantara et al., 2015). In addition, the very process of seeking asylum may also contribute to their psychological distress, as survivors are required to participate in potentially retraumatizing asylum interviews or adversarial immigration hearings (Schock et al., 2015).

The U.S. has also increased its capacity to detain immigrant families seeking asylum through the creation of more detention centers specifically designated for women and children over the past five years (Eagly et al., 2018). Asylum seekers in expedited removal are held in U.S. immigration detention while they await a screening interview for credible fear, where an asylum officer evaluates whether the asylum seeker has a credible fear of persecution or torture upon returning to their country of origin (HRF, 2018). This step is the first to determine eligibility for asylum. Adults and children being held in immigration detention demonstrate high rates of deleterious mental health outcomes such as depression and anxiety (Keller et al., 2003; Mares and Jureidini 2004). Studies conducted outside the U.S. have shown that detained immigrant children present with a high prevalence of depression/anxiety (10 percent) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD, 20 percent) (Buchmuller et al., 2018; Sen et al., 2017). Re-

search findings also indicate that children held in immigration detention settings may experience social, emotional, and behavioral difficulties at higher rates than those seen in the community (Sarkar and Gupta, 2007; Zwi et al., 2018).

To our knowledge, there have been no large empirical studies that have evaluated the mental health of children in immigration detention in the U.S. Previous studies documenting the mental health of children in U.S. immigration detention, though compelling, have been largely qualitative and anecdotal (Brabeck et al., 2014), or have been from the perspective of lawyers in the field (Bailey et al., 2014). Furthermore, experts assert that the controversial policy of forcibly separating children from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border is detrimental to children's health and wellbeing (MacKenzie et al., 2017), therefore prospective research on the effects of this policy is needed. Given the significant environmental factors that may contribute to the development of psychological difficulties in these children, we sought to understand the current state of mental health in this population.

##### 2. METHOD

We conducted a cross-sectional evaluation study of children held at an immigration detention center over two months in mid-2018. This center detains women who are accompanied by at least one child under the age of 18 in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody. We interviewed a convenience sample of 425 mothers who presented to the visitation center of the detention center. Mothers were eligible to participate if they spoke English or Spanish and if one of their children detained with them was between 4 and 17 years of age. The purpose of the study was stated explicitly to mothers, and they were informed that their participation and responses would not impact their legal proceedings. Mothers who volunteered to participate provided informed written consent and were interviewed in private rooms or other areas of the visitation center that ensured confidentiality. Nine mothers refused to participate. During the time period of this study, 17 percent of the children included in the sample had been previously separated from their mothers. At the time of interviews, a subset of these families had been recently reunited. All consenting mothers completed a demographic survey that included items related to country of origin, age of children, and date of arrival at the detention center. Mothers were then asked questions about their eldest child with them at the detention center.

Each mother completed the English or Spanish parent-report version of the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ), a 25-question screening instrument widely used internationally in children age 4–17 years (Goodman, 2001) and among refugee children (Zwi et al., 2017). The survey includes items that assess the child's behavior and possible responses are recorded as “not true” (0), “somewhat true” (1), and “certainly true” (2). Based on these responses, each participant received a score indicating total difficulties and a score for the subscales of emotional problems (e.g., feeling unhappy or having excessive fears), conduct problems (e.g., being disobedient), hyperactivity (e.g., being restless or easily distracted), and peer problems (e.g., preferring to play alone). Participants also received a prosocial score, which assesses behaviors such as sharing with other children and volunteering to help others. Consistent with the scoring of the SDQ, the resulting scores were assigned to the “normal,” “borderline,” or “abnormal” category for total difficulties and each subscale. Cutoff scores were originally designed such that roughly 80 percent

of children's scores fall within the "normal" range, 10 percent within the "borderline" range, and 10 percent within the "abnormal" range (Goodman, 1997).

A subset of 150 children age 9–17 years also assented to participate in the study following the informed written consent for their participation by their mothers. These children were part of a convenience sample of children who were in the visitation center at the time of their mothers' interviews. The children completed the UCLA Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Reaction Index (PTSD-RI) Symptom Scale, a 27-question screening tool used widely to assess symptoms of PTSD in children (Steinberg and Beyerlein, 2013), including refugee children (Ellis et al., 2006). Children were asked how frequently they experienced core symptoms of PTSD in the past month, with possible responses of "non" (0), "little" (1), "some" (2), "much" (3), and "most" (4). A symptom was considered "present" with a rating of 3 or 4. Participants met the criterion for Category B (reexperiencing) if  $\geq 1$  symptom was present and for Category C (avoidance) if  $\geq 1$  symptom alterations in cognition and mood) if  $\geq 2$  symptoms were present and for Category E (increased arousal) if  $\geq 2$  symptoms were present. A probable clinical diagnosis of PTSD was determined by meeting the criteria for all 4 categories (Steinberg & Beyerlein, 2013). Because a clinical assessment to establish a formal diagnosis of PTSD was not included in this study, the term "probable PTSD" will be used when referring to prevalence.

We describe sociodemographic characteristics with frequencies and percentages. We examined the prevalence of outcomes for the SDQ and PTSD-RI subscales. Cronbach's alpha for the SDQ and PTSD-RI were 0.768 and 0.908, respectively. Covariates included age, gender, country of origin, and previous separation from the child's mother. We considered results to be significant if  $p < 0.05$ . All analyses were performed using IBM SPSS (version 224).

The research protocol, survey, and consent forms were reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. All participants provided written, informed consent.

### 3. RESULTS

Most mothers were from Honduras (50 percent), El Salvador (23 percent), or Guatemala (22 percent), which is consistent with the overall population of residents at this detention center. The average age of the mothers and children were 33 ( $SD = 7$ ) and 10 ( $SD = 4$ ) years, respectively. At the time of interviews, families had been detained at the center for between one and 44 days, with an average detention of nine ( $SD = 6$ ) days.

Based on their mothers' responses to the SDQ, the children in this study demonstrated high rates of emotional problems (32 percent), peer problems, (14 percent), and total difficulties (10 percent) that fell within "abnormal" range. Rates of conduct problems and hyperactivity were each 8 percent. Children did not differ significantly based on gender or country of origin. Children aged 4–8 years showed higher rates of conduct problems (15 percent), hyperactivity (14 percent) and total difficulties (21 percent) that fell within the "abnormal" range compared to older children (all  $p < 0.001$ ). Compared to children who never had been separated from their mothers, children who had been separated showed higher rates of emotional problems (49 percent vs. 29 percent,  $p = 0.003$ ) and total difficulties (15 percent vs. 9 percent,  $p = 0.015$ ) that fell within the "abnormal" range. Notably, the majority of participants' scores (98 percent) fell within the "normal" range on the prosocial scale.

Among the subset of 150 children who completed the PTSD-RI, the mean age was 13.4 ( $SD = 2$ ) and 37 (25 percent) had been previously separated. Many met the criteria for avoidance (57 percent), reexperiencing (52 percent), negative alterations in cognition and mood (42 percent), and increased arousal (22 percent). Based on the presence of symptoms of these 4 subscales, 17 percent of the children had a probable diagnosis of PTSD. An additional 19 percent and 18 percent met two and three of the criteria, respectively. Results of the PTSD-RI did not differ significantly based on age, gender, previous separation from mother, or country of origin. Based on overall responses to both the SDQ and PTSD-RI, we found that 44 percent of children presented with symptoms that fell within the "abnormal" range on at least one of the SDQ subscales or a probable PTSD diagnosis.

### 4. DISCUSSION

The children of mothers who were interviewed at this detention center showed higher rates of emotional and behavior difficulties, as well as PTSD, compared to children in the general U.S. population; notably, the mean emotional symptoms subscale and total difficulties scores for the participants were higher than those seen in U.S. primary care populations (Biel et al., 2015; Simpson et al., 2005; Youthinmind, 2004). While approximately 5 percent of children in the U.S. have emotional or behavioral difficulties, the rate of abnormal total difficulties in the study population was 10 percent (Simpson et al., 2005). Furthermore, the lifetime prevalence of PTSD among adolescents in the U.S. is estimated at 4.7 percent, far below the 17 percent seen in this sample (McLaughlin et al., 2013). Average total difficulty scores for the participants (8.90 [ $SD = 5.88$ ]) were higher than those seen in Spanish-speaking Latinx Americans who are not in detention (6.80 [ $SD = 5.001$ ]) (Strand et al., 2015). The high rates of abnormal emotional (32 percent) and peer problems (14 percent) seen in this sample are consistent with high rates of abnormal scores for these subscales in refugee children in Australia (23 percent) and 21 percent, respectively (Yalin Sapmaz et al., 2017; Zwi et al., 2017). The high rate of probable PTSD (17 percent) in this study group is also consistent with a high rate (20 percent) among children held in immigration detention in the United Kingdom (Sen et al., 2017). Of note, 98 percent of children had normal scores on the prosocial scale, which includes items such as being considerate of others' feelings and volunteering to help others.

Due to the cross-sectional nature of this study, we cannot draw causal connections between arrival in the U.S., time in immigration detention, and the development of behavioral or emotional difficulties. Regardless of cause, the distress seen in these children highlights the need for immediate mental health treatment, as early intervention in children who demonstrate signs of psychological difficulties is shown to improve long-term emotional health (Terr, 2013).

Of particular concern, these results demonstrate heightened distress among detained children aged 4 to 8. Young children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of their environment, and trauma experienced early in life has a significant effect on emotional and behavioral development (Oral et al., 2016). These children, especially, would benefit from early, developmentally-appropriate, and specialized interventions to address these significant stressors. Given the range of exposure to violence reported by children fleeing Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador (UNHCR, 2014), as well as the high rates of violence experienced by migrants from these countries during their

journey to the U.S. (MSF, 2017), it is essential that these young people receive treatment specific to ameliorating the impact of posttraumatic stress.

Children who had been separated from their mothers demonstrated a significantly greater number of emotional symptoms and total difficulties when compared to detained children who had not been separated from their mothers, suggesting that separation is associated with an increase in psychological distress. When the U.S. government began separating more migrant children from their parents in May 2018, the American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Physicians, and American Psychological Association each released statements condemning the policy (Kraft, 2018; Lopez, 2018; Stewart, 2018). These professional organizations, as well as individual clinical practitioners, warn of the deleterious mental health outcomes associated with forcibly removing children from the security of their families in both the short and long-term (Mackenzie et al., 2017). Our results, although correlational in nature, appear to confirm these findings, at least in the short-term, and reinforce expert opinion that separating immigrant children from their parents causes emotional harm.

Current published guidelines from ICE, last updated in 2007, indicate that each person held in immigration detention should receive an intake screening and referral to a mental health provider, either in the detention center or at an outside location if deemed necessary (ICE, 2007). Given that some of the children in this study expressed severe emotional distress and anecdotally expressed difficulty obtaining further mental healthcare within the facility, current screening methods and/or current treatment services are likely inadequate in quality and scope. Therefore, further clarification from ICE is required regarding the nature of available treatment, as well as the extent to which clinicians who receive referrals have training in child psychology or psychiatry, demonstrate cultural-competence, and integrate a trauma-informed lens in their interventions. Moreover, given the continued stressors associated with detention, these children would benefit from specialized mental health treatment outside of immigration detention settings. Indeed, many experts recommend that children be placed in the community while their immigration cases proceed and we believe our findings add further credence to this position (Linton et al., 2017).

**Limitations.** Given the design of this study and the restrictions of conducting research in an immigration detention center, our results must be interpreted in the context of several limitations. The participants represent a convenience sample of the population of families, and only those mothers who presented to the visitation center could be recruited for participation. In addition, due to the nature of the setting, some mothers completed the SDQ in their child's presence, which may have influenced the mothers' responses. Additionally, only a subset of older children was asked to complete the PTSD-RI, as many were attending classes at the facility's school at the time of their mothers' interviews.

### 5. CONCLUSIONS

Despite the limitations, this is one of the first studies of the mental health of a particularly vulnerable population of children being held in immigration detention in the U.S. Our results demonstrate that detained children, and especially those previously separated from their mothers, experience significant psychological distress. Prior studies have demonstrated that detention is deleterious to the mental health of immigrants

(Keller et al., 2003; Sen et al., 2017). We theorize that the trauma in this population is observed as a continuum, involving the premigration experiences of the subjects in their countries of origin, their migration experiences, and their subsequent detention in the U.S. Against this background of trauma, detention and denial of adequate mental health treatment are detrimental to the development of these children.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, we have a crisis at our southern border. It is a crisis that started in earnest on the day this President was sworn into office. On day one of his Presidency, he began issuing executive orders to end the successful policies implemented by the Trump administration. In total, President Biden issued 94 executive orders related to the border within his first 100 days in office.

The results have been disastrous. Over 10 times the population of my home State of Wyoming has illegally crossed the border since Joe Biden has been President. At the same time, over 14,000 pounds of fentanyl have come across the Southwest border—enough to kill over 3.1 billion people.

Through the first 6 months of 2023, 80 people who appeared on the terrorist watch list have been caught trying to cross into the United States—more than the last 5 years combined.

How many slipped through?

We don't know.

These numbers show that without a doubt, Joe Biden has enabled the largest drug smuggling and human trafficking operation in U.S. history, and he has made our country less safe in the process.

Stopping illegal immigration is the number one issue for my constituents in Wyoming. We must fix the situation, and H.R. 2 does just that.

It is time to finish the wall, end catch and release, protect women and children from human traffickers, stop the illegal drugs flowing into the country, fix our broken asylum process, and force this administration to finally address the disaster that they have created.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time I have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York has 25½ minutes remaining.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASAR).

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, I am the son of immigrants and proud to represent the heart of Texas here in the United States Congress. For generations, my family has moved back and forth between Texas and Mexico, Mexico and Texas. People immigrate. Sometimes they are in search of safety, and sometimes it is for economic opportunity, but always for family and a better life.

What folks aren't immigrating for is to bring fentanyl into the country as folks on the other side of the aisle have

been talking about time after time after time. In committee it was laid out very clearly that over 90 percent of folks arrested for fentanyl trafficking are U.S. citizens and lawful residents.

That is why this Republican anti-immigrant bill, H.R. 2, is cruel, extreme, and not based on fact. It would destroy the asylum system, cage children and families indefinitely, and make the situation at our border worse.

In fact, this bill would eliminate funding for much of the remaining legal immigration system that we have, leading to chaos, but chaos, unfortunately, is what top Republican officials want. They want the immigration system to stay broken so that they can blame Democrats for it. This is a case of arsonists blaming the firefighters for the flames.

For example, Congressman CASTRO and I worked with the Biden administration to expedite funding to Texas this month to ensure that migrants can sleep in a safe shelter while they process their immigration case instead of being in a tent on the border. In stark contrast, this Republican bill in front of us today would ban this source for shelters and services.

Immigrants sleeping on the streets of Texas may be a better shot for FOX News cameras, but it is a much worse deal for everyday people.

In Texas we are still mourning those killed by a mass shooter in Allen. We are seeking justice for the kids and the teachers killed in Uvalde. We haven't fixed our electric grid, and people are struggling to pay their rent and their mortgage. We need help from this Congress, but instead we get hate for immigrants. We should be creating an economy that works for everyone—immigrant and native-born.

We should be expanding our freedoms, not ripping away peoples' rights. Let's welcome asylum seekers fleeing violence and catastrophe with a safe and orderly system. Let's create pathways for legal immigration rather than the broken system today that forces people to go around the rules. Let's work toward a safer and more just and more prosperous Western Hemisphere so that we reduce those factors that are pushing mass migration.

Let's look at the role of U.S. sanctions that starve people abroad instead of feeding them. Let's recognize that immigrants are a key part of our past and our present in this country.

Many of our joint faith traditions call for us to care for our neighbors near and far. I remember when my priest told me the story of how the Holy family was persecuted by King Herod and how Jesus, Mary, and Joseph had to flee across the border into Egypt. They had to cross a big river. The priest said that he forgets whether the river was called the Nile or the Rio Grande, but that is beside the point. Today, our story is no different.

□ 1230

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUARTE). The gentleman from California has 36 minutes remaining.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. TIFFANY), the author of one of the measures in this package.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation, which is long overdue.

For the last 2 years, this administration has systematically and deliberately erased our border. They have unleashed a tidal wave of illegal aliens and deadly drugs into our communities.

They have enriched the cartels and human traffickers.

They have disrespected the millions of legal immigrants who followed our laws and came here the right way.

They have pushed our local hospitals and schools to the breaking point and forced you, the American people, to pick up the tab.

Mr. Speaker, that ends today. This bill would restart border wall construction, add more Border Patrol agents, crack down on people gaming our asylum laws, and end the failed policy of catch and release.

I am also pleased that this legislation includes a measure I authored to end the administration's flagrant abuse of parole.

As everyone in this Chamber knows, parole authority is limited. It allows for the admission of foreigners without a visa under very narrow circumstances for urgent humanitarian reasons on an individual case-by-case basis.

It was intended to accommodate, for example, a young child seeking immediate lifesaving medical treatment that is only available here in the United States, but that is not how President Biden has used it. Instead, he has converted this narrow avenue into an open borders superhighway, indiscriminately admitting more than 1 million illegal immigrants over just the last 2 years.

This is not just wrong, it is reckless.

It is time to restore the rule of law, and it is time to restrain the dangerous impulses of this administration.

Mr. Speaker, Americans are tired of the chaos. They deserve an immigration system that puts the safety and well-being of Americans first, and that is exactly what this bill does. I ask for a "yes" vote on the bill.

I will close by thanking the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK), who did such a stellar job of shepherding this bill through the Judiciary Committee and now onto the House floor.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU).

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2, the child deportation act.

This bill is not a serious attempt to fix our broken immigration system and to address the humanitarian crisis at

our southern border. Rather, H.R. 2 is an anti-immigrant MAGA wish list.

It would put kids in cages and allow them to be held in Border Patrol facilities for up to 30 days, 10 times longer than current law.

It would place unaccompanied children at risk of human trafficking, sexual exploitation, and violence.

It would bar nongovernmental organizations, like the American Red Cross and Catholic Charities, from working with our government to shelter immigrants, creating dangerous and inhumane conditions for our border communities.

It would decimate our asylum system by creating new and arbitrary restrictions for asylum seekers, all while gutting programs such as humanitarian parole that have been proven to reduce the number of arrivals at our border.

It would exacerbate the crisis by tearing down our humanitarian assistance programs while reassigning border agents away from stopping the transport of illegal drugs like fentanyl.

H.R. 2 will cause irreparable harm to children and families, undermine our international leadership, and hurt our economy.

Yesterday, House Democrats presented a serious framework for how to fix and modernize our immigration system. The U.S. Citizenship Act, or USCA, recognizes that a robust, humane, and efficient immigration system makes America stronger.

It would actually alleviate the humanitarian crisis at the southern border by helping the President address the root causes of migration and providing resources to humanely and efficiently process children and families who seek asylum here.

It would also reunite families, fix our visa backlog, protect immigrant workers from unscrupulous employers, and ensure no future President can ban entire groups based on religion.

I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this bill.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON), the author of one of the other measures in this package.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, there has been so much misinformation here on the floor today, I think we have got to set the facts straight here.

It is clear that providing refuge for individuals fleeing persecution has been a central tenet of U.S. immigration law for decades. The asylum process itself is a testament to America’s history as a beacon of hope, freedom, and opportunity for millions around the world.

However, here is the deal: Unfortunately, drug cartels, activist judges, human smuggling operations, the open borders lobby, and radical liberal administrations have worked in tandem to undermine that system, to undermine the integrity of the U.S. immigration system itself, and in the proc-

ess they have weakened protections for those who are truly seeking a safe haven from persecution by forcing them into a yearslong line in immigration court.

Look, we all agree that the current asylum system is in desperate need of repair, and the Secure the Border Act provides the necessary tools to fix it.

We are hearing all kinds of fearmongering today from the other side. It is not a surprise. There will be hand-wringing and name-calling. We hear these accusations that Republicans are anti-immigrant and inhumane. We hear grandiose pronouncements that the Democrats are pro-immigrant and pro-humanitarian values, but all of this is to try their best to distract the American people from what they are seeing with their own eyes. The chaos at the border is intentional. It is designed by this administration, Mayorkas, and Biden himself.

To my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, I ask you, what is humane about a human smuggler abandoning a 1-year-old child in a diaper at the U.S.-Mexico border?

What pro-immigrant policy is pursued with aliens suffocating to death in tractor-trailers and freight train cars?

What are the humanitarian principles behind policies that encourage child trafficking, sexual exploitation, and violence directed toward some of society’s most vulnerable people?

If you are going to be pro-immigrant and support humanitarian values, you have to fix these problems, and that is what we are trying to do here today.

Being pro-immigrant and supporting humanitarian values does not mean maintaining the disastrous status quo because all that is going to do is give us more death, more exploitation, more real tangible harm to aliens and citizens alike.

Mr. Speaker, we live in the greatest country in the history of the world; it is not even close. We are the most benevolent people in the history of the world. We have a rich history of an asylum program, protecting people who need it, but we have to fix this. These frivolous asylum claims are creating backlogs in the courts.

I drafted the Asylum Reform and Border Protection Act. It is a big chunk of this immigration package today. We are trying to fix this so that we can do our duty as the humanitarian people that we are.

Our bill necessarily codifies key terms; it makes uniform interpretations regardless of geography; and it reserves asylum for the people who truly need it. Our bill will prevent this flood of frivolous asylum applications that are running rampant and close the loopholes.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support the Secure the Border Act. Our country’s stability, sovereignty, and security depend upon this. The stakes could not be any higher.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ).

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition of this cruel, extreme, and unworkable policy.

The United States has long been a beacon for those coming from other countries in search of a better life. The bill before us today will end the asylum system as we know it and eliminate humanitarian protections for people coming to the United States.

Many asylum seekers are escaping conditions that we cannot fathom, yet here we are debating a measure that will subject them to more cruelty. Cruelty is the point, but cruelty will not fix our broken immigration system.

This bill will make it nearly impossible to seek asylum at the border, upend protections for unaccompanied minors, and mandate that all asylum-seeking families be detained indefinitely, regardless if they are with children.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New York.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, these policies will only exacerbate the extreme suffering occurring at the southern border.

If Republicans really wanted to address this crisis, they would join Democrats to pass real, comprehensive immigration reform.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this cruel, draconian bill.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOODEN).

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, none of us in this Chamber thought that we would have a President, even as a Democrat, that would let the country get this way. Strengthening our national security and prioritizing the well-being of the American people should be a bipartisan issue. This is the strongest border security bill to come to the House floor in decades, but my colleagues on the other side of the aisle refuse to support this commonsense legislation, instead using terms like cruel, horrible, and heartless Republicans. The American people won’t fall for that. They don’t fall for that.

The Biden administration has created a humanitarian and security crisis unlike anything we have ever seen. They have outright refused to enforce the law, prioritizing the livelihoods of illegal aliens over American citizens. Drug cartels are running rampant. NGOs are handing out debit cards and bus tickets to migrants paid for with our taxpayer dollars. Human traffickers are targeting migrant children; it is heartless to do nothing about that and let the status quo continue.

However, it gets worse tonight at midnight. When title 42 lifts tonight at midnight, we will see yet another migrant surge to add to the historic numbers this administration has already amassed.

The Secure the Border Act strengthens protections for migrant children during a time when the Biden administration is losing over 85,000 unaccompanied minor children due to foolish and reckless practices. This bill protects migrant children, American citizens, and American workers.

H.R. 2 has my full support, and I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to join the American people in our fight to secure our Nation.

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

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY), one of the moving forces behind this bill.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, we are here today because of the abject failure of the administration to do its fundamental duty to protect the United States.

We have a wide open border, empowering cartels, empowering China to the detriment of American citizens and to the migrants who seek to come here, supposedly in the name of compassion. However, that is in the false name of compassion.

Dead migrants, lying along the Rio Grande and in ranches in south Texas. The extent to which migrants suffer in the Texas heat—53 dying in a tractor-trailer last summer in San Antonio, thousands being sold into the sex trafficking trade, being used as crass political pawns by a party devoid of anything substantive to take this country forward.

Republicans are standing up strongly to make sure that this country will stand for the rule of law that sets our country apart around the globe and attracts so many to want to come here.

Border Patrol right now apprehended over 10,000 migrants on Monday and 11,000 on Tuesday, the highest single-day totals ever recorded. There were 26,000 got-aways and 660,000 migrants waiting in Mexico. The President of Guatemala has confirmed 80,000 Venezuelan migrants are traveling to the U.S. ahead of title 42's expiration; 15,000 Venezuelan migrants crossed into Brownsville; Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said he estimates 60,000 to 65,000 migrants are in northern Mexico.

I got a text from local law enforcement yesterday saying: We are almost at broken arrow. Every sector is near 150 percent capacity. DHS is calling for border agents from other northern and coastal sectors to help the southern border. The first 550 in a group of 1,500 servicemembers from the Army and Marines were set to arrive. A shootout between the Mexican Army and human smugglers erupted at the Pharr-Reynosa International Bridge. Schools in El Paso are adding more security. El Paso ran out of shelter. El Paso declared an emergency. Brownsville declared an emergency. Laredo declared an emergency. San Antonio is preparing; their migrant shelters are expressing concerns about being overwhelmed. Even our Nation's Capital is

being overwhelmed. Now, the New York City mayor—a sanctuary city—criticizing bussing, is bussing migrants outside of New York City out to the suburbs because my Democratic colleagues and the Democratic administration and Democratic leaders in so-called sanctuary cities don't give a whit about migrants. It is about political power, and they are costing lives. They are endangering Americans. They are causing children to die from fentanyl poisoning, and they know it. That is what is so pathetic and sad.

Republicans offer legislation today that would force this administration to do the job it refuses to do, by ending the magnet, by stopping the releases, by forcing us to do the job we are supposed to do to protect unaccompanied children from being atop train cars, being subjected to the abuses of cartels, holding families together while we adjudicate claims of asylum, and, yes, providing for a path for asylum while making sure we don't create a magnet for the abuse of migrants in the false name of compassion.

Republicans are leading. We are doing the job that the President refuses to do. The American people know it; they see it; and my Democratic colleagues are going to suffer the consequences for this abject failure.

□ 1245

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I rise in strong opposition to the child deportation act.

This effort will rip apart families, dismantle due process, and expose children to abuse and trafficking.

This bill goes further than simply demolishing legal pathways that the President has put in place. It strips back critical safeguards that protect the safety and well-being of unaccompanied minors.

Instead of getting their day in court, this bill would imprison kids for up to 30 days. Instead of reunifying children with family who are here legally, this bill would deliver them to traffickers and other bad actors. Instead of providing care and counsel to children, this bill would weaken child welfare standards and reduce vetting of sponsors, leaving children vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.

This legislation makes a mockery of our Nation's values to appeal to our Nation's worst impulses.

Mr. Speaker, this effort to block access to asylum will fuel criminal traffickers that extort desperate migrants.

To make it all very simple, this bill will plunge our border into chaos, and that is exactly what my Republican colleagues want.

They demonize immigrants, lock up kids, and defund border security just so they can blame Democrats for the crisis that they manufactured.

Let me give you an example of the Homestead migrant children detention center that existed in Homestead, Florida, back in 2019, in the previous administration.

This was a facility that warehoused unaccompanied minors. The conditions were so challenging and the kids crammed so tightly together under conditions where they were forced to literally have very little space between one another and be imprisoned, essentially, in this detention center that, eventually, it was forced to shut down.

When President Biden took action to allow Venezuelan, Cuban, and Haitian migrants to apply for humanitarian parole, reducing border encounters from these countries by over 90 percent, Republican attorneys general filed a lawsuit to stop him.

My Republican colleagues trumpet the need for oversight, but when I introduced legislation to prohibit child detention centers from refusing access to Members to conduct that oversight, deafening silence.

They scold Democrats on enforcement yet promise to slash border funding to prepandemic levels, leaving border officers without vital resources to combat fentanyl and human trafficking.

The only thing this bill will actually secure is the choke-hold grip that MAGA extremists have on the Republican Party.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this legislation. It would brutally harm children for the sake of cheap political points.

Our border should be governed by laws upholding our humanity, not by demagogues promoting bigotry.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO).

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I am from a border State, and I have been to the border multiple times. There is absolutely an invasion at our southern border.

Even worse, title 42 ends today. Without title 42, the number of illegal immigrants at our southern border is expected to skyrocket.

The Biden administration has no plan. In fact, I heard multiple times from my Democratic colleagues today how we should work together on a comprehensive plan. May I remind my Democratic colleagues that they were in total control of the House, the Senate, and the Presidency for the last 2 years, and they did absolutely nothing.

The Secure the Border Act is the solution. This bill disincentivizes illegal immigration, ends catch and release, builds the wall, and reinstates President Trump's successful remain in Mexico policy.

Republicans want secure borders. Republicans want to protect our communities from deadly fentanyl. Republicans want to protect the innocent immigrant children from being sold into sex slavery, like is happening today.

It is time to pass this legislation and secure the border now because President Biden won't.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER), the author of one of the other measures in this package.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act.

House Republicans are fulfilling the promises to restore safety and security at our borders, furthering the goals outlined in the House Republican Commitment to America.

Included in this border package is my bill, the Protection of Children Act. We know that human traffickers, cartels, and coyotes exploit children in order to line their pockets and then abandon them at the border. These children are then subject to a very slow-moving bureaucratic system, all the while being separated from their families.

My Protection of Children Act gives these children a choice and closes loopholes to end the exploitation of children.

By returning these children to their own country quickly and safely, we prevent these children from experiencing the further trauma of detention and being released to potential strangers and a long, drawn-out adjudication process.

I thank Representative BIGGS and Representative NEHLS for cosponsoring my Protection of Children Act. I thank the House Homeland Security, Judiciary, and Foreign Affairs Committees for what they have done on this legislation.

I would like to point out something. When I was the chairman of the Appropriations Committee's Homeland Security Subcommittee, I was in Laredo in 2014 at the bus station. There were 700 people waiting to go somewhere. They told me two people spoke Spanish or English. None of the children spoke Spanish or English. They were going to be released into this country once they left Laredo with no one to help them.

We should make this thing right and do the right thing. I asked about the kids, and they said to send them back where they came from. That is how this bill got started.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS), one of the leaders in our Conference in confronting this crisis.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his effort on this legislation. So many have worked hard on this.

I have been listening to my colleagues across the aisle and all the gaslighting. I am reminded of the secondary output produced by many of the dairy cows in rural Arizona.

While my colleagues across the aisle are ignoring this problem, right now, record numbers of people are coming across this border.

Do you know what? In Matamoros, right there at the Rio Grande, you have

the immigration authorities of Mexico coordinating with CBP on controlled crossings of the river.

Why is that? Because title 42 has gone away today. It is going to go away tonight. The cartels control our border. We have had testimony. The Chief of CBP has said that.

When I heard some of the stuff I heard here, I said that I wonder if any of them even know where the border is. Come on down to the border. I will show you what it is like.

Do you know what CBP officials told local officials in Arizona about title 42? I am quoting here: "You are screwed."

You won't do anything to solve the border problem. This bill solves much of the border problem. I get a kick out of someone here who just made a reference to how bad things were and how we didn't do anything.

Yuma sector, 2020, apprehensions for the entire fiscal year were 8,800. Do you know what it is today, this fiscal year? Over 350,000. Do you know what it was last year? Over 300,000.

Why is that? Because what the CBP doesn't say, hey, let's do the Democrat plan. They say, can you at least let us enforce the law? This administration says no.

Thus, we have a crisis on the border. It is more than a crisis. It is cataclysmic.

In the Darien Gap in Panama, the numbers crossing, it is a 500 percent increase. The number is between 700,000 to a million people just waiting, coming on up, waiting for title 42 to go away.

Do you know what "expedited removal" means? It means expedited release into the country. It means community release.

Why is that? Because of the weak asylum enforcement laws that we have today. When you come up, if we are taking you back to the border, we are going to get you across the border, and you say, "I want asylum." It doesn't matter what your history is or anything. We are going to get you out of here and release you, community release.

Community release means, right now, you are getting released. That is what is happening. Shame on you.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA), my colleague.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, when I received my current district in redistricting, I was pleased that it was a border district, all along the Mexican border from the Tijuana area all the way through the rest of the county.

It isn't a border area today. There is no border. If there is no border with Mexico, then there is no border with America.

Every day, people pass through. Some are found. Some are not found. Some are stopped for a period of time, but few are turned away. They are not turned away because we simply have a policy of letting everyone in.

I also represent a major agricultural district with ranching and farming, and guess what? With all those millions of people who this administration has deliberately allowed to come in without having been invited, without prescreening, without an application, we still have a shortage because of the policies of simply catch and release with parole.

I will tell you what else my district is dealing with. We are dealing with enough fentanyl seized last year—117,000 pounds. If divided equally, it would kill every person in America in one dose.

Just last week, the California Highway Patrol seized \$21 million worth of fentanyl well into the United States on its way to L.A. That would be enough fentanyl to kill every San Diegan. That is what we are dealing with because we have no border.

My Democrat friends, Mr. Speaker, will tell you about how it is not good, that it is not good enough, that we need to have comprehensive reform.

Like you, Mr. Speaker, I have pushed for comprehensive reform, but comprehensive reform is not simply to normalize what is going on. Comprehensive reform has to be a balance of enforcement and fair immigration rules.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. VAN DREW).

□ 1300

Mr. VAN DREW. I think we all know that we are a nation of immigrants, but we are also a nation of the rule of law. As President Reagan once said years ago, "A nation that cannot control its borders is not a nation." We are very rapidly moving there.

At this very moment, we don't have control of our southern border. Tens of thousands of migrants are marching, waiting, and illegally crossing our borders every day with tens of thousands more well on their way.

We are witnessing one of the worst humanitarian crises in the history of our Nation. Migrants are dying from starvation, from disease, from lack of water. Women and children are being trafficked and they are being abused.

Our administration knew this was coming, yet they have no plan.

How irresponsible is that?

With title 42 set to expire tonight and no concrete plan in place to handle this situation, we are facing a crisis of epic proportions. This crisis will result in communities suffering, migrants suffering, and our Nation suffering, but it isn't too late. It still isn't too late.

We can secure our borders and we can protect our citizens. It will take leadership and a willingness to reject talking points and a willingness to do what is best for our Nation and for our people, and right now it is the House Republicans who are standing up and they are the ones making the effort.

This bill restarts the border wall. It hires more CBP agents. It ends incentives to abuse unaccompanied minors.

It ends catch and release. It reinstates the remain in Mexico policy.

We need action from our leaders, real leaders. We need action from our elected officials and actions from those who have the power to make a difference.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for bringing this forward.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO). The gentleman from California has 15 minutes remaining.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD).

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman JORDAN, Chairman GREEN, and Chairman McCUAL for their leadership and contributions to the bill that we see before us today.

Mr. Speaker, I will comment briefly on my experience and what I saw at the border at the invitation of members of the Judiciary Committee. I was able to kind of see, I think, two very diverse parts of the border.

First and foremost, in McAllen, Texas, where we spent a couple of days and had an opportunity not only to talk to border agents themselves, but also sat through a full presentation by Homeland Security, one of the things that struck me, and I think is very pertinent to what we are discussing today, is every time I asked a border agent or every time I spoke with someone from Homeland Security, I would say: What can we do as Members of Congress?

There are a lot of times you go on these trips and there are tours, and you feel like when you are done, it is overwhelming, and you really want to know how we can have an impact.

What made an impression on me was every person I spoke to said title 42. I don't think you could find somebody, probably at the times when I was at the border, who could really describe what title 42 meant or what the impact would be.

Guess what? Those agents knew. They knew what it meant. They knew it would be an unbelievable unleashing of many different factions of people that were immigrating for any number of reasons across the border, and they knew it was going to overwhelm them.

As we stand here today and debate this bill, when you are watching it on TV right now, quite honestly, it is overwhelming. You can see the masses of people that are gathering.

Mr. Speaker, I will, once again, thank Chairman JORDAN, Chairman GREEN, and Chairman McCUAL for putting all this together.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. FRY).

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support today of H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act of 2023. For years, we have heard from this administration, we have heard from our colleagues across the aisle that we are imagining a border crisis. There is

nothing to see. Everything is fine on our southern border.

We are not imagining an increase in human trafficking. We are not imagining the dramatic escalation of fentanyl and fentanyl poisoning in our country. We are not imagining 5 million people who have entered this country illegally, the 1.2 million got-aways, or the nearly 100 people that were on the terrorist watch list since this President took office. We are not imagining a border crisis.

Cartels are making \$13 billion a year off of smuggling people into this country. We are destabilizing an entire country because we are failing to act. This doesn't include what they are making off the drugs they smuggle either. This, quite simply, Mr. Speaker, is unconscionable.

While we are bankrolling the cartels, we are bankrupting our country. I visited the southern border, and I wish that more of my colleagues across the aisle would have done the same. Because when you go down there and you listen to farmers, ranchers, family members, hospital systems, people all over from every walk of life, they say the same thing when we asked them at our hearing: Is the border secure?

The resounding answer from the entire crowd of several hundred was no.

Do you feel safe in your community? No again.

We see this time and time again from this administration where they have failed to act and put our Nation in jeopardy. This crisis is a drain on law enforcement. It is a drain on hospitals. It is a drain on taxpayers and resources across the board.

South Carolina is 2,000 miles away from the border, but we, like every single State, are a border State. We see the fentanyl in our communities. We see what is happening on the southern border. We see what is going on in our neighborhoods across this country. Our entire Nation is dealing with the effects of Joe Biden's border crisis.

It is the Federal Government's primary responsibility to protect our Nation and secure our borders, but that is not happening.

We must resume construction of the wall. We must hire more Border Patrol agents. We must end catch and release.

Mr. Speaker, we must pass this bill.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BENTZ).

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2.

This country must have an immigration system that works.

If our Nation is going to compete with China, we have to have an immigration system that works.

If our Nation is going to continue to feed the world, we need a system that works.

If our Nation is going to continue to build its infrastructure, roads, buildings, and structures that our economy

needs, we need an immigration system that works.

If our Nation is going to take care of its elderly, sick and retired, we need a system that works.

If our Nation is going to compete at the highest level of AI and computer chip manufacturing, we need an immigration system that works.

If our Nation is to have an economy that is not starving for workers, we need an immigration system that works.

Mr. Speaker, to have an immigration system that works, we have to have a border that works, and our border is broken.

Hundreds of thousands of people coming across the border every day do not support an immigration system that works and does not reflect an immigration system that works.

Mr. Speaker, we need to fix the border first and then we can fix our immigration system.

This is the first step, the first absolutely essential and necessary step to provide a foundation for a comprehensive revision of our immigration system.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for H.R. 2, and I will be voting for it.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STANTON).

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2. I am deeply frustrated by the administration's failure to adequately prepare for the end of title 42, and my constituents in Arizona are, as well. They know that the administration could have and should have done more to prepare for this day. That is the simple truth.

The bill before us today does nothing to make the border States like mine safer. It does not ensure an orderly and humane legal asylum process, and even makes it more difficult for refugees from countries like Cuba and Ukraine to seek asylum here.

It does not stop the flow of deadly drugs like fentanyl into our communities. In fact, it diverts law enforcement resources from going after drug traffickers and smugglers.

This bill demands much more from the Customs and Border Protection officers but does not provide the necessary funding for CBP to manage the surge of traffic, leaving our ports and our Nation more vulnerable and less secure.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle even want to eliminate Federal funding that faith-based and local aid groups depend on to shelter, feed, and clothe migrants. Without those shelters, there would be even more street releases by Border Patrol into communities like Phoenix and Tucson. That is inhumane.

My amendment to strike that part of this bill, they wouldn't even give it a

vote. Make no mistake, if signed into law, H.R. 2 would hurt our economy, especially in my home State of Arizona.

Every employer that I have met with in the district, from farmers, to contractors, to high-tech manufacturing companies, tells me that they can't find enough skilled workers. This bill does nothing to strengthen workforce pipelines. It actually makes hiring more difficult.

All of these things, Mr. Speaker, show that this proposal is not a serious one. Instead of sabotaging an already broken immigration system, I invite my colleagues across the aisle to help us modernize it.

Commonsense reforms would help us rebuild our Nation's infrastructure, invest in domestic manufacturing, create jobs, improve trade with Mexico, and combat inflation.

Now, my colleagues across the aisle say our first priority should be securing our southern border. I agree.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, the situation at our border is dire. There is no getting around it, and Congress and the administration must do more.

One of the things we can do to secure our border is to modernize the immigration system. These are not incompatible goals. Any serious proposal must do both.

I am ready to work in good faith to find a path forward, and I will be at the table when my colleagues across the aisle are ready to do the same.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCÍA).

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2, the child deportation act.

I rise today because seeking asylum is a human right because we are a nation of immigrants.

I migrated to the U.S. when I was 9, but the same pathways to citizenship that enabled me to become a citizen and become a Member of Congress no longer exist.

Our immigration system has become more restrictive. Our border is more militarized. This Republican bill is the cruelest we have seen in a long time. It destroys asylum. It doubles down on detention. It puts kids in jail. It is a bill intended to rally the base by vilifying immigrants. It is straight out of the Tucker Carlson playbook.

Migrants make the journey through rivers and jungles, in trucks and on trains. They make the journey out of desperation and out of fear.

We need an immigration system rooted in compassion and opportunity, not like this bill.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 11½ minutes remaining.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. FROST).

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because Republicans in this Chamber want to scream and shout about our broken immigration system while putting forth the most unserious, cruel bill that is effectively dead on arrival in the Senate and fixes absolutely nothing.

This bill is a rerun of Donald Trump's biggest failures at inhumane border policies. This is the child deportation act because that is exactly what this does.

It doesn't address any single issue at the border. It doesn't create pathways to citizenship for those legally attempting to receive asylum, which is a right in this country. It focuses on expediting child deportation and detaining unaccompanied minors, and even spending millions of your taxpayer dollars on a pointless border wall.

Floridians back in my home State know that this is nothing less than hateful, unserious legislation, because we are watching Governor Ron DeSantis do the same thing: spending millions to detain and fly migrants for a political show while criminalizing vulnerable people and families.

The American people sent us here to work, and instead, GOP leadership offers them pointless bill after pointless bill that only proves how hateful right-wing policy has become.

□ 1315

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO).

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, at 11:59 tonight, we will see the end of title 42, and President Biden has been stepping up to meet the moment.

We secured additional border security patrol officers in our omnibus. We have a new parole program to help out with countries like Venezuela, Cuba, Nicaragua, and Haiti, where we are seeing a lot of folks come to the border. We also see 1,500 troops going down there.

In this moment, this body should be working together in a bipartisan fashion. We should be coming together with a supplemental to help with the funding that we need down there at the border, not a messaging bill, not a political points potshot bill at a time when the clock is ticking. This body could do so much more if we worked together.

I have been down to the border, Mr. Speaker. We know what works: sensors and technology to help make sure we have border awareness across the southern border; having more Customs and Border Protection agents to be able to work on apprehensions; and

getting civilians to do processing of asylum. We should be funding a bill that does those things.

Mr. Speaker, we don't have the southern border in Florida. We have ports, and we have had a lot of challenges with those ports. This bill doesn't do anything for our ports. It does nothing for the ports of entry, our front lines in the Sunshine State.

We see Governor DeSantis, on the other hand, has a law coming in Florida that is going to attack hospitals. It is going to attack nonprofits. It is going to hurt agriculture. It is going to hurt construction at a time when we need to lower food prices and build more affordable housing. We are already seeing crops not being picked in the field as fear comes over the Sunshine State. Construction sites are abandoned.

This isn't going to help immigration at all. What it will do is jack up inflation and food prices at a time when we need to work together.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am ready to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, organizations, associations, and industry leaders from across the political spectrum oppose passage of H.R. 2, the child deportation act. They include among them the American Immigration Lawyers Association, Service Employees International Union, AFL-CIO, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Kids in Need of Defense, Unidos, and National Education Association.

This bill is a microcosm of what we have seen in the first 4½ months of this new Republican majority, a chaotic majority that has no real interest in legislating or making positive change. Instead, they pass cruel and unworkable messaging bills that have no chance of becoming law and are dead in the U.S. Senate, and then they pat themselves on the back.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this draconian and unworkable bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we know how to secure our borders and protect our country. We had done so under the Trump administration. The remain in Mexico policy slowed illegal immigration and phony asylum claims to a trickle. The border wall was nearing completion. ICE was actually enforcing court-ordered deportations.

All of that changed when the Democrats seized control of our government and reversed all of these policies, and the result we can now see all around us. It is affecting our schools, hospitals, law enforcement, working families' wages, and social services that are now strained to the breaking point and soon beyond the breaking point.

This bill simply restores those policies that worked and makes it more

difficult for a future President to refuse to faithfully execute the laws.

I ask the American people to watch the catastrophe that is unfolding right now on our collapsing southern border. What we are seeing is something historic. It is a mass, illegal migration on a scale the world has never seen and that no civilization has ever survived.

At this hour, history is screaming this warning at us that countries that cannot or will not protect their borders simply aren't around very long.

Without enforcing our immigration laws, we have no immigration laws. Without immigration laws, we have no borders. Without borders, we have no country.

Let that not be the epitaph of the American Republic, what Lincoln called “the last best hope” of mankind on this Earth.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCaul) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCaul).

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

Mr. Speaker, in my 20 years in Congress, including when I was chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, and as a former Federal prosecutor tasked with securing our border in Texas, I have never seen our border this chaotic, this broken. What we are witnessing today is unprecedented.

Right now, as I speak, there is a tidal wave of migrants marching across our southern border. Just yesterday, CBP apprehended over 10,000 migrants—10,000 in a single day. This is the largest human trafficking crisis I have ever witnessed in my lifetime, and it is time for Congress to act and restore control to this uncontrolled border.

While the administration and DHS Secretary Mayorkas have assured us “the border is closed” and that they have operational control of the border, just last month, Border Patrol Chief Ortiz testified that DHS does not have operational control of the border because the drug cartels have operational control of the border.

I know that. I have been down there. I have seen this movie before, but this is the worst movie I have seen.

It didn’t have to happen. It was a self-inflicted wound. That is because, on day one, the Biden administration rescinded the Migrant Protection Protocols, otherwise known as remain in Mexico.

In my many meetings with Border Patrol agents down on the border, they tell me very bluntly that the rescission of these policies by President Biden on his very first day in office has had a direct cause and effect on the chaos at the border.

This policy was working under the last administration. Illegal immigration was dramatically declining. However, since President Biden took office

in January 2021, we are witnessing a massive increase in illegal immigrant encounters and apprehensions at our southern border—5 million of them. The numbers don’t lie.

Since President Biden took office, I repeat, there have been over 5 million migrant encounters, with at least 1.4 million known get-aways.

What is going to happen to these people? They have no legal status. They live in the shadows. The young girls are sex trafficked, and the young boys and men, their home will be MS-13.

Worse, more than 100,000 Americans have died from fentanyl flowing across the border, going from China to Mexico and across my State of Texas. That is nearly double the number of deaths in the entire Vietnam war over two decades.

Mr. Speaker, 853 migrants and counting have died trying to make the dangerous journey across the border just last year alone. This is the most recorded in history.

Thirty-five percent of women and children are raped and sexually abused throughout their journey at the hands of the brutal cartels.

What happens when they get here? We know that Mayorkas lifted the restriction so that sponsors of these children do not have to be vetted. What are we seeing?

We are seeing 10, 20, 30 children being sent to the same house, to their sponsors who have not been vetted.

This turns into a major trafficking problem right here inside the United States. When the cartels say, “You still need to pay us more money. You need to run more drugs. You need to prostitute yourself,” we are creating a criminal network right now inside the United States of America.

It is only going to get worse, particularly when title 42 is lifted today, the very day we are going to pass this bill.

From my point of view, as a former chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, 98 suspected terrorists attempted to enter the homeland last year. When I chaired the Homeland Security Committee, I always asked the question: How many special interest aliens, how many on the terror watch list, have tried to get in? How many have gotten in? That is just who we know about.

Think about the threat, the national security threat to the homeland, particularly after the collapse of Afghanistan and the rise of terrorism overseas.

I would argue that President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas are complicit in this crisis. The Federal Government’s job is to secure borders—air, land, and sea. Unfortunately, this administration has failed to do so. They have abdicated their solemn duty to protect the homeland, to protect the American people, to protect these children.

One rescission, one stroke of the pen rescinding the remain in Mexico policy, created this chaos at the border. Don’t take my word for it. Take the

Chief of Border Patrol’s word for it. Take the countless Border Patrol officers and agents I have talked to down on the border.

That is why I introduced this legislation, to compel the administration to solve this crisis once and for all. Congress is doing what the Biden administration has failed to do for the last 2½ years to fix our broken borders.

Our first priority must be to stem the massive flow of illegal aliens by reinstating and codifying the Migrant Protection Protocols known as remain in Mexico because it worked.

In my State, we have a saying: If it is not broken, don’t fix it. It wasn’t broken. It was working. They rescinded it, and now we have this crisis.

This legislation will also direct the State Department to renegotiate asylum cooperation agreements. These agreements prohibit migrants who travel throughout any countries with asylum agreements from eligibility for asylum in the United States.

Asylum is the magnet. It is the pull factor that is being abused by the cartels to make money off these children, women, and migrants.

□ 1330

This policy was very effective, and it worked under the prior administration. Reinstating it is a proven solution to reduce the chaos, the crisis.

By directing the Secretary of State to reauthorize and codify MPP and the ACAs, this bill bolsters the work being done on asylum reform and border security in both the House Judiciary Committee and the House Homeland Security Committee.

Finally, I would say this should not be a partisan issue. When I chaired the Homeland Security Committee, Ranking Member THOMPSON and I worked on many border security bills that were bipartisan. Many passed unanimously out of our committee. Yet, here we are on this partisan fight.

I think the American people deserve better than partisanship. They deserve solutions.

In my State, we witness this every day. Ranchers see dead bodies on their property and the drugs flowing in.

Secretary Mayorkas asked for a bill. Here it is. It is time that we reinstate the policies that have a proven track record of success.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 2. Title III of this bill happens to fall under the House Foreign Affairs Committee’s jurisdiction.

There is undoubtedly a need to fix our broken immigration system. I think that we can all agree. It is undoubtedly correct that Congress needs to get involved in that. What Congress is not doing is talking about coming together for comprehensive immigration reform. If we want to get at the

heart of how to improve, in a humane way, and protect our borders, we would be locked together to talk about comprehensive immigration reform that will keep us true to who we are and our values.

Sometimes when I am listening to this debate and some of the policies that are here, I am saying: Who are we? Who are we as a people, as a nation? Do we practice what we preach, or do we say to others: Do what we say, not what we do?

American values are important here. Title III seeks to codify and reinstate the Trump administration's failed Migrant Protection Protocols, known as MPP, and remain in Mexico policy. This is a disturbing and ineffective policy that returned asylum seekers at the border of Mexico and only allowed them to enter the United States for their court proceedings. Listening to my colleague: Return them to Mexico. That is it.

Because there are thousands of backlogged cases and too few judges to effectively handle them, those that we return to Mexico, these asylum seekers, are forced to live in Mexican border towns for long periods of time. As a result of that, the exact same thing that my colleague talked about, these border towns in Mexico are the ones that are dangerous. They are the reason why people are raped. That is where the violence and the crime is. They do not have, these towns in Mexico, the capacity to safely house the thousands of people fleeing their countries of origin.

We know that migrants face violence of all kinds, including murder, rape, trafficking, and kidnapping as they await their court appearance, the very things that we do agree is happening to these individuals, but we put blinders on. Just send them back. That will solve the problem of them living in tent encampments without adequate access to the basics. Just send them back to Mexico. Let them stay there with no clean water, no sanitation, no shelter, and no health services. Send them back. We don't care.

The MPP puts tens of thousands of migrants in greater danger, including families with children who we are supposed to care about. It also puts America at odds with our regional partners in ways that were and still are a detriment to our national security and our global standing.

Like Mr. McCaul, I have been here for 25 years. I have many families in my district who come to me all of the time with humanitarian concerns, asking for us to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

While nations like Colombia and Peru took in millions of Venezuelans crossing their border in desperate need of safety, America, the United States of America, the most resourced Nation on Earth, a Nation of immigrants, turn our backs on asylum seekers and our very own values in the name of deterrence. Turn our backs. We don't care. Send them back.

As CARICOM continues to work in a regional and multilateral way to find solutions to help Haiti, our neighbor in crisis, this body debates unilateral action that fails to see the collective challenge facing this hemisphere.

This bill is more than just shortsighted; it is cruel and harmful to our interests. We should be embarrassed, absolutely embarrassed, that Colombia's migration agency had suspended a program meant to return Colombian nationals found at the U.S. border with Mexico due to "cruel and degrading treatment." Come on now.

We are facing a regional and global migration crisis. We have strong and divergent opinions about improving an imperfect immigration process and how to address the recent surge in migration since the pandemic. But Title III of this bill seeks to codify and reinstate failed processes from the last administration that do not solve the real-life challenges regarding the movement of people, those people fleeing from instability and violence and lack of economic opportunity and education in their home countries.

Why? Because, apparently, we don't care. We don't care. Send them back. Who cares what happens to them? Send them back. We don't have comprehensive immigration reform to make sure that we are working and fixing the system because that is what we should be working on.

This isn't the first surge of migrants on our border, and it won't be the last, particularly as climate change will further limit resources and displace people across the region. To solve complex multicountry challenges, we must invest in multilateral solutions. When we invest in multilateral solutions, as we do in other parts of the world, that is how we win—not America alone, America by ourselves. That is not leadership. No one follows you if you are just by yourself, not working with others and not working with our allies.

The Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection from the Summit of the Americas in 2022 included proposals for collaborative problem solving on this issue with leaders across the region to address the root causes of forced displacement and irregular migration.

Working with our allies, as we are doing in other parts of the world, as we are doing with our NATO allies, as we are doing with our EU allies, as we are doing with our Indo-Pacific allies, we should be doing the same thing with our Western Hemisphere allies.

Why? Because our strength is not rooted in the sticks that we use to coerce outcomes. It is in the depth of our relationships and collaboration across the region to address the root causes of forced displacement and a regular migration, including by combating corruption and impunity, upholding our obligations to protect refugees, and partnering to promote opportunity and prosperity for people and communities, especially those most vulnerable across the region.

When I get on my knees at night and pray, when I am in church and pray, I pray for the poor and for those who cannot care for themselves. When I read books that I believe in, they talk about taking care of the poor, taking care of those who can't take care of themselves.

When I eat my dinner, my lunch, or my breakfast and I pray, I say: Bless those who are hungry and have no food. Bless those who may have food and no appetite. Bless those who have less than me.

We are the richest country in the world. Let's work toward resolving the root causes.

This bill doesn't address the migration crisis. It only creates further chaos by shutting the door on mechanisms that reunite families. That is what I believe. That is what I pray. That is what I think mankind is all about or should be all about, keeping people safe from perilous journeys to our borders. These attempts to sow seeds of fear and distrust about migrants are as counterproductive as they are reprehensible.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, the broader bill undermines Congress' bipartisan work to grant humanitarian parole to hundreds of thousands of Afghans. We have been working together on that, and we should be working together to help those who are trying to cross the border from our Western Hemisphere allies. But this also prevents and goes against thousands of Afghans, Ukrainians, and others, by restricting DHS parole authority.

If we are truly interested in a constructive agenda that is aimed at providing viable and durable solutions to migration challenges, I stand ready. Democrats stand ready to collaborate on addressing the root causes of migration through congressional action, through working on comprehensive immigration reform to try to make sure that we lead by example and we live true to our values, that we become the shining example for others in other countries who are looking at us to see how we react to it.

We should do that by showing in a bipartisan way we are ready for comprehensive immigration reform. We will do it in a bipartisan way. We will do it so that we can also maintain our values and who we are—at least who we say we are—as a nation.

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

□ 1345

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I will state for the record that we put in this bill a provision specifically for those paroled in the United States from Afghanistan so that this would not affect their legal status and that they can stay here in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Bost), the chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, just last month, I went to the Del Rio sector of

the U.S.-Mexican border to visit with our dedicated Border Patrol agents. Over 15,000 frontline Border Patrol agents are veterans serving their country and communities again, working to keep America safe.

However, our Commander in Chief has failed to give them the resources and structure they need to effectively do their jobs.

They are pulling drowning children out of the river. They are finding bodies left behind that were being smuggled across and thrown into the bushes.

Mr. Speaker, these agents are fighting a new battle back at home, as well. The mental strain on them as a result of President Biden's open border policies cannot be ignored, so much so that the VA actually had to deploy a mobile veteran center to the border to offer mental health services to our veterans and even our non-veteran border agents who are there.

Mr. Speaker, I heard it firsthand from the brave men and women that need this bill. Securing our borders shouldn't be a Republican or a Democratic issue. The people who suffer the most when we make doing so hyperpolitical are the veteran law enforcement officers who are simply trying to do their jobs. That is a disservice to them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense bill. It is vitally important. I have looked them in the eye, and I would advise anyone on the other side of the aisle or on my side of the aisle that has not went down and looked them in the eye, you will know what they are suffering through because we are not doing our job and the administration is not doing theirs.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I encourage the support of this bill.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE), an esteemed member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to strongly oppose H.R. 2, House Republicans' child deportation act.

Yes, our immigration system is broken, but instead of productive, bipartisan legislation that would work to fix it, Republicans want to double down on immoral, cruel, and inhumane Trump-era policies that hurt children and families and stoke fear and greater division.

With title 42 set to expire today, we should take this opportunity as a chance to address the humanitarian crisis at our border by focusing on solutions that alleviate pressures at our border and fundamentally change the dysfunction and chaos that is happening.

Instead, this bill would make our immigration crisis that much worse. H.R. 2 would require expedited deportations and expanded detention for unaccompanied children; impose new restrictions on asylum while threatening to end the asylum system as we know it;

detain even more migrant families in facilities with poor and unacceptable conditions; resume President Trump's failed policy of building a border wall; and so much more.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the American people heard some of the statements made by my Republican colleagues when this bill was heard in committee.

Republicans dog whistle, fearmonger, lie, and resort to conspiracy theories about our border to hide the fact that they have no real solutions to this growing crisis. Harmful policies meant to exacerbate confusion, waste more money, and hurt people fleeing dangerous situations are not the answer. Many are fleeing war zones; areas of conflict; countries that employ torture, violence, rape, and ethnic cleansing as tactics of control.

What are we proposing to do with H.R. 2? Be a cruel neighbor and throw them back into harm's way while telling Mexico to shoulder much of this burden.

America is supposed to be a nation of immigrants. We are supposed to have compassion for those seeking asylum. Republican policies like H.R. 2 run counter to those very fundamental values.

Unlike some of my GOP colleagues, I do not for a second believe that immigrants from Mexico are a threat to us. If anything, the threats we face are homegrown. They take the form of xenophobic, transphobic, and hateful individuals who twist the meaning of the Constitution to fit their own political agendas.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, as for the drug myth, over 80 percent of drugs smuggled into our country are done by Americans, not immigrants.

Let's get serious and talk about meaningful steps toward immigration reform that include what it means to be a global partner in this space, not this wildly inappropriate and ineffective bill.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), the vice chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the chair of the Committee on Financial Services' Subcommittee on Capital Markets.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman McCARTHY for yielding, and I thank him for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, in just 2 years, over 5 million illegal migrants have crossed our southern border, in addition to over 1 million known got-aways. That is equal to the entire population of my home State of Missouri.

Among other malfeasance, it is undeniable that the Biden administration has created an appalling humanitarian crisis in the United States. I want to talk about what often goes unspoken

and unseen: the trafficking and exploitation of children.

In February, The New York Times exposed that the Biden administration had lost 85,000 unaccompanied children released into the U.S. by the Department of Health and Human Services. These children were forced to work in dangerous conditions to pay off debts to their smugglers and cartels and, even more horrifically, their HHS-designated sponsors.

Despite child welfare agencies sounding the alarms on trafficking and labor exploitation, the Biden administration continued to facilitate this abuse. In fact, HHS Secretary Becerra reportedly threatened to fire his subordinates if they refused to accelerate these cruel and dangerous releases, showing no regard for the children's safety.

H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, addresses this catastrophe head-on, and it ensures that this can never happen again.

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

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express concern with H.R. 2, legislation that would place at risk United States agriculture.

H.R. 2, with the E-Verify provision in particular, does not address the workforce crisis and could cause a \$60 billion drop in production, resulting in a 5 to 6 percent increase in prices at the grocery store when many families across America are still struggling to make it from week to week.

We must develop real solutions to the labor crisis facing our farmers, ranchers, and growers. During a tour at Warren Farms, and speaking with farmers across eastern North Carolina, this is what they are telling me: Enough is enough. People are fed up with divided D.C. politics.

Our government must get out of the way of hardworking people. We should take H.R. 2, as drafted, off the table so our farmers can continue putting food on the table for households across this great country.

Congress' inaction to address the labor crisis will result in farmers losing their livelihoods.

I am here. I am right here to work with anyone who wants to make life better for eastern North Carolina, rural America, and the American people. We can secure the border. However, we cannot secure the border while creating so much insecurity for our farm families.

Mr. Speaker, I am standing with American farmers.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, Americans are sick and tired of seeing the Biden administration spend millions of their taxpayer dollars to fund and enable an invasion of our southern border.

This administration is using non-governmental organizations, NGOs, to push illegal immigrants all over the country. A report by The Heritage Foundation found that these illegal aliens were shipped to 431 out of 435 congressional districts. This report also shows the overwhelming number of resettled illegal immigrants were sent to, oddly enough, Republican districts. This is a massive resettlement program, Mr. Speaker.

Under President Biden, the number of illegal immigrants entering the U.S. exceeds the population of some U.S. States.

We have had over 5 million illegal crossings plus over 1.3 million got-aways.

Title 42 ends tonight, as we all know, and the flood will get worse. We have seen the pictures, Mr. Speaker. We have no idea who these people are, where they are going, or what they will do. The situation will take a huge toll on our Nation and touch every community in every State.

We have caught people in the past that have been on the terrorist watch list. We have Communist Chinese coming over our border. We don't know what they are up to, as well.

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to the American people to finish the wall, end catch-and-release policies, and close the asylum loopholes that are big enough for a caravan to walk through.

President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas have dug a big hole for the American people. If we want to save this country, we need extreme border security measures to stop this open invasion now.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO), the ranking member on the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2, which should be known as the child deportation act.

Last year, my family marked 100 years since my grandmother, Victoria Castro, came to the United States as a young orphan in the wake of the Mexican Revolution. On her paperwork, the San Antonio relatives who took her in wrote that she was coming "to live," to live in the United States.

From the discussions on the floor today, it seems that many of my colleagues have forgotten about the lives of the asylum seekers who will be affected by their legislation.

Under this bill, for example, if a Uyghur Muslim family escapes from one of China's concentration camps in Xinjiang and seeks asylum in the United States by way of Mexico, they will be turned away.

If a group of Cuban dissidents sail to Florida and land outside of a port of entry, they will be turned away.

Ukrainian families fleeing from Putin's state-sponsored kidnapping, Catholics fleeing religious persecution in Nicaragua, and Christians in Iran

would all be required to remain in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, or El Salvador at the mercy of cartels and violent gangs.

□ 1400

Under the Trump-era remain-in-Mexico policy, human rights observers recorded thousands of violent attacks against migrants, including kidnapping, rape, and other brutal crimes.

That policy, as cruel as it was, included exemptions for unaccompanied minors and people who don't speak Spanish. This bill includes neither of those exemptions.

H.R. 2 would also end humanitarian parole for tens of thousands of Afghan evacuees who fought side by side with our troops for over 20 years of war. These heroes and their families barely escaped from the Taliban last summer, and less than 1 year later, Republicans are trying to send our Afghan allies back to die.

Many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have expressed concerns about how the current immigration system will be able to handle a rising tide of immigrants post title 42. I agree that we need to build a more resilient, more effective, and more efficient system, but this bill is not the way to do that.

Time and again, we have seen that cruel, restrictive policies like those in this bill do not stop desperate people from fleeing persecution, oppression, and violence.

This bill would send the world's most vulnerable people to places where many Americans won't even drink the water. It would force asylum seekers to take dangerous, irregular paths to the United States, which is the exact kind of journey that led to the deaths of 53 people in the back of a sweltering tractor-trailer in my hometown of San Antonio last summer.

There are meaningful bipartisan solutions to address the causes of forced migration to the United States. I have been proud to work across the aisle to introduce several bills that would do that, but this is not the answer.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALFORD). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2 does not include any serious attempt to address the root causes of immigration, and it will not make any real progress to fix our Nation's broken immigration system.

Mr. Speaker, for that reason and many others, I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. McCARTHY).

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker in a few moments, House Republicans will pass the strongest border security bill this country has ever seen.

Meanwhile, we are seeing a very different record from President Biden who has only been to the border one time in 50 years. We all know what it is. We have seen it every day for over 2 years—especially now that title 42 is expiring—record crossings, record carelessness, and record chaos.

Mr. Speaker, what have the House Democrats done?

What have they done to secure the border and fix the border crisis?

I checked, and frankly, it is nothing.

To start, House Democrats skipped congressional hearings at the border—not just one committee hearing—every single one of them. They skipped when the Judiciary Committee went and when the Homeland Security Committee went.

They spent the last 2 years voting by proxy, but when it came to securing the border, they chose to stay in Washington. They treat the border like President Biden does: Ignore it and hope the problem goes away.

I just don't understand why the Democrats wouldn't even show up for work.

Mr. Speaker, the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee for the Democrats skipped a fentanyl-related hearing because it was, in his words, performative.

Mr. Speaker, I guarantee you that the families who have lost loved ones to fentanyl don't think it is performative. They understand it is real. They lost a loved one.

The story is just as bad when you look at the previous Congress. For 2 years, the do-nothing inflation Democrats refused to face the music, even as the evidence piled up and the American people cried out.

What is worse, they lashed out at anyone who tried to fix the problem.

Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, I warned the American people about what Border Patrol agents told me, they were catching individuals on the terrorist watch list.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from California.

Mr. McCARTHY. Were the Democrats concerned when we gave them that information?

No.

One Democrat who served on the Armed Services Committee who represents a border State called me a liar.

Since then, more than 175 people on the terrorist watch list have been caught crossing the border.

In fact, just in February, we caught more people on the terrorist watch list in 1 month than we caught in the entire 4 years of the last administration.

Mr. Speaker, thank God the Republicans are in charge today. Thank God that they are willing to do something instead of ignoring the problem, and for bringing the solution. I think when you run for office, you should show up for work. I think when you have a committee hearing along the border to

learn the facts, stop playing politics and work for the American people.

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

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON), a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, Joe Biden's border crisis has become a nationwide crime scene. Cartels not only control the illegal drug market, they control our border. They are poisoning our country and exploiting every migrant who crosses our southern border. This sad crisis must end.

In my district, we had the tragic story of Lizzy Murphy who died from fentanyl poisoning at the age of 21. As in many cases, Lizzy was poisoned by just one pill, a Xanax laced with deadly fentanyl.

Though overdoses are also on the rise, many of these fatalities occur from just one lethal dose of fentanyl.

Just this week, we recognized National Fentanyl Awareness Day. The CDC has reported that two-thirds of drug-related deaths involve fentanyl. Drug fatalities are now the leading cause of death for 18- to 45-year-olds.

Today, the House will vote to pass H.R. 2. Next, Joe Biden and Senate Democrats must change course from their deadly policies. They must pass this bill, sign it into law, and implement it.

We need to secure our border, stop the cartels, and keep our communities safe. That is why I am supporting H.R. 2.

However, this legislation should have gone a little further to stop the evil work of cartels. As an amendment, I offered the Lizzy Murphy Act to stop the cartels, a bill that I have previously introduced. This bill designates certain cartels as special transnational criminal organizations and implements sanctions on them and anyone who provides material support to cartels.

We must recognize that cartels are enemies of our country and treat them that way. To disrupt their trafficking operations, we must detain or turn away all who enter our country illegally.

By forcing the Biden administration to resume construction of the wall, increase Border Patrol agents, protect unaccompanied children who are at risk of trafficking, and end their foolish catch-and-release practices, the Secure the Border Act of 2023 will begin to fix this crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I urge everyone to support it.

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

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SELF), a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. SELF. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act of 2023, because it does just that. It secures the border.

I find the comments from across the aisle rich from the very Members of the party who caused the situation that our citizens are seeing on the border today.

The year before the Biden administration took control of the border, CBP reported roughly 400,000 illegal border crossings. During President Biden's first year in office, that number skyrocketed to 1.7 million. Last year, it rose to 2.8 million. I am not sure whether that is arithmetic or logarithmic, but it is huge.

Unlike many in this Chamber, I have visited multiple locations across the Texas border with Mexico. I saw four unaccompanied boys 8 to 10 years old.

What was going to happen to them?

I saw rafts making multiple trips underneath the very vision of a Border Patrol location. People were helping the illegal immigrants out of the rafts and up the little cliff that we had there to include a 1-month-old baby who had been born in Mexico.

I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, from being on the ground in south Texas that there is no coordinated effort to stop the flow of illegal opioids like fentanyl that kills nearly 300 Americans every day. There is no coordinated effort to stop the flow of illegal immigrants, many of whom are being trafficked as sex slaves or cheap labor.

Human trafficking has now surpassed drug trafficking as the profit center for the cartels. We have indentured servanthood in this Nation today—slavery by any other name.

Earlier this year, I introduced the EL CHAPO Act which allows us to use the billions of dollars' worth of assets seized from cartel members like El Chapo to build the wall. Our southern border is an unmitigated disaster, and without this bill, the ensuing chaos is going to get worse.

Mr. Speaker, I implore Members to support H.R. 2.

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

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 8 minutes remaining. The gentleman from New York has 7½ minutes remaining.

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Texas, who is the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. Speaker, anyone who is even slightly informed understands how dire the immigration crisis is at our southern border.

Mr. Speaker, if you go to the border, as I have a few times, Customs and Border Protection, the National Guard, and local and State officials all say the same thing: the situation is out of control, our border is not secure, and it is a human disaster.

Cartels and traffickers inform vulnerable people that it is seamless to

enter the United States illegally, putting people in terrible harm's way.

Mr. Speaker, one-third of women are being raped, according to reports. Hundreds are dying, perhaps thousands, and tons of fentanyl is coming across, killing 300 mostly young Americans a day.

So what do we do?

We have a solution. It is called H.R. 2.

Mr. Speaker, it is really simple. A "yes" for H.R. 2 is for solving the border crisis, and a "no" is for the status quo.

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

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Let me just say a few things. My friends on the other side of the aisle talk about this bill being inhumane.

Really?

Is it humane under this administration to stuff 40 migrants in an 18-wheeler to die from heat and suffocation in my home State of Texas?

Is it humane for the cartels to rape and traffic little girls?

Is it humane to kill 100,000 young people in this country from the poison of fentanyl?

Is it humane, Mr. Speaker, to send children to stash houses in the United States to become sex slaves and child labor slaves that even Child Protective Services would find criminal?

That is what this administration has done.

Susan Rice, our domestic policy adviser, is quoted in The New York Times as saying that she "vented in a note she scribbled on a memo detailing the position of advocates, who believed a pandemic-era border closure was compelling parents to send unaccompanied children, sometimes called UCs."

In other words, what was happening because of the change of policy by the Biden administration was that parents were compelled to send their children by themselves in the hands of the cartels, the traffickers, and the human smugglers.

□ 1415

What did Ms. Susan Rice, Mr. Biden's domestic policy adviser, say? "This is BS," she wrote, according to a copy of the memo reviewed by the Times. She says: "What is leading to 'voluntary' separation of children is our generosity to these [unaccompanied minors]."

Wow. This administration, they know exactly what they are doing. They know what this policy has done. They know the results and the consequences of rescinding the MPP program, which is called inhumane. By the way, all it says is, you cannot enter the United States; you have to remain in Mexico pending your asylum claim.

You know why? Once you enter the United States, it is catch and release all over again. The very first bill I introduced 20 years ago in Congress was to end catch and release, and here we are so many years later, and we are right back to it.

The sad thing is, we had this thing under control with the construction of physical barriers and technology. Personally, I think it is very, very sad. Recent news reports show that in a single week there were almost 55,000 apprehensions by Border Patrol and more than 18,600 got-aways. Those are some of the highest totals on record.

Make no mistake, the termination of title 42 is well known among migrants. It is well known to the drug traffickers and the cartels, who make money off this racket. They are waiting for this policy to end to cross the border en masse. We see caravans right now, south, coming up toward my home State. It is clear the administration is not prepared and that this crisis will only get worse and devolve into chaos. As a result, the number of crossings, already at historic levels, will explode.

Mr. Speaker, this is unsustainable. We are facing a humanitarian crisis of generational proportions. It only benefits the cartels. I know this game too well. I was a Federal prosecutor on the other side prosecuting them. They know exactly what they are doing. They exploit, they terrorize, and they make a ton of money off exploiting human beings. It has cost countless lives.

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

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

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE).

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, just to reiterate what we have heard today: House Republicans know that border security is national security, which is why tackling this crisis truly is crucial to fulfilling our promise to the American people and to deliver them a nation that is safe.

Since President Biden took office, there have been over 5 million illegal crossings over our southern border, and more than 1.3 million people have evaded apprehension. At the same time, Mr. Speaker, fentanyl is pouring over our southwest border and into my communities, into your communities, killing Americans at catastrophic rates.

On May 11, title 42 is set to expire, which is only going to exacerbate the current border crisis. The President and our Democratic colleagues have offered no long-term solution. While H.R. 2 does much to strengthen the border, it also fails to address an issue critical to our Nation's farmers—reliable access to agricultural workers.

We need essential reform to our immigration, asylum, and workforce laws, issues that I and many others have been working on relentlessly since being here in Congress. The United States is blessed with fertile lands and a climate conducive to agricultural productivity. However, without an adequate workforce, our farmers and our ranchers struggle to harvest and tend to their crops. This poses a di-

rect threat to our Nation's food security, our national security, and our economic prosperity.

Mandating E-Verify would have a devastating impact on the American agricultural industry, including processing of agricultural products if it were to be enacted without reforms to our agricultural labor system. They must go hand in hand.

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

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE).

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, just to finish, the current status quo is not working for our farmers, and we must address this crisis. We cannot mandate E-Verify without stabilizing our existing agricultural workforce: Removal of the seasonality requirement from H-2A agricultural visa programs and wage reform that makes H-2A wages and benefits more market based.

With the amended legislative language, I support H.R. 2 but seek a commitment from leadership and my colleagues that we continue the important work on true bipartisan legislation that will resolve the workforce needs in our industry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the right to close.

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

The Foreign Affairs title of this bill should be about addressing the root causes of migration; about fixing the crime, corruption, poverty, and discrimination that causes people to flee north.

The men and women coming to our borders do so reluctantly. They do not want the pain of leaving parents and children behind for an unknown time while they seek refuge in an unfamiliar land. They want to see their daughters when they come home from work, not on a video call. They want to hear their siblings' voices at the dinner table, not on a Zoom.

The way to address the root causes of migration is through aid, assistance, investment, collaboration, and rule of law guidance. If we refuse to fund such programs and efforts, we are being penny-wise and pound-foolish; ignoring our hemispheric neighbors until they are knocking on our front door. What we need to do is address the root causes.

This legislation is not in line with national security interests, our values, or our goals of curbing the migration crisis. It only exacerbates the situation on the border while reinstating the same inhumane policies that have endangered migrants. We have seen that done by the former administration. We have seen the actions. We know who he is, and we know why he put some of those policies forward.

I can't close without saying that Chairman McCaul is a good man. I work with him on the committee. We

talk and we debate and we do things. I don't want this to end with anyone thinking that I don't think Mr. McCaul is a good human being. He is. We do that together. However, I do have questions.

I hear a lot of talk about President Biden and what he is doing or what his motivations are, et cetera. I, too, have questions about the policies of former President Trump. Coming from New York, I have been around a lot and seen and heard his motivations, particularly as it pertains to the bills that he put forward in regard to migration, and I know what he thinks of immigrants.

I know what the former President thinks of immigrants. Why? Because he said it. He has said things that have been shocking to me, that reveal what he thought and why he put forward the principles that he started. It is not me making it up. Over 34 times he called these immigrants who are trying to come for better lives animals. That is not how we should look at these poor individuals who are running from crises, as they are doing in Afghanistan, Ukraine, Venezuela, and other parts of Latin America.

I know because I come from New York. I have seen what he has done to his own employees and how he has treated them. I know because I heard from his own mouth, calling countries on the continent of Africa and in the Caribbean and South America "asshole countries." I know because he also just wanted to put a ban on people because of their religious beliefs. I know because even after people were convicted in the Central Park 5 in New York, he still called them vicious names. I know his motivations, and that is reflective in the policies that he has passed.

That is why we should not be supporting this bill. That is not who we are as Americans. Let's fight to show the rest of the world who we really are, that we want to take care, as that statue in New York City stands with that lady holding the torch—give me your tired, your poor. That is who we became as a country, not the motivations of the former President and his policies.

This bill is a step in the wrong direction. It is in the wrong direction. Our partners in the region are watching us very closely today. I have been talking to those leaders. I have been talking to people from the various countries in Central and South America, many of whom are in my district. This is not the way to go.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Members of this august body, let's not fall into the same mistakes of the past. Let's sit down and figure out how we can work together in a bipartisan way for a strong immigration reform bill, so we can treat humans as humans, so we can show our actions are similar to what we pray.

Whether we are in a church or a synagogue or a mosque, we pray for the poor and the helpless; we want to make a difference. We have an opportunity to

do that. We have an opportunity to make sure that we keep our borders safe by dealing with the root causes of migration and treating people in a humane way, not just considering those in law enforcement, but thinking about the people. When I see their hands on the gates asking for a better life, saying all I want to do is see my child have an opportunity, and I am willing to go through whatever the process is. Let's think about them. Let's think about those images. Let's think about how we can do better.

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

□ 1430

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the esteemed majority leader of the House.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for yielding.

To respond to my friend Mr. NEWHOUSE's question, first, I thank him for his unwavering support for American agriculture. The industry is lucky to have such a champion. He has been very vocal in addressing some of the questions. I also thank him for working with us on those questions. I know he has those concerns, which he brought up, but I am glad that we have been able to work through many of those.

As majority leader, I can commit that we will continue to work with Mr. NEWHOUSE on legislation to address the workforce needs of our agriculture industry.

Mr. Speaker, we have a crisis at our Nation's border. That is why we are bringing the Secure the Border Act to the floor today. It is why the President and Secretary Mayorkas should be doing everything in their power to stop the surge that we are seeing today—maybe 10,000 people coming across illegally.

That is something that Secretary Mayorkas says is not an open border. I would hate to see his description of an open border if 10,000 people coming across in 1 day is not.

They are derelict in their duty because they have opened up the border to the tune of over 5 million people who have come into our country. That is more than my home State of Louisiana who have come into our country illegally just in the last 2 years that Joe Biden has been President.

We have asked where they are going. We asked how they are taking care of them, who is housing them, whether the kids are going to school. They don't know.

In fact, The New York Times just reported that the Biden administration lost track of 85,000 young kids who have come into our country illegally. How do you lose 85,000 young kids and then say you don't have a problem and you won't work with Republicans to fix it?

The President actually issued a veto threat on this bill. What does this bill

do? It secures America's border again. It ends catch and release. It says: Let's get back to rule of law.

We are actually a nation of laws and a nation of immigrants. We can do both, but this President has abandoned the rule of law to the point where more than 5 million people have come across illegally.

What has it also done? It has brought drugs into our country. The cartels are running our southern border.

Today, we are going to lose 300 young people to fentanyl deaths because President Biden opened our southern border. Yesterday, 300 young people died. Tomorrow, another 300 young people in America will die because the President opened the southern border, and he doesn't care about it. He issued a veto threat on the bill that would fix it.

House Republicans are not going to sit on the sidelines. We brought a bill to the floor that everybody should vote for.

Again, get back to rule of law. Give our Border Patrol agents the tools they need so that if somebody actually has an asylum claim, they can come and seek asylum the legal way.

Do you want to come to America? We are the most generous Nation in the world. Legal immigration works.

When you open up the border and bring 5 million people in 2 years, it undermines the entire legal system, and it breaks down communities not just at the border but all across America.

This is wreaking devastation all across America, not only the deaths but all the other things that go with it, and the President won't fix it.

Today, we can take a step to fix this problem. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to vote for this bill, and I urge the President to get engaged in working with us to solve this problem. Let's pass the bill.

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans know that border security is national security, which is why tackling this crisis is crucial to fulfilling our promise to the American people and delivering a nation that's safe.

Since President Biden took office, there have been over 5 million illegal crossings over our southern border and more than 1.3 million people have evaded apprehension.

At the same time, fentanyl is pouring over the Southwest border and into our communities, killing Americans at catastrophic rates.

On May 11th, Title 42 is set to expire, which is only going to exacerbate the current border crisis.

President Biden and our Democratic colleagues have offered no long-term solution.

While H.R. 2 does much to strengthen the border, it fails to address an issue critical to America's farmers—reliable access to agricultural workers. We need essential reform to our immigration, asylum, and workforce laws—issues I have been relentlessly working on since coming to Congress.

The United States is blessed with fertile lands and a climate conducive to agricultural productivity. However, without an adequate

workforce, our farmers and ranchers struggle to harvest and tend to their crops. This poses a direct threat to our nation's food security, national security, and economic prosperity.

Mandating E-Verify would have a devastating impact on American agriculture, including processing of agricultural products, if it were to be enacted without reforms to our agricultural labor system. They must go hand in hand. The current status quo is not working for our farmers, and we must address this crisis.

We cannot mandate E-Verify without stabilizing our existing agricultural workforce, removal of the seasonality requirement from the H-2A agricultural visa program, and wage reform that makes H-2A wages and benefits more market-based.

With the amended legislative language, I support H.R. 2 but seek a commitment from leadership and my colleagues that we continue the important work on true bipartisan legislation that will resolve the workforce needs in our industry.

Thank you, Mr. Leader. We need real reforms that will ensure our farmers and ranchers have the workforce they need to feed our country and ensure our food security and economic prosperity.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend for yielding. I also want to thank you for your unwavering support of American agriculture. The industry is lucky to have such a strong advocate and champion in Congress.

I am proud to bring H.R. 2 to the Floor today—it is the strongest border security bill this House has ever considered. I want to thank Chairmen JORDAN, GREEN, and McCARTHY for their tireless work to put together this bill at such a pivotal time with Title 42 expiring today and our border crisis only getting worse. And I'd like to thank our lead sponsors, MARIO DIAZ-BALART and TOM MCCLINTOCK—they were both instrumental in getting this deal done.

DAN, I want to thank you for working with us—I know you have some concerns, but I am glad we have been able to work through those concerns.

As Majority Leader, I can commit to you that we will continue to work with you on legislation to address the workforce needs of our agriculture industry.

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2.

For decades, the U.S. immigration system has needed to be fixed. Every step of the way, Republicans failed to work with Democrats on effective solutions, instead blocking meaningful reform efforts for the past 20 years. The crisis we face now is in large part because of that. H.R. 2 is not the solution.

As my colleague from Texas Rep. CUELLAR has said, Republican attempts to solve immigration by building a wall "is a 14th century solution to a 21st century problem." A wall is not a solution to a complex issue.

H.R. 2 takes away critical asylum protections for those fleeing domestic violence and people whose lives are in imminent danger.

Secondly, the bill reinstates Trump-era detention centers that rip families apart, separating children from their parents. As of February 2023, nearly 1,000 migrant children separated at the U.S.-Mexico border by the Trump administration have yet to be reunited with their parents—more than two years after the former president left office.

Finally, H.R. 2 removes crucial funding for legal representation for unaccompanied children—depriving them of trusted counsel in immigration proceedings. Vulnerable children deserve reliable legal representation to reunite them safely with their families.

Mr. Speaker, extreme MAGA Republicans want to take us back to the failed illegal and immoral policies of the Trump administration. Those cruel and extreme immigration actions weakened the U.S. economy, undermined our nation's stance in protecting human rights, and threatened the potential of immigrants who come here seeking a better life.

I stand ready to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, business leaders, faith leaders, community leaders, and law enforcement on meaningful immigration reform. Just as we cannot forget the DREAMers, we cannot cast aside those seeking a better future for themselves and their families.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 383, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

#### MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. Garcia of Texas moves to recommit the bill H.R. 2 to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The material previously referred to by Ms. GARCIA of Texas is as follows:

Ms. Garcia of Texas moves to recommit the bill H.R. 2 to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

Strike all that follows after the enacting clause, and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “American Dream and Promise Act of 2021”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

#### TITLE I—DREAM ACT OF 2021

Sec. 101. Short title.

Sec. 102. Permanent resident status on a conditional basis for certain long-term residents who entered the United States as children.

Sec. 103. Terms of permanent resident status on a conditional basis.

Sec. 104. Removal of conditional basis of permanent resident status.

Sec. 105. Restoration of State option to determine residency for purposes of higher education benefits.

#### TITLE II—AMERICAN PROMISE ACT OF 2021

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Adjustment of status for certain nationals of certain countries designated for temporary protected status or deferred enforced departure.

Sec. 203. Clarification.

#### TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 301. Definitions.
- Sec. 302. Submission of biometric and biographic data; background checks.
- Sec. 303. Limitation on removal; application and fee exemption; and other conditions on eligible individuals.
- Sec. 304. Determination of continuous presence and residence.
- Sec. 305. Exemption from numerical limitations.
- Sec. 306. Availability of administrative and judicial review.
- Sec. 307. Documentation requirements.
- Sec. 308. Rule making.
- Sec. 309. Confidentiality of information.
- Sec. 310. Grant program to assist eligible applicants.
- Sec. 311. Provisions affecting eligibility for adjustment of status.
- Sec. 312. Supplementary surcharge for appointed counsel.
- Sec. 313. Annual report on provisional denial authority.

#### TITLE I—DREAM ACT OF 2021

##### SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Dream Act of 2021”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. 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 question are postponed.

#### PROTECTING TAXPAYERS AND VICTIMS OF UNEMPLOYMENT FRAUD ACT

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 383, I call up the bill (H.R. 1163) to provide incentives for States to recover fraudulently paid Federal and State unemployment compensation, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 383, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means, printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in House report 118-51, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 1163

*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 “Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act”.*

##### SEC. 2. RECOVERING FEDERAL FRAUDULENT COVID UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PAYMENTS.

(a) ALLOWING STATES TO RETAIN PERCENTAGE OF OVERPAYMENTS FOR PROGRAM INTEGRITY.—

(1) *PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE.*—Section 2102(d) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9021(d)) is amended by amending paragraph (4) to read as follows:

“(4) *FRAUD AND OVERPAYMENTS.*—Section 2107(e) shall apply with respect to pandemic unemployment assistance under this section by substituting ‘pandemic unemployment assistance’ for ‘pandemic emergency unemployment compensation’ each place it appears in such section 2107(e).”.

(2) *FEDERAL PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.*—Section 2104(f)(3) of such Act (15 U.S.C. 9023(f)(3)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—  
(i) by striking “3-year” and inserting “10-year”; and

(ii) by inserting “, except that a State may retain a percentage of any amounts recovered as described in subparagraph (C)” before the period at the end; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) *RETENTION OF PERCENTAGE OF RECOVERED FUNDS.*—The State agency may retain 25 percent of any amount recovered from overpayments of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation or Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation that were determined to be made due to fraud. Amounts so retained by the State agency shall be used for any of following:

“(i) Modernizing unemployment compensation systems and information technology to improve identity verification and validation of applicants.

“(ii) Reimbursement of administrative costs incurred by the State to identify and pursue recovery of fraudulent overpayments.

“(iii) Hiring fraud investigators and prosecutors.

“(iv) Other program integrity activities as determined by the State.”;

(3) *PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.*—Section 2107(e)(3) of such Act (15 U.S.C. 9025(e)(3)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—  
(i) by striking “3-year” and inserting “10-year”; and

(ii) by inserting “, except that a State may retain a percentage of any amounts recovered as described in subparagraph (C)” before the period at the end; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) *RETENTION OF PERCENTAGE OF RECOVERED FUNDS.*—The State agency may retain 25 percent of any amount recovered from overpayments of pandemic emergency unemployment compensation that were determined to be made due to fraud. Amounts so retained by the State agency shall be used for any of following:

“(i) Modernizing unemployment compensation systems and information technology to improve identity verification and validation of applicants.

“(ii) Reimbursement of administrative costs incurred by the State to identify and pursue recovery of fraudulent overpayments.

“(iii) Hiring fraud investigators and prosecutors.

“(iv) Other program integrity activities as determined by the State.”.

(4) *EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.*—A State to which section 4105 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (26 U.S.C. 3304 note) applied may retain 25 percent of any amount recovered from overpayments of shareable extended compensation and shareable regular compensation (as such terms are defined in section 204 of the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970) paid for weeks of unemployment described in such section 4105 that were determined to be made due to fraud. Amounts so retained by the State agency shall be used for any of the purposes described in section 2107(e)(3)(C) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9025(e)(3)(C)).

(5) *FIRST WEEK OF REGULAR COMPENSATION.*—A State that was a party to an agreement under section 4105 of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9024)

may retain 25 percent of any amount recovered from overpayments of regular compensation paid to individuals by the State for their first week of regular unemployment for which the State received full Federal funding under such agreement in any case in which such overpayments were determined to be made due to fraud. Amounts so retained by the State agency shall be used for any of the purposes described in section 2107(e)(3)(C) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9025(e)(3)(C)).

(b) **TREATMENT UNDER WITHDRAWAL STANDARD AND IMMEDIATE DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS.**—Any amount retained by a State pursuant to paragraph (4) or (5) of subsection (a) or under section 2102(d)(4), section 2104(f)(3)(C), or 2107(e)(3)(C) of the CARES Act, and used for the purposes described therein, shall not be considered to violate the withdrawal standard and immediate deposit requirements of paragraph (4) or (5) of section 303(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 503(a)) or paragraph (3) or (4) of section 3304(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(c) **LIMITATION ON RETENTION AUTHORITY.**—The authority of a State to retain any amount pursuant to paragraph (4) or (5) of subsection (a) and under section 2102(d)(4), section 2104(f)(3)(C), and 2107(e)(3)(C) of the CARES Act shall apply only—

(1) with respect to an amount recovered on or after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) during the 10-year period beginning on the date on which such amount was received by an individual not entitled to such amount.

**SEC. 3. PERMISSIBLE USES OF UNEMPLOYMENT FUND FOR PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.**

(a) **WITHDRAWAL STANDARD IN THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.**—Section 3304(a)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” after the semicolon; and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (G) the following new subparagraphs:

“(H) provided the certifications made by the State as described in section 4 of the Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act are in effect at the time of approval of the State law under this subsection, an amount, not to exceed 5 percent, of any overpayment of compensation recovered by the State (other than an overpayment made as the result of agency error) may, immediately following the State’s receipt of such recovered amount, be deposited in a State fund from which money may be withdrawn for—

“(i) the payment of costs of deterring, detecting, and preventing improper payments;

“(ii) purposes relating to the proper classification of employees and the provisions of State law implementing section 303(k) of the Social Security Act;

“(iii) the payment to the Secretary of the Treasury to the credit of the account of the State in the Unemployment Trust Fund;

“(iv) modernizing the State’s unemployment insurance technology infrastructure; or

“(v) otherwise assisting the State in improving the timely and accurate administration of the State’s unemployment compensation law; and

“(I) provided the certifications made by the State as described in section 4 of the Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act are in effect at the time of approval of the State law under this subsection, an amount, not to exceed 5 percent, of any payments of contributions, or payments in lieu of contributions, that are collected as a result of an investigation and assessment by the State agency may, immediately following receipt of such payments, be deposited in a State fund from which moneys may be withdrawn for the purposes specified in subparagraph (H);”.

(b) **DEFINITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.**—Section 3306(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “and for refunds of sums” and all that follows and inserting “, except as otherwise provided in section 3304(a)(4),

section 303(a)(5) of the Social Security Act, or any other provision of Federal unemployment compensation law.”.

(c) **WITHDRAWAL STANDARD IN SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.**—Section 303(a)(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 503(a)(5)) is amended by striking “and for refunds of sums” and all that follows and inserting “except as otherwise provided in this section, section 3304(a)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any other provisions of Federal unemployment compensation law; and”.

(d) **IMMEDIATE DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS IN THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.**—Section 3304(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(3) all money received in the unemployment fund shall immediately upon such receipt be paid over to the Secretary of the Treasury to the credit of the Unemployment Trust Fund established by section 904 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1104), except for—

“(A) refunds of sums improperly paid into such fund;

“(B) refunds paid in accordance with the provisions of section 3305(b); and

“(C) amounts deposited in a State fund in accordance with subparagraph (H) or (I) of paragraph (4);”.

(e) **IMMEDIATE DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT IN SOCIAL SECURITY ACT REQUIREMENT.**—Section 303(a)(4) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 503(a)(4)) is amended by striking the parenthetical and inserting “(except as otherwise provided in this section, section 3304(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any other provisions of Federal unemployment compensation law)’.

(f) **APPLICATION TO FEDERAL PAYMENTS.**—When administering any Federal program providing compensation (as defined in section 3306 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), the State shall use the authority provided under subparagraphs (H) and (I) of section 3304(a)(4) of such Code in the same manner as such authority is used with respect to improper payments made under the State unemployment compensation law. With respect to improper Federal payments recovered consistent with the authority under subparagraphs (H) and (I) of such section, the State shall immediately deposit the same percentage of the recovered payments into the same State fund as provided in the State law implementing that section.

(g) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to overpayments or payments or contributions (or payments in lieu of contributions) that are collected as a result of an investigation and assessment by the State agency after the end of the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, except that nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prevent a State from amending its law before the end of the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 4. PREVENTING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FRAUD THROUGH DATA MATCHING.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—As a condition for the eligibility of a State to implement the exceptions to the withdrawal standard described in subparagraphs (H) and (I) of section 3304(a)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, the State shall certify each of the following:

(1) **INTEGRITY DATA HUB.**—The State uses the system designated by the Secretary of Labor (or another system at the discretion of the State) for cross-matching claimants of unemployment compensation to prevent and detect fraud and improper payments.

(2) **USE OF FRAUD PREVENTION AND DETECTION SYSTEMS.**—The State has established procedures to do the following:

(A) **NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF NEW HIRES.**—Use the National Directory of New Hires established under section 453(i) of the Social Security Act—

(i) to compare information in such Directory against information about individuals claiming

unemployment compensation to identify any such individuals who may have become employed;

(ii) to take timely action to verify whether the individuals identified pursuant to clause (i) are employed; and

(iii) upon verification pursuant to clause (ii), to take appropriate action to suspend or modify unemployment compensation payments, and to initiate recovery of any improper payments that have been made.

(B) **STATE INFORMATION DATA EXCHANGE SYSTEM.**—Use the State Information Data Exchange System (or another system at the discretion of the State) to facilitate employer responses to requests for information from State workforce agencies.

(C) **INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS.**—Seek information from the Commissioner of Social Security under sections 202(x)(3)(B)(iv) and 1611(e)(1)(I)(iii) of the Social Security Act, or from such other sources as the State agency determines appropriate, to obtain the information necessary to carry out the provisions of a State law under which an individual who is confined in a jail, prison, or other penal institution or correctional facility is ineligible for unemployment compensation on account of such individual’s inability to satisfy the requirement under section 303(a)(12) of such Act.

(D) **DECEASED INDIVIDUALS.**—Compare information of individuals claiming unemployment compensation against the information regarding deceased individuals furnished to or maintained by the Commissioner of Social Security under section 205(r) of the Social Security Act.

(b) **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.**—For the purposes of this section, any reference to unemployment compensation shall be considered to refer to compensation as defined in section 3306 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

**SEC. 5. EXTENSION OF EMERGENCY STATE STAFFING FLEXIBILITY.**

If a State modifies its unemployment compensation law and policies with respect to personnel standards on a merit basis on an emergency temporary basis as determined by the Secretary, including for detection, pursuit, and recovery of fraudulent overpayments under Federal pandemic unemployment compensation programs authorized under the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9021 et seq.), subject to the succeeding sentence, such modifications shall be disregarded for the purposes of applying section 303 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 503) and section 3304 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to such State law. Such modifications may continue through December 31, 2030.

**SEC. 6. FRAUD ENFORCEMENT HARMONIZATION.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any criminal charge or civil enforcement action alleging that an individual engaged in fraud with respect to compensation (as defined in section 3306 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) shall be filed not later than 10 years after the offense was committed.

**SEC. 7. BUDGET OFFSET.**

Section 2118 of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9034) is repealed.

**SEC. 8. STATE FUND CONTINGENCY.**

Subject to appropriations, the unobligated balance as of the day before the date of the enactment of this Act of amounts made available under section 2118 of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9034) shall be transferred to the Secretary of the Treasury and periodically credited, on an as-needed basis, to the appropriate State account in the Unemployment Trust Fund established by section 904 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1104) in an amount that replaces the amount deposited by a State in a State fund in accordance with subparagraph (H) or (I) of section 3304(a)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended by section 3(a) of this Act) if the amount in such State account is less than the amount that would be in such State account if such subparagraphs had not been enacted.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this crucial legislation will finally protect taxpayers and victims of fraud against the largest theft of tax dollars in American history.

Americans are suffering under a cost-of-living crisis fueled by Democrats' reckless spending. It has brought us to the brink of recession and spurred the highest increase in interest rates in 16 years.

It must be infuriating for folks to also see that it is not just the American Dream that is being stolen from them but their identities and their tax dollars.

Criminal organizations and foreign fraudsters exploited the pandemic to steal hundreds of billions in payments intended to keep workers afloat amidst government lockdowns, and the victims need our help.

How much has been stolen? The Department of Labor inspector general told the Ways and Means Committee that taxpayers may be on the hook for at least \$191 billion in improper payments, and that is just the lower estimate. Outside experts estimate up to \$400 billion of improper payments.

While working Americans were trying to piece their lives back together during the pandemic, Democrats did nothing to fight fraud. When Democrats held the majority on Ways and Means, they ignored, blocked, and shot down commonsense safeguards and refused to hold even one hearing on this fraud.

That inaction made it clear that their soft-on-crime agenda does not just apply to carjackings and looting department stores. It applies to defrauding the Federal Government, as well.

During his State of the Union, President Biden said the watchdogs are back. He rolled out the position of chief pandemic prosecutor at the Department of Justice. Since then, even as we have discovered more instances of fraud, the Biden administration official responsible for prosecuting it has

resigned, and the position sits vacant for months.

That is not accountability. We couldn't afford inaction for the last 2 years, and we can afford it even less today.

These are stolen tax dollars, which makes every person in America a victim of this fraud. Today's vote is an important step toward ending suffering and delivering accountability.

The Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act gives States the tools they need to go after fraudsters and shores up vulnerabilities by improving identity verification and modernizing State UI systems.

It allows States to retain 25 percent of fraudulent Federal funds recovered. This is a real incentive for States to pursue what can be costly investigations and prosecutions because now they can use recovered funds to improve UI program integrity and fraud prevention. These dollars can go toward hiring investigators and prosecutors to go after criminals to recover fraud payments. This will also give States the resources to modernize systems and technology to better verify identity and income for unemployment and deter, detect, and prevent improper payments.

This legislation also allows States to keep 5 percent of UI overpayments recouped in the future to continue to improve benefit delivery and eligibility verification. This includes matching State lists against databases, which will help reduce payments to deceased and incarcerated individuals.

Many of these reform ideas are bipartisan and very long overdue. Some are supported by the Department of Labor inspector general and were even included in past budget requests from President Trump and President Obama. Even Biden has included several of the ideas in the Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act in his most recent budget request.

I am hopeful House Democrats will join here to also protect taxpayers and support this bill.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Democrats strongly agree that those who took advantage of the COVID crisis to commit fraud must be held accountable. Indeed, Democrats put \$2 billion in the American Rescue Plan Act to fight fraud, and every House Republican voted against these investments to prevent fraud and hold criminals accountable.

These Democratic anti-fraud dollars helped the Department of Labor create an important cross-checking system to catch fraudsters who apply for unemployment in one State while receiving income in another, a practice for which a Republican House Member reportedly was indicted earlier this week.

Republicans are playing a dangerous game by cutting ongoing successful

work by the Federal Government to fight fraud and leaving States to pick up the pieces.

The Department of Labor expressed deep concern about how H.R. 1163 will "throttle essential, ongoing efforts to strengthen and protect the UI program."

Instead of punishing organized crime, the Republican H.R. 1163 guts Federal funding to fight fraud, weakens State unemployment systems, privatizes American public service jobs, and sends cruel surprise bills to innocent workers who were unemployed during the pandemic.

We enacted bipartisan pandemic unemployment benefits that kept an estimated 5 million people a year from falling into poverty.

□ 1445

This assistance meant revenue and customers for businesses and helps spur our economic recovery. Unfortunately, when disaster struck, State unemployment systems were not prepared. Mistakes were made and thousands of workers were overpaid.

Again, we worked in bipartisan fashion to encourage States to waive overpayments to protect unemployed workers. Now, Republicans want to force States to claw back accidental overpayments from workers up to 10 years later.

When my GOP colleagues incorrectly assert that the bill limits the claw back of overpayments to fraud, they are only referring to a very narrow limit on the ability of States to keep portions of recovered fraud payments.

My Democratic colleagues and I offered many amendments to invest in antifraud efforts, protect workers, and strengthen State unemployment systems. The Republicans rejected every amendment.

Instead, the GOP careens ahead with H.R. 1163 that the CBO estimates is a net cut in Federal investment in fighting unemployment fraud and strengthening unemployment systems.

That is why so many organizations oppose H.R. 1163, including the AFL-CIO; the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities; the Communications Workers of America; the National Employment Law Project; and the Service Employees International Union.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this dangerous bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD), chairman of the Work and Welfare Subcommittee.

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman SMITH for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, today, Republicans are following through on our promise to the American people last fall in our commitment to a government that is accountable.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 1163. This long-awaited bill is needed to address the unprecedented levels of fraud in pandemic unemployment programs.

Every dollar going to fraud is a dollar that did not go to those who actually needed it. My home State of Illinois paid out nearly \$2 billion in Federal funds for fraudulent unemployment claims, nearly half of the money paid out by the State.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an audit by the State of Illinois Department of Economic Security from June 2020.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY**

Individual Nonshared Proprietary Fund, Financial Statements—For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

Performed as Special Assistant Auditors For the Auditor General, State of Illinois  
**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Hon. Frank J. Mautino  
Auditor General, State of Illinois

As Special Assistant Auditors for the Auditor General, we were engaged to audit, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund (Trust Fund), an individual nonshared proprietary fund of the State of Illinois, Department of Employment Security (Department), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Trust Fund's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 3, 2022. Our report disclaims an opinion on such financial statements due to material weaknesses in internal control over one of the benefit payment systems, for which we were unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence over related amounts.

**INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING**

In connection with our engagement to audit of the financial statements, we considered the Department's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2021-001 through 2021-003 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

**COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS**

In connection with our engagement to audit the financial statements of the Trust Fund, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards and which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2021-001 through 2021-003. Additionally, if the scope of our work had been sufficient to enable us to express an opinion on the financial statements of the Trust Fund, other instances of noncompliance or other matters may have been identified and reported herein.

**DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSES TO THE FINDINGS**

The Department's responses to the findings identified in our engagement are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings. The Department's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the engagement to audit the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

**PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an engagement to perform an audit in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

**CURRENT FINDINGS—GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

**FINDING 2021-001—FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT GENERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONTROLS OVER THE PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE SYSTEM**

The Department of Employment Security (Department) failed to implement general Information Technology (IT) controls over the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) System (System).

In April 2020, the Department contracted with a service provider to provide the System as a Software as a Service (SaaS) and to provide hosting services for the System. The service provider maintained full control over the system.

In order to determine if general IT controls were suitably designed and operating effectively over the System, we requested the Department provide a System and Organization Control (SOC) report for the service provider. As was noted in the prior audit, the Department could not provide a SOC report, as the service provider's contract did not require the service provider to undergo a SOC exam-

ination. Therefore, we conducted testing of the general IT control of the System.

**Change Control**

As was noted in the prior audit, the service provider's developers continued to have access to the production environment. As a result, we were unable to determine if the developers made unauthorized changes to the environment, application, and data.

**Security**

The Department had not implemented internal controls over the System's access.

**Disaster Recovery**

The Department had not implemented disaster recovery controls.

The Security and Privacy Controls for Information Systems and Organizations (Special Publication 800-53, Fifth Revision) published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Maintenance and System and Service Acquisition sections, require entities outsourcing their IT environment or operations to obtain assurance over the entities' internal controls related to the services provided. Such assurance may be obtained via System and Organization Control reports or independent reviews. In addition, the Access Control section, sanctions the implementation of internal controls over access. The Configuration Management section also enforces logical restrictions with changes to systems. Further, the Contingency Planning section makes compulsory the development of a detailed disaster recovery plan.

The Fiscal Control and Internal Auditing Act (30 ILCS 10/3001) requires all State agencies to establish and maintain a system, or systems, of internal fiscal and administrative controls to provide assurance funds, property, and other assets and resources are safeguarded against waste, loss, unauthorized use and misappropriation and maintain accountability over the State's resources.

The Department indicated the service provider's contract did not require a SOC report to be provided. Additionally, the Department indicated competing priorities resulted in the other weaknesses.

As a result of the lack of general IT controls over the System, we were unable to rely on the System and the proper determination of claimant eligibility data and benefits paid. Furthermore, as a result of the lack of internal controls identified in this finding and finding 2021-002, we are unable to obtain sufficient documentation to determine if the Department's Fiscal Year 2021 financial statements are fairly presented. Therefore, we are issuing a disclaimer of opinion over the Department's Fiscal Year 2021 Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund financial statements. (Finding Code No. 2021-001, 2020-001)

**RECOMMENDATION**

We recommend the Department ensure the service provider's contract requires obtaining a SOC report or an independent review. We also recommend the Department ensure the service provider's developers' access is restricted and changes are appropriate. Further, we recommend the Department develop and implement security controls and disaster recovery controls.

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE**

IDES accepts the auditor's recommendation. In 2021, IDES took action to address the points raised in the finding. The improvements to the PUA system were implemented within a timeframe that did not impact the entire 2021 audit period. As recommended, a contract is in place requiring the PUA system service provider to secure a SOC report for FY22. The system access of the PUA service provider's developers has been restricted

and accurately documented. In addition, documentation for PUA system disaster recovery, as well as security controls, are in place and have been reviewed and documented.

**FINDING 2021-002—FAILURE TO MAINTAIN ACCURATE AND COMPLETE PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE CLAIMANT DATA**

The Department of Employment Security (Department) failed to maintain accurate and complete Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claimant data.

On March 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act which provided states the ability to provide unemployment insurance to individuals affected by the pandemic, including those who would not normally be eligible for unemployment. Based on the Department's records, as of June 30, 2021, 424,887 claimants had received benefits totaling \$8,168,499,998.

From June 2021 through January 2022, the Department attempted to provide complete and accurate PUA claimant data in order to determine if the claimants were properly determined eligible. After several attempts and considerable manipulation of the data to make the data more auditible and organized, it was determined complete and accurate PUA claimant data could not be provided. Therefore, we were unable to conduct detailed testing to determine whether the PUA claimants were entitled to benefits.

The Fiscal Control and Internal Auditing Act (30 ILCS 10/3001) requires all State agencies to establish and maintain a system, or systems, of internal fiscal and administrative controls to provide assurance funds, property, and other assets and resources are safeguarded against waste, loss, unauthorized use and misappropriation and maintain accountability over the State's resources.

Also, due to these conditions, we were unable to conclude the PUA claimant data records were complete and accurate under the Professional Standards promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AU-C 500.08 and AT-C 205.35).

The Department indicated the PUA system limitations and data entry errors resulted in the weaknesses.

Due to the inability to conduct detailed claimant testing, we were unable to determine whether the Department's financial statements accurately document the PUA benefits paid during Fiscal Year 2021. Therefore, we are issuing a disclaimer of opinion over the Department's Fiscal Year 2021 Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund financial statements. (Finding Code No. 2021-002)

**RECOMMENDATION**

We recommend the Department implement controls to ensure the claimants' data is complete and accurate.

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE**

IDES accepts the auditor's recommendation. The department continues to work with the PUA system service provider and the Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT) staff to refine the PUA database information and develop a reporting structure that conforms with auditors' expectations. Errors and anomalies within the PUA system have been identified and are being addressed to ensure claimant data is complete and reliable.

**FINDING 2021-003—FAILURE TO PERFORM TIMELY CASH RECONCILIATIONS**

The Department of Employment Security (Department) did not prepare its year end bank reconciliations timely.

As part of our engagement, we requested the June 30, 2021 bank reconciliations. The reconciliations are between cash as recorded in the Department's general ledger, and cash

as reported by the bank for each account. The Department did not have the reconciliations prepared timely for audit fieldwork and we received the final versions of the June 2021 reconciliations on December 23, 2021.

The timely reconciliation of cash accounts is a basic control procedure that should occur every month to determine the recorded amount of cash is accurate. Normally this procedure is performed shortly after the end of the month upon receipt of the bank statement. Most organizations have a regular monthly accounting schedule whereby the monthly general ledger cannot be closed without the preparation of the cash reconciliation.

Concepts Statement No. 1 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, Objectives of Financial Reporting (GASBCS 1, paragraph 64), states, "Financial reporting should be reliable; that is, the information presented should be verifiable and free from bias and should faithfully represent what it purports to represent. To be reliable, financial reporting needs to be comprehensive." The reconciliation of cash accounts is a basic control to ensure the accuracy and reliability of financial reports.

The Fiscal Control and Internal Auditing Act (30 ILCS 10/3001) requires State agencies to establish and maintain a system, or systems, of internal fiscal and administrative controls to ensure State resources are used efficiently and effectively. This includes the timely performance of bank reconciliations.

Department management indicated the weaknesses were due to turnover in personnel and the inability to quickly move employees into this area to perform this function as workloads increased significantly as a result of the new CARES Act unemployment programs.

Since the Department has numerous cash transactions every month, the risk of error due to misapplied cash transactions is significant. Monthly there can be over \$1 billion in cash that flows through the Department's various cash accounts. Monthly and annual financial statements could be materially misstated due to the lack of timely bank reconciliations. Failure to properly complete timely bank reconciliations could also result in a misuse or misappropriation of cash that could go undetected. (Finding Code No. 2021-003, 2020-004)

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Department should prepare a monthly reconciliation for every cash account, reconciling the bank and general ledger balances. Each monthly bank reconciliation should be timely completed and reviewed and approved by a supervisor.

**DEPARTMENT RESPONSE**

IDES accepts the auditor's recommendation. In 2021, IDES contracted with a professional accounting firm to assist department staff with the cash reconciliation work required for seven programs, including the new federal programs such as PUA and PEUC that were enacted in response to the pandemic. In consultation with a professional accounting firm, department procedures are undergoing review and revision to ensure cash reconciliations for all programs are completed on a timely basis.

**PRIOR FINDINGS NOT REPEATED**

**A. Failure to Accurately Determine Claimants' Eligibility for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance:**

In the prior audit, the Department of Employment Security (Department) failed to ensure Pandemic Unemployment Assistance claimants met eligibility requirements.

In the current audit, the Department was unable to provide complete and accurate

claimant data. Therefore, we were unable to conduct detailed testing as noted in Finding 2021-002. We will review the Department's progress in the next audit. (Finding Code No. 2020-002)

**B. Inadequate Controls over Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program Processes:**

During the prior audit, the Department did not implement adequate controls over the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program processes.

In the current audit, as noted in Finding 2021-002, the Department was unable to provide complete and accurate claimant data. Therefore, we were unable to conduct detailed testing. We will review the Department's progress in the next audit. (Finding Code No. 2020-003)

**C. Inadequate Controls over Accruals:**

During the prior audit, the Department did not have sufficient internal control over the determination of accruals for payments related to both the Unemployment Insurance program (UI) and the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program (PUA).

In the current audit, as noted in Finding 2021-002, the Department was unable to provide complete and accurate claimant data. Therefore, we were unable to conduct detailed testing. We will review the Department's progress in the next audit. (Finding Code No. 2020-005)

**D. Inadequate Controls over Receivable Allowance:**

During the prior audit, the Department did not have sufficient internal control over the estimate of the allowance for doubtful accounts recorded in its financial statements.

In the current audit, as noted in Finding 2021-002, the Department was unable to provide complete and accurate claimant data. Therefore, we were unable to conduct detailed testing. We will review the Department's progress in the next audit. (Finding Code No. 2020-006, 2019-001)

**E. Inadequate Controls over GenTax Access:**

During the prior audit, the Department did not ensure adequate security over the enterprise-wide tax system (GenTax).

In the current audit, sample testing did not contain significant errors that would affect the financial statements. (Finding Code No. 2020-007, 2019-005, 2018-008)

**Mr. LAHOOD.** Those fraudsters acted with intent and malice and diverted critical relief for unemployed workers. Early on in the pandemic, multiple red flags were raised by law enforcement agencies about the threat of fraudsters using stolen identities to file false unemployment claims.

The U.S. Secret Service raised the first alarm issuing an alert memo in May 2020 warning of a well-organized Nigerian crime ring exploiting the COVID-19 crisis to commit large-scale fraud against State unemployment insurance programs.

**Mr. Speaker,** I include in the RECORD that memo from the U.S. Secret Service.

MAY 14, 2020.

From: United States Secret Service.

**MASSIVE FRAUD AGAINST STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAMS**

The United States Secret Service has received reporting of a well-organized Nigerian fraud ring exploiting the COVID-19 crisis to commit large-scale fraud against state unemployment insurance programs. The primary state targeted so far is Washington, while there is also evidence of attacks in North Carolina, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Oklahoma, Wyoming and Florida. It is

extremely likely every state is vulnerable to this scheme and will be targeted if they have not been already.

In the state of Washington, individuals residing out-of-state are receiving multiple ACH deposits from the State of Washington Unemployment Benefit Program, all in different individuals' names with no connection to the account holder. A substantial amount of the fraudulent benefits submitted have used PII from first responders, government personnel and school employees. It is assumed the fraud ring behind this possess a substantial PII database to submit the volume of applications observed thus far.

This fraud network is believed to consist of hundreds, if not thousands, of mules with potential losses in the hundreds of millions of dollars. The banks targeted have been at all levels including local banks, credit unions, and large national banks.

Please communicate the information regarding this fraud to the appropriate office at your local state level and liaison with local financial institutions to identify mules and potential seizures.

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, the public needed to know what was happening to these funds, yet not a single oversight hearing was held at the time. Democrats turned a blind eye to the fraud and rejected Republican efforts to stop it.

While considering the American Rescue Act in committee, Democrats rejected Republican amendments that would have stopped the "pay and chase" model of benefit delivery.

In September of 2022, Democrats voted against a resolution of inquiry demanding communications showing the Department of Labor had knowledge of unemployment insurance dollars flowing to international crime syndicates.

Now, today, Republicans are taking action.

We will not turn our backs and walk away from the greatest theft of taxpayer dollars in American history.

Currently, State workforce agencies have little incentive to pursue costly investigations and prosecutions that do not pay out. This bill here today, H.R. 1163, will jump-start efforts to recover what we can by making the juice worth the squeeze for States still working through a backlog of suspicious unemployment claims and appeals.

The number of individuals or entities facing UI fraud-related charges has grown since March 2020 and will continue to increase as these cases take time to develop.

Based on an analysis of the U.S. Department of Justice from January 13, 2023, Federal charges were pending against up to 240 individuals for attempting to defraud pandemic UI programs.

States that take the initiative will be allowed to retain a portion of the recovered funds to prevent future fraud by using the recovery reward to improve program integrity, including hiring investigators to go after criminals and modernizing State systems.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, this bill allows a State to retain 5 percent of the recovered UI overpayments. This includes having commonsense procedures in place, like preventing UI benefit payments from going to incarcerated people and deceased people.

We have an opportunity today to gain some restitution for American taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1163.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 90 seconds to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, after President Trump twiddled, while thousands of Americans died of COVID, we entered a national crisis. In that emergency, the Trump administration, the Biden administration, and the States did not do enough to prevent fraud in this and other programs.

If Republicans were genuinely interested in strengthening any fraud efforts, as I certainly am, we could, today, approve bipartisan legislation to do that. Instead, they rejected many of the important recommendations from their own witnesses before our committee from the Government Accountability Office and the inspector general told us were necessary.

Instead of protecting taxpayers today from fraud, they use this misnamed bill to actually cut the very funding that is required for any fraud and recovery of wrong payments. When millions of Texans found themselves out of a job, the Texas Workforce Commission was not ready to provide a lifeline.

Even in the middle of the night, my neighbors could not get through to get the insurance to which they were entitled. Little wonder that the same State agency did a sorry job of preventing fraud.

The vast majority of Texans, who eventually received unemployment, were entitled to it, unlike apparently an indicted member of the Republican Caucus. Our unemployment insurance system should be strengthened, not undermined, as this very bill would do.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SMUCKER).

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the premise of this bill is simple: Criminals and fraudsters should be held accountable for dollars that were illegally obtained, and we ought to ensure that this doesn't happen again.

We can argue, we can talk about how we got here, who is responsible, but I can tell you, as a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Republicans spent the last 3 years pleading with the Biden administration and with Democrats for answers on the impact of unemployment fraud, for ways to stop it, and the steps that we need to recover as much of it as possible. Unfortunately, it fell on deaf ears, and now we have some counts as high as \$400 billion that were lost to fraud or improper payments under the program.

That is money that should have been supporting our constituents that were struggling from job loss during the pandemic. Instead, it went to criminals and cheats.

In my district, too many unemployed individuals could not access payments because those benefits had already been claimed by scam artists.

Similarly, for the last two tax filing seasons, many of my constituents have only found out then that they were a victim of identity theft when they got a 1099 in the mail that says they owe taxes on unemployment benefits they never claimed.

Now, they are stuck fighting the IRS to rectify their tax bill and hung out to dry trying to reclaim their identity. Finally, after 3 years, House Republicans are taking this important step today to right this wrong. This legislation gives States both the incentives and the tools needed to prosecute criminals and recover fraudulent payments.

It takes the steps that we should have taken 3 years ago to prevent fraud in the first place. I do want to be clear: This bill is not about taking away employment benefits from those who relied on them, who needed them during the pandemic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SMUCKER. It is not about taking away unemployment benefits for those who relied on them. It is quite the opposite. This bill goes after those who robbed unemployment benefits from those who need it.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will recognize that this is commonsense legislation to right a wrong and to protect our constituents and our taxpayers.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted the economies of every country around the world, resulting in great economic shutdown. However, our country, the United States, came out of the pandemic ahead of other nations because we expanded programs such as unemployment insurance.

Sadly, this bill seeks to target Americans who received overpayment from the government at no fault of their own instead of going after those who committed fraud.

During the bill's markup and later in the Rules Committee, I offered an amendment that would amend the criminal code to extend the statute of limitations to 10 years, as recommended by the Department of Labor Inspector General and legal experts so we could get the crooks.

However, the Republicans decided to go after public servants and retirees instead of the criminals. One of the other members said that criminals and cheats need to be brought to justice. They do. Extend the statute of limitations and we can do it. We can catch the bad guys. We can catch the crooks. We can get the taxpayer money back.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY).

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1163, the Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act. This bill makes meaningful strides to recover hundreds of billions of dollars in fraudulent unemployment benefits.

Congress has the responsibility to oversee our Nation's unemployment programs and rein in rampant fraud. Unfortunately, for years, Democrats virtually refused to acknowledge the extent of this issue while taxpayers and small businesses in New York's 24th District were forced to foot the bill.

Criminal organizations, including international cybercrime rings and other foreign actors, even exploited this national crisis to steal billions from taxpayers.

The exact amount of unemployment fraud resulting from the pandemic is not known. Estimates are wide-ranging with some encompassing only improper payments due to fraud, and others focused on all improper payments, including those resulting from administrative error.

The Government Accountability Office found at least \$60 billion in fraud as they testified before our committee. However, according to recent testimony from the Department of Labor Inspector General, improper payments and pandemic unemployment programs have saddled taxpayers with at least \$191 billion in fraud, as was testified before our committee. Some experts suggest this number could be as high as \$400 billion.

New York alone is estimated to have paid as much as \$11 billion in fraudulent unemployment benefits since March 2020. On top of all of this, New York has an outstanding trust fund loan of nearly \$8 billion, which it has yet to repay.

Because of New York's gross mismanagement, taxpayers and small businesses must now make up the difference. After all the hardships they have endured over the past several years, how can it possibly be fair to ask them to pick up the tab for the government's negligence and incompetence?

Now, under House Republicans and the leadership of JASON SMITH, Congress is finally taking steps to recover these valuable taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill from all of my colleagues.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

□ 1500

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am having flashbacks in terms of what we were facing in 2020. Every member of my office was working to try and deal with panicked people who couldn't get through to get their unemployment in a system that was bogged down, 600 percent increase.

Now, we are taking up legislation that would cut fraud-fighting dollars and hold hardworking Americans liable for overpayments that were not necessarily their fault. Families would be forced to repay these funds up to 10 years later. Even the Congressional Budget Office has said there is uncertainty about how much would be recovered.

I was in the middle of that. I saw the panic, the challenge, and despair. I think it would be far better to take advantage of extending the statute of limitations so we make sure we can claw it back. But don't punish people who may be caught up in this net that was not of their making.

I strongly urge that we reject this, that we deal with ways to increase the statute of limitations and recover the money that needs to be recovered.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

My colleagues on the other side have noted their objection to this bill's rescission of unobligated COVID funds sitting unused at the Department of Labor. They claim these funds are important in combating UI fraud, but the reality couldn't be further from the truth.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a February letter from the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
& INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS,  
Jefferson City, MO, February 6, 2023.

Hon. JASON SMITH,  
Chair, House Ways and Means Committee,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you for the opportunity to share the Missouri Department of Labor & Industrial Relations, Division of Employment Security's experience in administering and combatting fraud in the unemployment insurance (UI) and federal CARES Act programs throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Missouri's Governor declared a state of emergency on March 13, 2020, and Missouri entered into an agreement with the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) to administer the federal CARES Act program on March 28, 2020. In a span of only three weeks, Missouri realized an increase of over 3000% in unemployment insurance claims. In addition to the historic increase in workload, the combination of state and new federal programs expanding eligibility and dramatically increasing monetary benefits, rapidly evolving federal guidance, rampant media coverage, and misinformation made for an extremely challenging environment for program administration.

Federal programs, such as Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), initially only required self-attestation to qualify and allowed individuals to backdate their PUA claims, lacked the checks and balances in-

herent within the state's regular Unemployment Insurance program that are a key component of program integrity. Additionally, eligibility for a single dollar of benefit under any unemployment program automatically qualified the individual to receive a substantial supplemental Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) payment, inviting and incentivizing individuals and bad actors to attempt to collect benefits to which they were not entitled. Constantly changing guidance for the CARES Act programs added to the burden by creating additional workloads, complexity and confusion. For example, PUA guidance from the USDOL was amended four times in a period of less than 6 months, and much of the amended guidance applied retroactively to the beginning of the pandemic assistance period for claims already processed.

Fortunately, in 2016 Missouri replaced its legacy mainframe system with a modernized unemployment insurance application. Prior to the pandemic, Missouri had existing identity verification and fraud detection tools in place. This gave Missouri the ability to address the CARES Act program implementation challenges and successfully identify potential threats and prevent both small and large-scale fraud attacks that plagued some states, with nationwide estimates of potential fraud overpayments exceeding \$45 billion according to the USDOL—Office of Inspector General (OIG). However, in response to unprecedented fraud attacks, Missouri continuously reviewed and modified its fraud detection tools and methods. As a result, funding administered by the USDOL for improved program integrity was mostly leveraged for the provision of additional staffing resources to address the increased volume of work and support enhancement of the existing technologies.

More recent funding opportunities, such as the Equity and Tiger Teams grants, provide limited flexibility to address program integrity and ongoing fraud prevention strategies. The Equity Grant is focused on improving recipiency and equitable access to the UI program. The Tiger Teams grant identifies three focus areas to be addressed, "equity and access, backlogs and timeliness, and integrity." Bad actors are constantly striving to find new innovative ways to defraud benefit programs and avoid detection. As such, Missouri must continue to innovate and invest in fraud prevention strategies and tools that prevent our states and our citizens from becoming the next victims. The existing use, at the federal level, of the Resource Justification Model for funding UI administration and one-time grant opportunities, fall short in meeting this need. Therefore, prioritization should be given to consistent funding that not only permits states to implement proven strategies and tools to combat fraud but also provides states the ability to support and maintain these solutions into the future.

Missouri will continue to place UI program integrity as a critical priority. I appreciate this opportunity to share Missouri's experience with the challenges we faced administering the federal programs throughout the pandemic.

Sincerely,

ANNA S. HUI,  
Department Director.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. In it, my State's workforce directory notes their experience with tiger teams.

It says: "More recent funding opportunities, such as the equity and tiger team grants, provide limited flexibility to address program integrity and ongoing fraud prevention strategies."

This doesn't sound like a glowing review.

I welcome Democrats to share any information that they have that the Department of Labor's efforts have helped us recover dollars for American taxpayuers.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES).

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act.

Right now, our Federal Government is borrowing one out of \$5 we spend, over \$45,000 a second. This fact alone should outrage every American.

Yet, we face another outrageous problem here in the swamp: Waste, fraud, and abuse. Not only are we borrowing at historic rates, but we are borrowing to cover the costs of rampant fraud that exists frequently unchecked in our system.

This was magnified during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. While there were good reasons to expand unemployment benefits when many Americans were displaced from work through no fault of their own, we are already 3 years removed from the passage of the CARES Act.

The pandemic emergency declaration is over; not because the Biden administration followed the science and voluntarily gave up their emergency powers, but because House Republicans and the Senate came together to force the Biden administration to end the pandemic emergency declaration.

One troubling data point that has emerged is the unemployment claims as a percentage of unemployed workers. This was 37 percent in February 2020, right before the pandemic came to our shores. Yet, by August of the same year, it had climbed to 216 percent.

The data is clear, we were paying massive amounts of unemployment to people who were not unemployed. It is estimated that of the \$873 billion in total pandemic UI benefits disbursed, about \$357 billion went to fraudulent claims.

No Member of Congress should be comfortable telling their constituents that they don't care about wasting nearly \$400 billion of taxpayer money.

In my home State, a forensic audit found that the State of Kansas paid up to \$466 million in unemployment fraud. While this massive fraud was occurring, hardworking, unemployed Kansans were competing with fraudsters to receive the unemployment benefits they deserved and so desperately needed.

In my office in Wichita, we received countless calls from Kansans who were trying to reach an ineffective Kansas Department of Labor.

One constituent waited over half a year after her claim mysteriously ended up in the fraud department. Others reached out to let me know they had been victims of fraud, some receiving a 1099 claiming they owed taxes on benefits that somebody else received.

These cases point to a real problem in Kansas and across the country. Taxpayers lost out to fraudsters who used the pandemic, vast sums of Federal Funds and weak State leadership to game the system.

Thankfully, there is a solution that protects the taxpayers and reins in the fraud we have seen in unemployment insurance. The Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act won't make everybody whole, but it ensures that some of the hundreds of billions of dollars are recouped, and it lets States keep 25 percent of those funds so they can improve their own unemployment insurance systems.

To be clear, unemployment is a critical lifeline that helps Americans during a challenging time. When bad actors abuse the program, it hurts those who actually need it by taking away monetary and human resources.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Kansas.

Mr. ESTES. The bill is the right and fair approach to ensure unemployed Americans have full access to the assistance they need and, when done correctly, encourages those individuals to get back into the workforce.

Tackling waste, fraud, and abuse in unemployment insurance shouldn't be a partisan issue. It rights a wrong and is just common sense.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in this common-sense legislation that puts taxpayers first.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, the other side, respectfully, Republicans, created a once-in-a-century crisis, once in a century. They are holding this sham debate to distract us.

In 2021, Democrats passed the American Rescue Plan. It had a very strong fraud protection section. I hope you read it. Our unemployment aid was a gigantic success, by the way. It kept families together and it saved lives.

Republicans claim to care about misuse, but when we passed real fraud protections, every single one of you voted "no." That is the record. It is clear.

House Republicans are harboring a disgraced fraudster who was just arrested on unemployment fraud. You cannot make this up.

We are prosecuting fraud. States recovered over \$100 million. Enforcement is working. This is not about fraud or about saving money.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, you took the rest of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. PASCRELL. Sir, you took the rest of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. STEEL).

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Chairman, as we all now know, pandemic unemployment assistance funds became the source of the greatest theft of taxpayer dollars in American history.

Estimates put the total amount of assistance lost to fraud as high as \$400 billion. California alone lost around \$60 billion under the leadership of President Biden's Secretary of Labor nominee Julie Su.

As Californians in particular continue struggling under spiking prices and high taxes, it is absurd to force them to foot the bill for fraud committed while their leaders were asleep at the wheel.

That is why I am proud to support the Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act, which will address this unprecedented theft by incentivizing States to recover these stolen funds and providing the tools to prevent future fraud.

Government caused this problem, and it owes the American taxpayers a solution. I urge all my colleagues to vote "yes" on this measure to provide the fiscal oversight we were sent here to deliver.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. EVANS).

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, this bill is not about addressing fraud. My home State of Pennsylvania is already fighting fraud with the American Rescue Plan funds that support new positions at American Job Centers.

This bill targets innocent workers who have no idea that their State made mistakes in paying their unemployment benefits.

This bill targets innocent workers whose emergency benefits kept their households afloat.

The bill targets innocent workers who went back to work as soon as they could and often for lower pay.

I urge my colleagues to let States focus on real fraud and protect innocent workers by voting against this bill.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CAREY).

Mr. CAREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1163.

Our jobs recovery has been hampered by bloated COVID relief benefits that paid people more not to work, while criminals and fraudsters were lining their pockets with billions in taxpayer funds from expanded UI programs.

We are not talking about everyday fraud or administrative error. We are talking about fraud that was committed with intent, both domestically and by foreign nation-state actors that, frankly, used COVID relief to conduct economic warfare against American citizens and put our national security at risk.

In my home State of Ohio, it was estimated that \$1 billion may have been paid in fraudulent unemployment from March of 2020 to June of 2022.

Now, my friends on the other side are arguing against this bill and the administration has just released a Statement of Administration Policy opposing this bill.

The fact is, the President's Fiscal Year 2024 budget request includes several of the very same fraud recovery and prevention measures that my colleagues across the aisle are railing against today. Three of the proposals in the President's budget are nearly identical:

Allowing States to keep 5 percent of recovered overpayments and reinvest those dollars in program integrity and fraud prevention;

Matching unemployment claims data against the National Directory of New Hires to verify when somebody that is receiving unemployment becomes employed; and

Extending the statute of limitations for criminal charges and civil actions for prosecuting fraud from 5 to 10 years.

After declaring that "the watchdogs are back" in his first State of the Union, it has taken the President nearly 2 years to finally embrace the anti-fraud policies that we Republicans are calling for today.

Were the President to veto this bill, he would be vetoing the very same policies he endorsed.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER), my home State.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, we all share the goal of fighting fraud. As my colleague just said, there are things that we can and do agree on, but this bill isn't that.

Our focus should be on going after those who stole unemployment insurance money and fixing the broken systems that enable them.

Instead, the Republicans' bill seeks to claw back funds included in the American Rescue Plan that would allow the States to do what we are asking today.

Mr. SMITH's bill will make it easier for the bad guys to cheat the system, not harder, and it will hurt the hard-working, law-abiding citizens.

Countless honest taxpayers hit hard by the pandemic followed the rules of their State, received their benefits, and used those funds to pay for their children's healthcare, to pay their rent, and simply to make ends meet. They had no way of knowing the State had mistakenly overpaid them.

During the markup, I asked Chairman SMITH what protections were included in this bill to ensure that honest taxpayers didn't get surprise bills or face prosecution from States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. During the markup, I asked what protections were in place to protect those honest taxpayers. Neither the Chair nor any of my Republican colleagues could point to any protections.

While both sides of the aisle care about fighting fraud—and I know we do—this bill makes clear that only Democrats care about protecting hard-working, honest Americans from receiving surprise bills and being treated like criminals.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE).

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1163, the Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act, which addresses the urgent need to safeguard taxpayer dollars from unemployment insurance fraud schemes.

One of our most crucial oversight duties is to ensure the responsible use of taxpayer funds. Recent reports from the White House, GAO, the Department of Labor, and other organizations have exposed the alarming theft of up to \$400 billion in taxpayer dollars due to unemployment insurance fraud during the COVID pandemic.

□ 1515

This revelation demands immediate action. What we are trying to accomplish here is to show a plan that is feasible to be able to go after this fraud.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle talk about wanting to go after fraud, too. These arguments that we are talking about are missing the point. This bill will go after the fraud that took place. We introduced H.R. 1163, and it will help enable the recovery of lost dollars, ensuring that this stolen money is reclaimed.

While fraud has been widespread across this Nation, some States have demonstrated success in minimizing these losses. In Utah, my home State, overpayment due to fraud consisted of less than 1 percent of total benefits disbursed. I am proud of this.

Our leaders in Utah have done an excellent job managing and protecting these resources thanks to the systems and processes implemented by former Governor Herbert, Governor Cox, their administrations, and the Utah State legislature.

The Federal Government must now work to restore public trust. It starts with holding bad actors accountable. This bill will enable that by strengthening the integrity of our systems for the future and encourage States to be proactive rather than reactive.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this fiscally responsible bill.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me say that I believe in border security at the southern border. I also believe in the fact that we are a land of immigrants, as well as a land of laws.

Here we have two bad bills that don't fix the immigration and border security problem, and in this bill, we are not fixing any problem with fraud.

Let me explain to my colleagues and also the American people: This takes away \$400 million that we use to eliminate fraud. How does that work, in H.R. 1163? This bill is to claw back funds that people allegedly received accidentally.

This is what will happen. Let me tell you what they are going to do. They are going to make sure that law enforcement and first responders, who were out in public during the pandemic every day, will receive a bill because they accidentally received an overpay.

I had an amendment to exempt law enforcement which was rejected. They wouldn't take that amendment. We are, in fact, coming upon National Police Week next week when we honor and memorialize law enforcement.

They wouldn't take the amendment to exempt firefighters. I saw them out in the community when I was out in my district, testing, administering vaccinations, tending to people in crisis during the pandemic. They were out in our communities.

Additionally, they wouldn't take an exemption of schoolteachers. This is a bad bill. Why are you punishing our law enforcement, first responders, fire fighters, teachers, and others?

Let us take this bill off the table and go back to the drawing board. We are losing. We are not gaining.

Mr. Speaker, I am here today to reassert my opposition to the proposed legislation H.R. 1163—Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act, and to again assert the need for strong reconsideration for the harm and damage this bill will do to the American people.

H.R. 1163, the Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act, quite simply a harmful bill that would strip state Unemployment Insurance (UI) programs of essential resources to fight fraud, combat identity theft, and recover overpayments, and would set back the goals of strengthening program integrity and combating systemic fraud.

H.R. 1163 would undermine the integrity of the UI system and allow states to send surprise bills to workers for overpayments of unemployment benefits paid during the pandemic as long as 10 years after the overpayment occurred.

This bill takes no consideration into the fact that the overpayments were made to workers who did nothing wrong, did not know they were overpaid, spent the money on necessities, and returned to work as soon as they could. Workers did not know they were overpaid at the time (and will not know until they receive a surprise bill).

This "anti-fraud" legislation would do more harm than good, penalizing America's essential workers who did nothing wrong while slashing funding from programs holding criminals accountable.

It makes no sense that we would not do everything we can to protect special populations of workers and continue to support them as essential workers—as those who hold the fabric of our communities together, especially in our most desperate and fragile times of need.

In fact, I along with my colleagues have attempted to address many of the ills this bill purports by offering common sense amendments that Republicans have continued to refuse any meaningful consideration.

My first amendment for H.R. 1163, listed on the Rules Committee roster as Amendment No. 41, would have required states to waive overpayments of pandemic unemployment benefits that were made to law enforcement personnel and security in 2020 or 2021 who were without fault in the UI overpayments.

My second amendment for H.R. 1163, listed on the Rules Committee roster as Amendment No. 42, would have required states to waive overpayments of pandemic unemployment benefits that were made to firefighters and emergency personnel in 2020 or 2021 who were without fault in the UI overpayments.

And my third amendment for H.R. 1163, listed on the Rules Committee roster as Amendment No. 43, would have delayed enactment until the Secretary certifies that no provision would result in school personnel—including teachers and support staff—in 2020 or 2021 without fault in the UI overpayment would be forced to repay overpayments due to state error.

These are common-sense amendments that have been repeatedly disregarded by my colleagues across the aisle who have instead chosen to put forward legislative attacks on our most vulnerable populations.

It is time we stop the negativity and counterproductive efforts that are ripping apart our country, and to instead focus on coining together to work towards sensible and effective solutions that can work for the betterment and growth of our country.

This bill is largely opposed by Americans who see right through the misguided language purporting to go after fraud but really goes after hardworking American citizens.

In my home state of Texas and across the country labor unions have reached out to urge a no vote on this bill and I stand with them in strong opposition to this wayward measure.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY).

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1163, the Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we saw the words “unprecedented” many, many times. Today we stand at an unprecedented crime scene.

During the course of the pandemic, the American taxpayers were subjected to one of the greatest heists ever committed, to the tune of about \$191 billion in improper unemployment payments.

My colleague across the aisle said: Yeah, they received the money accidentally. Well, if I walk up across the street and find a \$20 bill accidentally dropped by someone else, do I not owe that money back to them? Is it mine to keep? No, it is not. It is to be given back. This is what was done from payments to the American taxpayers who did not deserve the money.

Of course, the spending spree by the Biden administration wants to continue by adding ballooning debt to our national deficit.

Today, House Republicans are presenting a solution to this unprece-

dented problem. We are not raising taxes or spending our grandchildren's money. We are merely asking for money back that was not owed to those people.

It is simple. Why not reclaim the billions of dollars in improper payments before spending another cent of taxpayer money? Even schoolchildren would understand what is at issue.

It is past time to rectify this disaster and hold those accountable who got money that they did not deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER).

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, as Congress' physicist and computer chip designer, I rise to make this simple point, that the massive levels of UI fraud and identity fraud generally did not happen in countries that have a secure and trusted digital ID system.

This is well known to residents of many States as the mobile ID, or digital driver's license, that allows a REAL ID compliant driver's license to be placed under your smartphone and to use the unique hardware ID of your phone and its biometric login capabilities to prove that you are who you say you are online or in person and to prevent anyone from impersonating you.

Last session of Congress, we came within a whisker of getting it included in the omnibus, that the Federal Government should start recognizing this proven form of digital ID.

Unfortunately, H.R. 1163 is a bill that is designed to fail in the Senate. If we start working with our Senate colleagues, I think we have a chance of making real progress on this.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BEYER).

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I stand in opposition to this bill. It is nothing more than a disingenuous attempt to undermine the Federal unemployment insurance program, which provided a critical lifeline to millions of Americans during the pandemic.

My Republican colleagues say they are concerned about unemployment fraud. I am, too.

However, this bill does nothing to claw back stolen UI funds. In fact, it would go a long way toward stopping the ongoing successful work by the Federal Government to fight fraud and hold criminals responsible.

It would rescind \$2 billion in funding provided to the Department of Labor to strengthen the UI system and improve fraud detection and prevention and replace it with a bizarre set of incentives for States to go after ordinary workers who were overpaid, through no fault of their own, years after the fact.

The Department of Labor assistance facilitated by the American Rescue Plan made a huge difference in my State of Virginia. Following the guid-

ance, we were able to make a significant dent in the unemployment insurance appeals backlog that has plagued our State system for years.

There is no question our unemployment system needs improvement, but this bill would make the system more vulnerable to fraud.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. MALLIOTAKIS).

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, since House Republicans have been in control, we have brought transparency to the people's House. We are the ones who are protecting taxpayers. We are the ones exposing waste, fraud, and abuse, including as high as \$400 billion in COVID relief and unemployment fraud.

Sadly, my home State of New York ranks near the top of the list, with an estimated \$11 billion in this fraudulent unemployment benefits. These taxpayer dollars went to fraudsters, many overseas, as far as China, Russia, and Nigeria. They even went to dead people.

They spent it on Rolex watches, fancy furnishings, and designer goods at Louis Vuitton, Chanel, Burberry, Gucci; \$10 million on a villa in the Dominican Republic; \$3.5 million on a mansion in New Jersey; a charter jet to get the fraudster who purchased it to and from; Porsches, Ferraris, Bentleys, BMWs, and Mercedes Benz. One person even received \$1.5 million over a span of 10 months.

Meanwhile, my district offices in Staten Island and Brooklyn had to help dozens of constituents who had their identities stolen and could not get the unemployment benefits they desperately needed.

New York had to take an \$8 billion loan from the Federal Government, which it has not paid back yet, by the way, to cover all of this. Now, our small businesses are paying the price with higher unemployment assessments.

The bottom line is, this bill would help crack down on this type of fraud, would give law enforcement the statute of limitations it needs for criminal charges or civil actions, incentivizes States to help us crack down and recover these fraudulent payments, and stops unemployment insurance payments to incarcerated and deceased people.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know how anyone can't support this bill. Thank you.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD).

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished ranking member of the House Ways and Means Work and Welfare subcommittee for the time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, the surprise billing our workers act, is another extreme MAGA attempt that threatens to punish hardworking constituents whom, at no fault of their own, may have been overpaid unemployment insurance benefits.

If deficiencies and errors on the part of the unemployment authorities in each State caused an overpayment, this bill would allow the government to go after those funds for up to 10 years.

Imagine that. Constituents in my district in North Las Vegas, who have been working hard, paying their bills, and taking care of their families, suddenly get a surprise bill that says that they owe hundreds or even thousands of dollars.

On top of that, you want to go after fraudulent people gaming the system. We have laws and resources in place to go after networks and individuals who purposely try to get money that they are not entitled to.

Just look at the Member from the other side of the aisle who was indicted yesterday for unemployment fraud, among other things.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Nevada.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, last Congress, I introduced the Unemployment Insurance Technology Modernization Act, which would prevent fraud and address the technical shortcomings of many State unemployment programs. I would ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to work with me and other colleagues to actually provide solutions.

Stop targeting our constituents. Let's go after the corporate cartels that are involved in this fraud of our unemployment insurance, but let's protect the unemployment program, which is a bridge to people who need it. My constituents faced the second highest unemployment during the pandemic. I will fight for them every step of the way.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Democrats are falsely claiming that this bill claws back relief funds from Americans who received an overpayment through no fault of their own.

The language in this bill is crystal clear. It is focused on recovering overpayments due to fraud. That means intent on the part of the individual. Existing law already protects individuals who receive overpayments through administrative error or otherwise. In fact, section 2401 of the CARES Act allows States to waive overpayments on a case-by-case basis if the payment would be contrary to equity and good conscience.

This bill also explicitly states in section 2(a)(2) and section 2(a)(3) that “the State agency may retain 25 percent of any amount recovered from overpayments of pandemic emergency unemployment compensation”—this is the one you need to understand—“that were determined to be made due to fraud.” Not overpayment. Due to fraud.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Illinois has 14 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Missouri has 3½ minutes remaining.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE).

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to condemn Republicans' attack on our workers. The GOP's surprise billing our workers act would allow States to send surprise bills to workers for unemployment benefits overcompensation paid to them during the pandemic for as long as 10 years after the overpayment was issued.

Is it the job of the American people to keep the receipts of 10 years past of UI payments so that they don't go to jail?

People who applied for these benefits and were overpaid did not know they had been overpaid. These were the result of a government mistake.

To add salt to the wound, Republicans want to cut fraud prevention programs by \$400 million over the next 5 years. Unbelievable.

This legislation hurts our State employee unions by allowing States to contract out jobs, which is what led to this mess in the first place.

Let's be clear: This is an old trope from the Republican playbook. Blame and demonize poor and Black women, insinuating they are gaming the system, when Republicans have their own welfare queen to deal with.

How can you possibly lecture Americans about paying their bills when you fail time and time again to come together and meet your financial obligations as a country?

□ 1530

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. YAKYM).

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1163, the Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act.

The Department of Labor's inspector general pegs pandemic-era unemployment insurance fraud at \$191 billion, though other experts say it could run as high as \$400 billion. These are staggering figures.

This fraud enriched criminals. It harmed innocent Americans who faced processing delays, stolen benefits, and stolen identities. These were not victimless crimes.

H.R. 1163 takes a couple of important and commonsense steps toward addressing this fraud.

First, it extends the statute of limitations so that we can continue to investigate reports, recover taxpayer dollars, and prosecute the fraudsters.

More importantly, it incentivizes States not just to recover fraudulent payments but to shore up their systems against future fraud by allowing them to use a portion of recovered funds for program integrity and fraud prevention efforts.

The unemployment insurance program is an important part of our safety

net that helps Americans recover from a job loss. The pandemic exposed major flaws that are in desperate need of attention.

I support the bill before us today because we shouldn't just catch the fraud that was. We need to stop the fraud that will be. H.R. 1163 takes steps to ensure that we in Congress and Americans across the country have faith in this program to deliver during difficult times.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU).

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this surprise billing our workers act.

This bill would harass workers with surprise bills for unemployment benefits that were overpaid due to State errors. These workers, many of whom worked long hours for low wages, rightfully used these benefits on basic needs, such as utilities, rent, and groceries, with no way of knowing that there was a mistake.

State agencies were simply not equipped to expeditiously get out pandemic unemployment benefits, resulting in a number of overpayments to workers who filled out their applications honestly in States led by Governors of both parties.

There is no denying that there were wrongdoers who exploited the emergency programs set up by Congress to assist American workers. However, this is not an excuse to go after honest Americans who did nothing wrong.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this bill.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SYKES).

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, before I joined Congress, I was a State representative in the great State of Ohio. During the pandemic, my office fielded hundreds if not thousands of calls from parents, seniors, veterans, farmers, and families, all who needed help, and we did.

Unbeknownst to my constituents, the IT systems at the State agencies in Ohio processed those claims. Those IT systems needed to be updated. The staff roles had been decimated and protections were not in place. Months after those families sighed a breath of relief, they received a letter demanding repayment.

Mr. Speaker, if you have never been on the other end of a phone call where someone has cried or wailed in fear of financial ruin or about how they are going to feed their families or pay their bills or get their medication, I can understand why you would vote for this bill. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I have, and I cannot support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I understand the need to stop fraud, and I understand the need to do this work. I look forward to doing it with you someday, but this

bill would not do it. In fact, it actually eliminates \$2 billion of the funds to update the system that caused this problem and put my constituents in this situation in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, I was sent here to fight for families, to lower costs—not to criminalize Americans—and to support them with bills that will help their families live the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, I will offer a motion to recommit H.R. 1163, and I ask unanimous consent to add the text of this amendment into the RECORD immediately prior to the vote on the motion to recommit.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, Democrats strongly agree that those who took advantage of the COVID crisis to commit fraud must be held accountable. That is why Democrats put \$2 billion in the American Rescue Plan Act to fight fraud. Every House Republican voted against it.

According to the Department of Labor's trust fund, only 16 States met the required solvency standard for unemployment systems. Instead of punishing organized crime and instead of addressing the fragility of State unemployment systems, the Republican H.R. 1163 guts Federal funding to fight fraud, weakens State unemployment systems, privatizes American public service jobs, and claws back overpayments for workers who were unemployed during the pandemic and received overpayments through no fault of their own.

Mr. Speaker, I am shocked that the Republican leadership is advancing this bill that guts Federal investment in stopping unemployment fraud the same week when one of its own is indicted for such crimes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill that punishes America's families while stunting accountability for actual crimes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “no” vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The only way that this bill punishes American families are American families who are fraudsters, American families who intentionally create and commit fraud. Give me a break.

After years of inaction when Democrats held the majority, taxpayers have lost anywhere from \$191 billion upward to \$400 billion in fraud, and their identities have been stolen.

Democrats ignored it. They blocked it, and they shot down commonsense safeguards. Guess what? They refused to hold even one hearing on fraud.

American workers, families, and small businesses are already dealing

with a cost-of-living crisis, and they deserve better. That is why they elected a Republican majority on the promise of a government that is accountable.

Today's bill delivers on that accountability with commonsense reforms that empower the States to make things right. With this vote, we will end the greatest theft of taxpayer dollars in American history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the right thing and vote in favor of this bill and against fraud.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 383, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mrs. Sykes of Ohio moves to recommit the bill H.R. 1163 to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The material previously referred to by Mrs. SYKES is as follows:

Mrs. Skyes moves to recommit the bill H.R. 1163 to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

In section 2(a)(2), strike “(f)(3)” each place it appears and insert “(f)”.

In section 2(a)(2), redesignate subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respectively, and insert the following:

(A) in subparagraph (2), by striking “In” and inserting “Subject to paragraph (3), in”;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

(C) by inserting the following:

“(3) WAIVER FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—In the case of individuals who have received amounts of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation or Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation under this section to which they were not entitled, the State may not require such individuals to repay the amounts of such pandemic unemployment assistance to the State agency if—

“(A) the State agency determines that the payment of such Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation or Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation was without fault on the part of any such individual, and

“(B) such individual—

“(i) is a worker age 60 or older who is receiving benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.);

“(ii) is a veteran, as such term is defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code; or

“(iii) was working in health care (including as a provider or support staff) in 2020 or 2021.”;

In section 2(a)(2)(D), as redesignated, strike “subparagraph (A)” and insert “paragraph (4)(A), as redesignated by subparagraph (B) of this paragraph.”.

In section 2(a)(2)(E), as redesignated, by inserting “after paragraph (4)(B), as redesignated by subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, and

nated by subparagraph (B) of this paragraph,” after “at the end”.

In section 2(a)(3), strike “(e)(3)” each place it appears and insert “(e)”.

In section 2(a)(3), redesignate subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respectively, and insert the following:

(A) in subparagraph (2), by striking “In” and inserting “Subject to paragraph (3), in”;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

(C) by inserting the following:

“(3) WAIVER FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—In the case of individuals who have received amounts of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation or Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation under this section to which they were not entitled, the State may not require such individuals to repay the amounts of such pandemic unemployment assistance to the State agency if—

“(A) the State agency determines that the payment of such Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation or Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation was without fault on the part of any such individual, and

“(B) such individual—

“(i) is a worker age 60 or older who is receiving benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.);

“(ii) is a veteran, as such term is defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code; or

“(iii) was working in health care (including as a provider or support staff) in 2020 or 2021.”;

In section 2(a)(3)(D), as redesignated, strike “subparagraph (A)” and insert “paragraph (4)(A), as redesignated by subparagraph (B) of this paragraph.”.

In section 2(a)(3)(E), as redesignated, by inserting “after paragraph (4)(B), as redesignated by subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, and

“(C) such individual—

“(i) is a worker age 60 or older who is receiving benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.);

“(ii) is a veteran, as such term is defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code; or

“(iii) was working in health care (including as a provider or support staff) in 2020 or 2021.”;

(B) APPLICABLE FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT PAYMENTS.—In this paragraph, the term “applicable Federal unemployment payments” means—

(i) amounts of sharable extended compensation and sharable regular compensation from a State to which paragraph (4) applies for weeks of unemployment described in such paragraph; and

(ii) amounts of regular compensation from a State described in paragraph (5) for the first week of regular unemployment for which the State received full Federal funding under the agreement described in such paragraph.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mrs. SYKES. 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 question are postponed.

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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:

The motion to recommit on H.R. 2; Passage of H.R. 2, if ordered;

The motion to recommit on H.R. 1163;

Passage of H.R. 1163, if ordered; and

The motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1734.

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.

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SECURE THE BORDER ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 2) to secure the borders of the United States, and for other purposes, offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 211, nays 221, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 208]

YEAS—211

Adams	Clark (MA)	Garcia (IL)
Aguilar	Clarke (NY)	Garcia (TX)
Allred	Cleaver	Garcia, Robert
Auchincloss	Clyburn	Golden (ME)
Balint	Cohen	Goldman (NY)
Barragán	Connolly	Gomez
Beatty	Correa	Gonzalez,
Bera	Costa	Vicente
Beyer	Courtney	Gottheimer
Bishop (GA)	Craig	Green, Al (TX)
Blumenauer	Crockett	Grijalva
Blunt Rochester	Crow	Harder (CA)
Bonamici	Cuellar	Hayes
Bowman	Davids (KS)	Higgins (NY)
Boyle (PA)	Davis (IL)	Himes
Brown	Davis (NC)	Horsford
Brownley	Dean (PA)	Houlihan
Budzinski	DeLauro	Hoyer
Bush	DelBene	Hoyle (OR)
Caraveo	Deluzio	Huffman
Carbajal	DeSaulnier	Ivey
Cárdenas	Dingell	Jackson (IL)
Carson	Doggett	Jackson (NC)
Carter (LA)	Escobar	Jackson Lee
Cartwright	Eshoo	De La Cruz
Casar	Espaillet	Jayapal
Case	Evans	Jeffries
Casten	Fletcher	Johnson (GA)
Castor (FL)	Foster	Kamlager-Dove
Castro (TX)	Foushee	Kaptur
Cherifilus-	Frankel, Lois	Keating
McCormick	Frost	Kelly (IL)
Chu	Gallego	Khanna
Cicilline	Garamendi	Kildee

NAYS—221

Aderholt	Ezell	Kustoff
Alford	Fallon	LaHood
Allen	Feeenstra	LaLota
Amodei	Ferguson	LaMalfa
Armstrong	Finstad	Lamborn
Arrington	Fischbach	Langworthy
Babin	Fitzgerald	Latta
Bacon	Fitzpatrick	LaTurner
Baird	Fleischmann	Lawler
Balderson	Flood	Lee (FL)
Banks	Foxx	Lesko
Barr	Franklin, C.	Letlow
Bean (FL)	Scott	Loudermilk
Bentz	Fry	Lucas
Bergman	Fulcher	Luettkemeyer
Bice	Gaetz	Luna
Biggs	Gallagher	Luttrell
Bilirakis	Garbarino	Mace
Bishop (NC)	Garcia, Mike	Malliotakis
Boebert	Gimenez	Mann
Bost	Gonzales, Tony	Massie
Brecheen	Good (VA)	Mast
Buchanan	Gooden (TX)	McCarthy
Buck	Gosar	McCaul
Bucshon	Granger	McClain
Burgess	Graves (LA)	McClintock
Burlison	Graves (MO)	McCormick
Calvert	Green (TN)	McHenry
Cammack	Greene (GA)	Meuser
Carey	Griffith	Miller (IL)
Carey	Grothman	Miller (OH)
Carl	Guest	Miller (WV)
Carter (GA)	Guthrie	Miller-Meeks
Carter (TX)	Hageman	Mills
Chavez-DeRemer	Harris	Molinaro
Ciscomani	Harshbarger	Moolenaar
Cline	Hern	Mooney
Cloud	Higgins (LA)	Moore (AL)
Clyde	Hill	Moore (UT)
Davids (KS)	Higgins (NY)	Moore
Davis (IL)	Himes	Moran
Davis (NC)	Horsford	Murphy
Dean (PA)	Houlihan	Nehls
DeLauro	Hoyer	Newhouse
DelBene	Hoyle (OR)	Horn
Deluzio	Huffman	Moore
DeSaulnier	Ivey	Nunn (IA)
Dingell	Jackson (IL)	Obernolte
Doggett	Jackson (NC)	James
Davidson	Davidson	Ogles
Johnson (LA)	Johnson (LA)	Owens
Johnson (OH)	Johnson (OH)	Burchett
DesJarlais	Johnson (SD)	Palmer
Edwards	DesJarlais	Burgess
Diaz-Balart	Jordan	Perry
Jayapal	Diaz-Balart	Burlison
Jeffries	Donalds	Pfluger
Johnson (GA)	Duarte	Jackson (TX)
Kamlager-Dove	Duarte	Reschenthaler
Duncan	Kean (NJ)	Rodgers (WA)
Dunn (FL)	Kelly (MS)	Rogers (AL)
Edwards	Kelly (PA)	Rogers (KY)
Foster	Ellzey	Kiggans (VA)
Kamlager-Dove	Ellzey	Rose
Kaptur	Dunn (FL)	Rosendale
Dunn (FL)	Kelly (PA)	Rouzer
Keating	Edwards	Chavez-DeRemer
Kelly (IL)	Ellzey	Fry
Khanna	Emmer	Ciscomani
Kildee	Estes	Fulcher

Kilmer	Ocasio-Cortez	Slotkin	Roy	Stauber	Van Orden
Kim (NJ)	Omar	Smith (WA)	Rutherford	Steel	Wagner
Krishnamoorthi	Pallone	Sorensen	Salazar	Stefanik	Walberg
Kuster	Panetta	Soto	Santos	Steil	Waltz
Landsman	Pappas	Spanberger	Scalise	Steube	Weber (TX)
Larsen (WA)	Pascrell	Stansbury	Schweikert	Stewart	Webster (FL)
Larson (CT)	Payne	Stanton	Scott, Austin	Strong	Wenstrup
Lee (CA)	Pelosi	Stevens	Self	Tenney	Westerman
Lee (NV)	Peltola	Strickland	Sessions	Thompson (PA)	Williams (NY)
Lee (PA)	Perez	Swalwell	Simpson	Tiffany	Williams (TX)
Leger Fernandez	Peters	Sykes	Smith (MO)	Timmons	Wilson (SC)
Levin	Pettersen	Takano	Smith (NE)	Turner	Wittman
Lieu	Phillips	Thanedar	Smith (NJ)	Valadao	Womack
Lofgren	Pingree	Thompson (CA)	Smucker	Van Drew	Yakym
Lynch	Pocan	Thompson (MS)	Spartz	Van Duyne	Zinke
Magaziner	Porter	Titus			
Manning	Pressley	Tlaib	DeGrette	NOT VOTING—3	
Matsui	Quigley	Tokuda		Moskowitz	Pence
McBath	Ramirez	Tonko			
McClellan	Raskin	Torres (CA)			
McCollum	Ross	Torres (NY)			
McGarvey	Ruiz	Trahan			
McGovern	Ruppersberger	Trone			
Meeks	Ryan	Underwood			
Menendez	Salinas	Vargas			
Meng	Sánchez	Vasquez			
Mfume	Sarbanes	Veasey			
Moore (WI)	Scanlon	Velázquez			
Morelle	Schakowsky	Wasserman			
Moulton	Schiff	Wasserman			
Mryan	Schneider	Schultz			
Mullin	Scholten	Waters			
Nadler	Schrader	Watson Coleman			
Napolitano	Scott (VA)	Watson			
Neal	Scott, David	Watson			
Neguse	Sewell	Wild			
Nickel	Sherman	Williams (GA)			
Norcross	Sherrill	Wilson (FL)			

□ 1612

Messrs. MOORE of Utah, KEAN of New Jersey, EMMER, WENSTRUP, BURLISON, GRAVES of Missouri, GROTHMAN, and CARTER of Georgia changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK, Messrs. GREEN of Texas, PAYNE, KEATING, Mses. WEXTON, SCHOLTON, and Mrs. DINGELL changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 219, nays 213, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 209]

YEAS—219

Aderholt	Cloud	Gallagher
Alford	Clyde	Garbarino
Allen	Cole	Garcia, Mike
Amodei	Collins	Gimenez
Armstrong	Comer	Gonzales, Tony
Arrington	Crane	Good (VA)
Babin	Crawford	Gooden (TX)
Bacon	Crenshaw	Gosar
Bard	Curtis	Granger
Balderson	D'Esposito	Graves (LA)
Banks	Davidson	Graves (MO)
Barr	De La Cruz	Green (TN)
Bean (FL)	DesJarlais	Greene (GA)
Bentz	Diaz-Balart	Griffith
Bergman	Donalds	Grothman
Bice	Duncan	Guest
Biggs	DeGuerre	Guthrie
Bilirakis	Edwards	Hageman
Bishop (NC)	Ellzey	Harris
Boebert	Emmer	Harshbarger
Bost	Estes	Hern
Brennan	Ezell	Higgins (LA)
Brown	Fallon	Hill
Brownley	Feenstra	Hinson
Budzinski	Ferguson	Houchin
Bush	Finstad	Hudson
Caraveo	Fitzgerald	Huijenga
Carbajal	Flood	Hunt
Cárdenas	Garcia, Mike	Issa
Carson	Gates	Jackson (TX)
Carter (LA)	Gates	Jackson (TX)
Cartwright	Gates	Jackson (TX)
Casar	Gates	Jackson (TX)
Case	Gates	Jackson (TX)
Casten	Gates	Jackson (TX)
Castor (FL)	Gates	Jackson (TX)
Castro (TX)	Gates	Jackson (TX)
Cherifilus-	Gates	Jackson (TX)
McCormick	Gates	Jackson (TX)
Chu	Gates	Jackson (TX)
Cicilline	Gates	Jackson (TX)

Kean (NJ)	Miller-Meeks	Smith (MO)	Slotkin	Thanedar	Vargas	McGovern	Pocan	Stanton
Kelly (MS)	Mills	Smith (NE)	Smith (WA)	Thompson (CA)	Vasquez	Meeks	Porter	Stevens
Kelly (PA)	Molinaro	Smith (NJ)	Sorensen	Thompson (MS)	Veasey	Menendez	Pressley	Strickland
Kiggans (VA)	Moolenaar	Smucker	Soto	Titus	Velázquez	Meng	Quigley	Swalwell
Kiley	Mooney	Spartz	Spanberger	Tlaib	Wasserman	Mfume	Ramirez	Sykes
Kim (CA)	Moore (AL)	Stauber	Stansbury	Tokuda	Schultz	Moore (WI)	Raskin	Takano
Kustoff	Moore (UT)	Steel	Stanton	Tonko	Waters	Morelle	Ross	Thanedar
LaHood	Moran	Stefanik	Stevens	Torres (CA)	Watson Coleman	Moulton	Ruiz	Thompson (CA)
LaLota	Murphy	Steil	Strickland	Torres (NY)	Wexton	Mrvan	Ruppersberger	Thompson (MS)
LaMalfa	Nehls	Steube	Swalwell	Trahan	Wild	Mullin	Ryan	Titus
Lamborn	Newhouse	Stewart	Sykes	Trome	Williams (GA)	Nadler	Salinas	Tlaib
Langworthy	Norman	Strong	Takano	Underwood	Wilson (FL)	Napolitano	Sánchez	Tokuda
Latta	Nunn (IA)	Tenney				Neal	Sarbanes	Tonko
LaTurner	Obernolte					Neguse	Scanlon	Torres (CA)
Lawler	Ogles	Thompson (PA)	DeGette	Moskowitz	Pence	Nickel	Schakowsky	Torres (NY)
Lee (FL)	Owens	Tiffany				Norcross	Schiff	Trahan
Lesko	Palmer	Timmons				Ocasio-Cortez	Schneider	Trone
Letlow	Perry	Turner		□ 1619		Omar	Scholten	Underwood
Loudermilk	Pfluger	Valadao				Pallone	Schrier	Vargas
Lucas	Posey	Van Drew				Panetta	Scott (VA)	Vasquez
Luetkemeyer	Reschenthaler	Van Duyne				Pappas	Scott, David	Veasey
Luna	Rodgers (WA)	Van Orden				Pascrell	Sewell	Velázquez
Luttrell	Rogers (AL)	Wagner				Payne	Sherman	Wasserman
Mace	Rogers (KY)	Walberg				Pelosi	Sherrill	Schultz
Mailiotakis	Rose	Waltz				Peitola	Slotkin	Waters
Mann	Rosendale	Weber (TX)				Perez	Smith (WA)	Watson Coleman
Mast	Rouzer	Webster (FL)				Peters	Sorensen	Wexton
McCarthy	Roy	Wenstrup				Pettersen	Soto	Wild
McCaul	Rutherford	Westerman				Phillips	Spanberger	Williams (GA)
McClain	Salazar	Williams (NY)				Pingree	Stansbury	Wilson (FL)
McClintock	Santos	Williams (TX)						
McCormick	Scalise	Wittman						
McHenry	Schweikert	Womack						
Meuser	Scott, Austin	Yakym						
Miller (IL)	Self	Zinke						
Miller (OH)	Sessions							
Miller (WV)	Simpson							

NAYS—213

Adams	Espaillat	Massie
Aguilar	Evans	Matsui
Allred	Fletcher	McBath
Auchincloss	Foster	McClellan
Balint	Foushee	McCollum
Barragán	Frankel, Lois	McGarvey
Beatty	Frost	McGovern
Bera	Gallego	Meeks
Beyer	Garamendi	Menendez
Bishop (GA)	Garcia (IL)	Meng
Blumenauer	Garcia (TX)	Mfume
Blunt Rochester	Garcia, Robert	Moore (WI)
Bonamici	Golden (ME)	Morelle
Bowman	Goldman (NY)	Moulton
Boyle (PA)	Gomez	Mrvan
Brown	Gonzalez,	Mullin
Brownley	Vicente	Nadler
Budzinski	Gottheimer	Napolitano
Bush	Green, Al (TX)	Neal
Caraveo	Grijalva	Neguse
Carbajal	Harder (CA)	Nickel
Cárdenas	Hayes	Norcross
Carson	Higgins (NY)	Ocasio-Cortez
Carter (LA)	Himes	Omar
Cartwright	Horsford	Pallone
Casar	Houlahan	Panetta
Case	Hoyer	Pappas
Casten	Hoyle (OR)	Pascrall
Castor (FL)	Huffman	Payne
Castro (TX)	Ivey	Pelosi
Cherifius-	Jackson (IL)	Peltola
McCormick	Jackson (NC)	Perez
Chu	Jackson Lee	Peters
Cicilline	Jacobs	Petersen
Clark (MA)	Jayapal	Phillips
Clarke (NY)	Jeffries	Pingree
Cleaver	Johnson (GA)	Pocan
Clyburn	Kamlager-Dove	Porter
Cohen	Kaptur	Pressley
Connolly	Keating	Quigley
Correa	Kelly (IL)	Ramirez
Costa	Khanna	Raskin
Courtney	Kildee	Ross
Craig	Kilmer	Ruiz
Crockett	Kim (NJ)	Ruppersberger
Crow	Krishnamoorthi	Ryan
Cuellar	Kuster	Salinas
Davids (KS)	Landsman	Sánchez
Davis (IL)	Larsen (WA)	Sarbanes
Davis (NC)	Larson (CT)	Scanlon
Dean (PA)	Lee (CA)	Schakowsky
DeLauro	Lee (NV)	Schiff
DelBene	Lee (PA)	Schneider
Deluzio	Leger Fernandez	Scholten
DeSaulnier	Levin	Schrier
Dingell	Lieu	Scott (VA)
Doggett	Lofgren	Scott, David
Duarte	Lynch	Sewell
Escobar	Magaziner	Sherman
Eshoo	Manning	Sherrill

PROTECTING TAXPAYERS AND  
VICTIMS OF UNEMPLOYMENT  
FRAUD ACT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 1163) to provide incentives for States to recover fraudulently paid Federal and State unemployment compensation, and for other purposes, offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SYKES), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the motion to recommit.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 210, nays 221, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 210]

YEAS—210

Adams	Costa	Horsford	Burgess	Harris	Newhouse
Aguilar	Courtney	Houlahan	Burlison	Harshbarger	Norman
Allred	Craig	Hoyer	Calvert	Hern	Nunn (IA)
Auchincloss	Crockett	Hoyle (OR)	Cammack	Higgins (LA)	Obernolte
Balint	Crow	Huffman	Carey	Hill	Ogles
Barragán	Cuellar	Ivey	Carl	Hinson	Owens
Beatty	Davids (KS)	Jackson (IL)	Carter (GA)	Houchin	Palmer
Bera	Davis (IL)	Jackson (NC)	Carter (TX)	Hudson	Perry
Beyer	Davis (NC)	Jackson Lee	Chavez-DeRemer	Huizenga	Pfluger
Bishop (GA)	Dean (PA)	Jacobs	Ciscomani	Hunt	Posey
Blumenauer	DeLauro	Jayapal	Cloud	Jackson (TX)	Reschenthaler
Blunt Rochester	DelBene	Jeffries	Clyde	James	Rodgers (WA)
Bonamici	Deluzio	Johnson (GA)	Cole	Johnson (LA)	Rogers (AL)
Bowman	DeSaulnier	Kamlager-Dove	Collins	Johnson (OH)	Rogers (KY)
Boyle (PA)	Doggett	Kaptur	Comer	Johnson (SD)	Rose
Brown	Escobar	Keating	Crane	Jordan	Rosendale
Brownley	Eshoo	Kelly (IL)	Crawford	Joyce (OH)	Rouzer
Budzinski	Espaillat	Khanha	Crenshaw	Joyce (PA)	Rutherford
Bush	Evans	Kildee	Curtis	Kean (NJ)	Salazar
Caraveo	Fletcher	Kilmer	D'Esposito	Kelly (MS)	Santos
Carbajal	Foster	Kim (NJ)	Davidson	Kelly (PA)	Scalise
Cárdenas	Foushee	Krishnamoorthi	De La Cruz	Kiggans (VA)	Schweikert
Carson	Frankel, Lois	Kuster	DesJarlais	Kiley	Scott, Austin
Carter (LA)	Frost	Landsman	Diaz-Balart	Kim (CA)	Self
Cartwright	Gallego	Larsen (WA)	Donalds	Kustoff	Sessions
Casar	Garamendi	Larson (CT)	Duarte	LaHood	Simpson
Case	García (IL)	Lee (CA)	Duncan	LaLota	Smith (MO)
Casten	Garcia (TX)	Lee (NV)	Dunn (FL)	LaMalfa	Smith (NE)
Castor (FL)	Garcia, Robert	Lee (PA)	Edwards	Lamborn	Smith (NJ)
Castro (TX)	Golden (ME)	Leger Fernandez	Emmer	Langworthy	Smucker
Cheriflier-	Goldman (NY)	Levin	Estes	Ellzey	Spartz
McCormick	Gomez	Lieu	Ezell	LaTurner	Stauber
Chu	Gonzalez,	Lofgren	Fallon	Lawler	Steel
Cicilline	Vicente	Lynch	Ferguson	Lee (FL)	Stefanik
Clark (MA)	Gottheimer	Magaziner	Finstad	Lesko	Steil
Clarke (NY)	Green, Al (TX)	Manning	Fischbach	Letlow	Steube
Cleaver	Grijalva	Matsui	McBath	Loudermilk	Stewart
Clyburn	Harder (CA)	McBath	McClellan	Lucas	Strong
Cohen	Hayes	McCollum	Fitzgerald	Luetkemeyer	Tenney
Connolly	Higgins (NY)	McGarvey	Fitzpatrick	Luna	Thompson (PA)
Correa	Himes				

Tiffany	Wagner	Williams (NY)	Moore (UT)	Roy	Tenney	ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
Timmons	Walberg	Williams (TX)	Moran	Rutherford	Thompson (PA)	
Turner	Waltz	Wilson (SC)	Murphy	Salazar	Tiffany	
Valadao	Weber (TX)	Wittman	Nehls	Santos	Timmons	
Van Drew	Webster (FL)	Womack	Newhouse	Scalise	Turner	
Van Duyne	Wenstrup	Yakym	Nickel	Scholten	Valadao	
Van Orden	Westerman	Zinke	Norman	Schweikert	Van Drew	
NOT VOTING—4						
DeGette	Moskowitz	Oberholte	Nunn (IA)	Scott, Austin	Van Duyne	
Dingell	Pence	Ogles	Palmer	Self	Van Orden	
ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE						
The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RUTHERFORD) (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.						
□ 1626						
So the motion to recommit was rejected.						
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.						
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.						
The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.						
RECORDED VOTE						
Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.						
A recorded vote was ordered.						
The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.						
The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 230, noes 200, not voting 5, as follows:						
[Roll No. 211]						
AYES—230						
Aderholt	Duncan	Jackson (TX)	Adams	Garcia (TX)	Pallone	
Alford	Dunn (FL)	James	Aguilar	Garcia, Robert	Panetta	
Allen	Edwards	Johnson (LA)	Allred	Goldman (NY)	Pappas	
Amodei	Ellzey	Johnson (OH)	Auchincloss	Gomez	Pascrill	
Armstrong	Emmer	Johnson (SD)	Balint	Gonzalez,	Payne	
Arrington	Estes	Jordan	Barragán	Vicente	Pelosi	
Babin	Ezell	Joyce (OH)	Beatty	Gottheimer	Peltola	
Bacon	Fallon	Joyce (PA)	Bera	Green, Al (TX)	Peters	
Baird	Feenstra	Kean (NJ)	Beyer	Grijalva	Pettersen	
Balderson	Ferguson	Kelly (MS)	Bishop (GA)	Harder (CA)	Pingree	
Banks	Finstad	Kelly (PA)	Blumenauer	Hayes	Pocan	
Barr	Fischbach	Kiggans (VA)	Blunt Rochester	Higgins (NY)	Porter	
Bean (FL)	Fitzgerald	Kiley	Bonamici	Himes	Pressley	
Bentz	Fitzpatrick	Kim (CA)	Bowman	Horsford	Quigley	
Bergman	Fleischmann	Kustoff	Boyle (PA)	Hoyer	Ramirez	
Bice	Flood	Clark (FL)	Brown	Hoyle (OR)	Raskin	
Biggs	Foxx	Casten	Brownley	Huffman	Ross	
Bilirakis	Franklin, C.	Castro (FL)	Budzinski	Ivey	Ruiz	
Bishop (NC)	Scott	Cherry	Bush	Jackson (IL)	Ruppersberger	
Boebert	Fry	Chu	Caraveo	Jackson (NC)	Ryan	
Bost	Fulcher	Cicilline	Carbalj	Jackson Lee	Salinas	
Brecheen	Gaetz	Clark (MA)	Cárdenas	Jacobs	Sánchez	
Buchanan	Gallagher	Clarke (NY)	Castor (FL)	Jayapal	Sarbanes	
Buck	Garbarino	Cleaver	Castro (TX)	Jeffries	Scanlon	
Bucshon	Garcia, Mike	Clyburn	Cherif	Johnson (GA)	Schakowsky	
Burchett	Gimenez	Cohen	Cormick	Kamlager-Dove	Schiff	
Burgess	Golden (ME)	Cole	Cicilline	Kaptur	Schneider	
Burlison	Gonzales, Tony	Connolly	Clark (MA)	Kaufman	Scott (VA)	
Calvert	Good (VA)	Connolly	Clarke (NY)	Kaufman	Scott, David	
Cammack	Gooden (TX)	Correa	Costa	Kaufman	Sewell	
Carey	Gosar	Craig	Cárdenas	Kaufman	Sherman	
Carl	Granger	Lynch	Carter (LA)	Kaufman	Sherrill	
Carter (GA)	Graves (LA)	Crockett	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Slotkin	
Carter (TX)	Graves (MO)	Crow	Cohen	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Chavez-DeRemer	Green (TN)	DeLuzio	Connolly	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Ciscomani	Greene (GA)	DelBino	Correa	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Cline	Griffith	DelBino	Costa	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Cloud	Grothman	DelBino	Cárdenas	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Clyde	Guest	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Cole	Guthrie	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Collins	Hageman	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Comer	Harris	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Crane	Harshbarger	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Crawford	Hern	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Crenshaw	Higgins (LA)	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Curtis	Hill	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
D'Esposito	Hinson	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Davidson	Houchin	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
De La Cruz	Houlahan	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
DesJarlais	Hudson	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Diaz-Balart	Huizenga	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Donalds	Hunt	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
Duarte	Issa	DelBino	Carter (PA)	Kaufman	Smith (WA)	
NOT VOTING—5						
Williams (NY)	Moore (UT)	Roy	Tenney	Thompson (PA)	ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE	
Walberg	Williams (TX)	Moran	Rutherford	Thompson (PA)		
Turner	Wilson (SC)	Murphy	Rutherford	Thompson (PA)		
Valadao	Wittman	Nehls	Rutherford	Thompson (PA)		
Van Drew	Womack	Newhouse	Rutherford	Thompson (PA)		
Van Duyne	Yakym	Nickel	Rutherford	Thompson (PA)		
Van Orden	Zinke	Norman	Rutherford	Thompson (PA)		
NOT VOTING—4						
DeGette	Moskowitz	Oberholte	Scott, Austin	Van Duyne	ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE	
Dingell	Pence	Ogles	Self	Van Duyne		
ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE						
The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RUTHERFORD) (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.						
□ 1633						
So the bill was passed.						
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.						
A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.						
TESTING, RAPID ANALYSIS, AND NARCOTIC QUALITY RESEARCH ACT						
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1734) 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, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.						
The Clerk read the title of the bill.						
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.						
This is a 5-minute vote.						
The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 425, nays 0, not voting 10, as follows:						
[Roll No. 212]						
YEAS—425						
Adams	Bush	D'Esposito				
Aderholt	Calvert	Davids (KS)				
Aguilar	Cammack	Davidson				
Alford	Caraveo	Davis (IL)				
Allen	Carbalj	Davis (NC)				
Allred	Cárdenas	De La Cruz				
Amodei	Carey	Dean (PA)				
Armstrong	Carl	DeLauro				
Arrington	Carson	DelBene				
Balderson	Carter (GA)	Deluzio				
Banks	Carter (LA)	DeSaulnier				
Barr	Carter (TX)	DesJarlais				
Barragán	Castro (TX)	Diaz-Balart				
Bartolomeo	Castro (TX)	Dunn (FL)				
Bean (FL)	Chavez-DeRemer	Edwards				
Bentz	McCormick	Ellzey				
Bergman	Emmer	Fitzgerald				
Bice	Fitzpatrick	Flores				
Biggs	Fox	Foxworth				
Bilirakis	Garcia, Al	Gill				
Bishop (NC)	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Boebert	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Bost	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Brecheen	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Buchanan	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Buck	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Bucshon	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Burchett	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Burgess	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Burlison	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Calvert	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Cammack	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Carey	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Carl	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Carter (GA)	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Carter (TX)	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Chavez-DeRemer	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Ciscomani	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Cline	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Cloud	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Clyde	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Cole	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Collins	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Comer	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Crane	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Crawford	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Crenshaw	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Curtis	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
D'Esposito	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Davidson	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
De La Cruz	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
DesJarlais	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Diaz-Balart	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Donalds	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
Duarte	Garcia, Tony	Gill				
NOT VOTING—5						
DeGette	Moore (AL)	Pence				
Dingell	Moskowitz	Pence				

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

## NOT VOTING—10

Crawford	Meuser	Ruppersberger
DeGette	Moskowitz	Trone
Dingell	Pence	
Johnson (GA)	Quigley	

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1640

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, due to a long-standing family commitment, I was unable to be recorded for votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 208, "nay" on rollcall No. 209, "yea" on rollcall No. 210, "nay" on rollcall No. 211 and "yea" on rollcall No. 212.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Deirdre Kelly, one of his secretaries.

□ 1645

## CONDOLENCES FOR I-55 CRASH VICTIMS

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

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the Illinois Representatives to express our deep condolences for the victims of the tragic multi-vehicle accident last week on I-55, and to offer our sincere gratitude to the brave Illinois first responders who assisted motorists at the scene.

The dedication and commitment of our first responders has been unwavering, and we are keeping the victims, their families, and their friends in our hearts and our prayers during this difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. BUDZINSKI).

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, my heart continues to go out to the loved ones of those who lost their lives, as Congresswoman MILLER mentioned, in the tragic pile-up on I-55 last week.

I am also so appreciative of the first responders from across our region who were on the scene quickly for rescue efforts. They demonstrated incredible bravery in this response, and so I admire the important work that they do, as I do each and every day.

Thank you for your service to our communities and thank you to my colleagues joining with us today to remember the victims.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to observe a moment of silence.

## COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE THEODORE H. HERNANDEZ AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 54

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, you know every birthday with a zero in it is special, but what about a birthday with double zeros? That makes it double special.

Such is the case for the 100th anniversary of the Theodore H. Hernandez American Legion Auxiliary Unit 54 in my hometown of Fernandina Beach, Florida. This auxiliary holds a special place in my heart, as my mother was a member for many, many years.

The auxiliary has supported and continues to support community organizations on the first coast such as the Nassau County Council on Aging, and Adopt-a-Soldier, and so many others.

On May 29, 2023, members will celebrate 100 years of serving our veterans, military, and their families in northeast Florida.

Hopefully, Mr. Speaker, they will celebrate with a very big cake.

I congratulate the Theodore H. Hernandez American Legion Auxiliary Unit Number 54 on 100 years of amazing service, and I can't wait to see what they do with the next 100.

## SECURE BORDERS

(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 discuss the Secure the Border Act.

A few years ago, Americans were horrified to see pictures and videos of immigrant children in cages. But the MAGA Republicans thought this policy was a great idea.

Thankfully, the Biden administration ended this cruel and inhumane practice, but these same MAGA Republicans want to bring it back. They want to punish children because their parents want to become U.S. citizens.

This bill would remove all the protections for immigrant children at the border, and it allows them to be detained in cages in Federal facilities indefinitely.

The Statue of Liberty, the symbol of America, tells the world that our country is open to all people. It invites them to come here and fulfill their dreams.

However, this anti-American bill represents the opposite, and it is an embarrassment and shameful that it was introduced at all.

## SECURE BORDERS

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the Senate to take up the bill we just passed, H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act.

With title 42 having expired, we are seeing a surge of migrants approaching our border that will add to a crisis in New York State that has seen New York City take in over 60,000 migrants so far. Now, Mayor Eric Adams has resorted to busing migrants into the Hudson Valley, despite previously decrying southern States from doing that to New York City.

This is a completely untenable situation and demands immediate Federal action, which is why the House Republican majority passed H.R. 2.

As the husband of an immigrant, I know why so many people immigrate to our Nation. We are the greatest Nation in the world. But we simply cannot continue to let our borders be wide open as they are now. We are seeing tens of thousands of people cross our borders illegally every single day.

I urge the Senate to pass this legislation. Having spoken with the President yesterday in my district, I know he understands the need to act on our border.

We have to work together to secure our border, end this broken system, and ensure the safety of our residents.

#### COMMEMORATING DOROTHY LEVIN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

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

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent and proud Californian, Dorothy Levin. Dorothy is celebrating her 100th birthday, and I am thrilled to join her friends and family in commemorating this remarkable milestone.

Dorothy was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on May 12, 1923, and moved to southern California with her family in 1952.

In 1958, while raising her three young children, Dorothy decided to attend law school. She graduated and passed the California Bar exam but was unable to find a job in a male-dominated field, so she opened her own firm, where she practiced until her retirement in 1994.

Dorothy's unwavering dedication, tenacity, and courage have helped pave the way for generations of women in the legal profession.

I wish Dorothy a happy 100th birthday. I am so thankful for her trailblazing work, and I am proud to honor her today.

#### IMPEACH SECRETARY MAYORKAS

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

Mrs. McCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, it is hard to believe that after 2 years of record-breaking migrant encounters at the southern border, things continue to get worse with absolutely no end in sight.

I always say, to fix a problem, you first have to admit there is a problem. But the guy who is supposed to be in charge, the leader of border security, just cannot admit there is a problem.

DHS Secretary Mayorkas has time and time again failed to take responsibility, as the leader, as the boss, as the man in charge. He has the audacity to tell MSNBC that the open border is Congress' fault, and that Congress should do something about it.

Okay. Well, then I think it is time to do something about it. Let's impeach Secretary Mayorkas. His blatant failures have resulted in the deaths of American citizens and has made fentanyl the number one killer of 18- to 45-year-olds.

Enough is enough. We need real leadership, not some Biden puppet.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here today calling for the impeachment of Secretary Mayorkas.

#### STOCK BUYBACKS IN DEFENSE

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

Mr. DELUZIO. Mr. Speaker, the defense industrial base is dominated by a handful of massive corporations that have gobbled up competitors. These five companies have a lot of power and responsibility to supply our military. But what are they doing with that power? Are they investing in innovation?

They are enriching themselves with stock buybacks and shareholder dividends, fueled by public money, while shrinking their investments to innovation.

The Pentagon has reported that over the past decade, research and development is down, but corporate payouts for prime contractors are up.

Meanwhile, they are lobbying Congress for more cash every year.

Top brass warn that late, over-budget defense orders threaten our readiness. National security shouldn't be subject to the whims of Wall Street or crazy ideas of shareholder primacy. Public money shouldn't bankroll stock buybacks.

It doesn't have to be this way. We should, once again, ban buybacks. They used to be illegal, and should be again.

We need smarter industrial policy to break up these monopolies so we have got real competition in the defense industry.

#### CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF MICHAEL SHORT

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

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week, I rise to celebrate Michael Short on his retirement after 44 years of inspiring students in music in Orange Unified School District.

A Chapman University and Cal State Fullerton graduate, Mr. Short has been involved in Orange Unified School District music since the mid-1970s, from elementary and middle schools to Orange High School, to Santiago Canyon College, and much more.

He has directed several musicals, led choirs, and received several awards for his work as an outstanding music educator.

Mr. Short has inspired generations of students in California's 40th District across Orange County and beyond.

I thank Mr. Short for his dedication and his outstanding career to the community, teaching and inspiring students through music.

I wish him the best in his retirement, and much enjoyment spending time with his family; his wife, Vicki, his kids, and his grandkids.

#### BORDER SECURITY

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

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2, House Republicans' so-called border security bill, is yet another glaring example of the false outrage exhibited by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

As they speak blatant mistruths about concerns over Americans' safety, they turn a blind eye to the deadly epidemic of gun violence within our borders.

Instead, House Republicans clamor around a bill that guts the U.S. asylum process and eliminates any realistic pathways to legal immigration.

Their proposal costs the American people \$6.1 billion and does nothing to increase border security personnel. In fact, the bill would pay for the former President's vanity project, an expensive and ineffective wall that would make our Nation more vulnerable to drug and human trafficking.

It is with a deep understanding that we are a nation of laws and a nation of immigrants that House Democrats are working to pass comprehensive immigration reform that will protect our communities, the American people, and the American Dream.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF COMMANDER MIKE SMITH

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart, but to honor the life of a friend, retired United States Coast Guard Commander, Mike Smith.

Mike is fondly remembered by many as the director of the annual Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven, Michigan, also known as Coast Guard City USA, a cherished event where our west Michigan community comes together to celebrate the Coast Guard's service

and sacrifice on the lakeshore and across the country.

Mike lived a life of service, both in the Coast Guard and outside of it. In fact, in 2016, he received the Department of Defense's annual Spirit of Hope Award, an honor that is presented to individuals who embody Bob Hope's core values of serving and supporting our military members. He was so proud of that he actually put it on his own challenge coin.

Mike exemplified the bold character of the Coast Guard and its motto, "Semper Paratus," always prepared, and his influential impact will be forever felt.

Mike is survived by his wife, Cathy, and their six children: Maxwell, Mollie, Moira, Maggie, Matteson, and McHale.

I, and so many others, remember Mike for his service, but we cherish his friendship and his contribution to the Grand Haven community, to the U.S. Coast Guard, and to our Nation.

Rest well, my friend. Rest well.

□ 1700

#### RECOGNIZING BEN FERENCZ

(Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jewish American Heritage Month by sharing a story of my personal Jewish American hero, Ben Ferencz.

Ben was recently awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. He was the last living Nuremberg prosecutor, who recently passed away at age 103.

Ben enlisted in the U.S. Army straight out of law school. He was assigned to collect evidence of Nazi war crimes, which he later used to prosecute the biggest murder case in the history of the world. At age 27, he convicted 22 Nazi leaders for their roles in the deaths of over 1 million people.

Ben later dedicated his life to creating a world of acceptance and compassion, becoming a tireless advocate for the rule of law and international justice.

Ben Ferencz is a real Jewish-American hero. His legacy is one of peace, justice, and humility. May his memory be a blessing.

#### REMEMBERING SHAWN SOARES

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

Mrs. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Shawn Soares, a young public servant and former congressional staffer from my district, who was tragically killed in a traffic accident last week.

I first met Shawn during my time as a State legislator. He was a genuinely kind person who always had a smile on his face.

Shawn was a bright light everywhere, and he was well known in the Rich-

mond community for his commitment to climate advocacy and his desire to better the Commonwealth.

He accomplished so much in his short life. He served under my predecessor, the late Donald McEachin, and in State government under former Governor Ralph Northam and Delegate Suhas Subramanyam.

He was a leadership member in the Virginia Young Democrats and most recently worked for the Virginia Conservation Network while pursuing his graduate degree at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Shawn's commitment to having a positive impact on his community was evident in his life and work, and he will be sorely missed by many.

My sincere condolences to the Soares family, his loved ones, and every community he touched.

#### HONORING ALAINA SLIFE

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and advocacy of someone so many in the Orlando community considered a friend and loved one, Alaina Slife, who lost her life 2 weeks ago, which has left a hole in Central Florida.

Alaina was a daughter, a sister, a partner, and a friend to so many.

I actually had the honor of meeting her through the clouds of tear gas during the Black Lives Matter protests of 2020, where she was an accomplice and an ally and a fighter in the fight for justice for every single person.

She seemed to wake up every day with a mission in her heart to help people, and she devoted her life to empowering others and fighting for a better State and a better world for all central Floridians and everybody.

Today, I honor and remember her life's work and offer my deep condolences to her family and loved ones. She was a warrior in our community and will be greatly missed, but she lives forever through the joy, and the shared fight and struggle of our people. I thank her so much for her work.

#### TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

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

Mr. THANEDAR. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate a constituent, a resident of the 13th District of Michigan, Candice Jackson, for winning the Teacher of the Year award.

As we observe Teacher Appreciation Week, I also want to draw attention to over 36,000 teaching posts left vacant this year. The newest figures show that the top income a teacher might earn in 17 percent of the school districts, even with 30 years of service and a Ph.D., is only \$60,000. This is intolerable.

As a cosponsor of the American Teacher Act, I am proud to advocate for our teachers. We must ensure that our educators earn at least \$60,000, not at most. Our teachers deserve our gratitude, respect, and just compensation. Together, we will make this a reality for them.

#### IN MEMORY OF LIVES LOST IN ALLEN, TEXAS

(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, I rise to speak in memory of the eight Texans who lost their lives last weekend during a shooting in Allen, Texas. These eight Texans should be the future of Texas: Young, diverse, full of life and promise. Instead, they represent the tragedy of Texas today: A Texas where a family must prepare for a trip to the mall as if it is an active war zone. A Texas where lives of kindergartners have less value than the right of Neo-Nazis to own AR-15s.

Mr. Speaker, I rise and ask the question: Aren't you tired of grieving? Is this what your constituents sent you here to do, to send thoughts and prayers?

Texans are tired of grieving.

El Paso, Uvalde, Cleveland, Allen, and the list goes on. We simply can't accept this. For the eight lives lost in Allen, we will not accept this. For the five lives lost in Cleveland, we will not accept this. For the 19 children and two teachers murdered in Uvalde, we will not accept this. For the 23 lives lost in El Paso, we will not accept this.

We must honor our fellow Texans with action. It is the very least that we can do.

#### RECOGNIZING ELLA BENNETT

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

Ms. SCHOLTON. Mr. Speaker, this May, students from across west Michigan and the Nation will graduate from high school and college. I am honored to recognize one of these outstanding and incredibly bright graduates who hails from Michigan's Third Congressional District today.

Elle Bennett from Ada, Michigan, will graduate first in her class from the United States Military Academy at West Point later this month. After graduating, she will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army.

While at West Point, Elle majored in environmental science and researched wastewater resilience, even having the opportunity to publish and present on her findings. Drawing on her passions, she served as an energy and environment officer at West Point, where she led initiatives to increase recycling and pressed the institution to choose greener options.

On behalf of our West Michigan community, including Elle's proud parents, Bill and Amy, as well as her siblings, Kes and RaVell, I congratulate her on her impressive accomplishments as she graduates from West Point.

#### MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as Mental Health Awareness Month. Now, more than ever, we must acknowledge the mental health crisis facing our Nation, particularly among school-aged children.

Repercussions from the pandemic and increased social pressure from social media have led to reports of rapidly rising mental health struggles.

In my home State of North Carolina, our K through 12 students are struggling. Last month, I hosted a round-table with school counselors, administrators, and teachers to hear firsthand about the challenges impacting young people. Suicide attempts and youth depression are rising at alarming rates. Congress must act to address students' mental health needs.

I am preparing to reintroduce my bipartisan bill, Improving Mental Health and Wellness in Schools Act, legislation to integrate mental health education and services into existing wellness policies in schools.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation and taking swift action to address the mental health needs of our students.

#### THE RISE IN ANTI-SEMITISM

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

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Jewish American Heritage Month with a message of grave concern about the troubling rise in anti-Semitism around the country and the even more troubling normalization of that anti-Semitism.

Recent data shows that anti-Semitic incidents rose again last year by 36 percent, and New York continues to lead the country in such hateful incidents.

I am not immune from it myself, as you can see from just a small sampling of anti-Semitic attacks I personally have received on social media.

At a recent Judiciary Committee field hearing in my district, a man welcomed us with this sign about George Soros, which is unquestionably and flagrantly anti-Semitic.

As the Biden administration prepares to roll out its national strategy to counter anti-Semitism, I urge my friends on the other side of the aisle to stop invoking George Soros' name and join together to combat the startling rise of anti-Semitism.

#### IN HONOR OF TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, I rise today to recognize the tireless efforts of all the educators in Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

Our dedicated educators play a critical role in shaping the lives of our children, forming the backbone of our educational system.

Their unwavering commitment to providing quality education to our children not only deserves our recognition but our support.

They need action in Congress, and I am proud to co-lead the Educators for America Act, a comprehensive legislative package which will invest in our children and support the recruitment and retention of diverse, well-qualified educators across the country.

I am also a cosponsor of the American Teacher Act, which will ensure that teacher salaries reflect the tremendous value educators bring to our communities.

Our communities are strongest when we invest in our teachers and provide them with the resources and tools they need to succeed.

On behalf of Ohio's 13th Congressional District, I sincerely thank our teachers for their countless contributions to our children and our society. Their dedication and passion for teaching inspires us all, and we are grateful for the role they play in building better lives and brighter futures for our children, inside and outside the classroom.

#### PRIORITIES FOR THE 2023 FARM BILL

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, recently, I held farm bill listening sessions across North Carolina's First Congressional District, making stops in Hertford, Nash, Pitt, and Wilson Counties to hear directly from our local agriculture community about their priorities in the 2023 farm bill.

Mike Belch, a local farmer, stressed the importance of protecting crop insurance.

Beth Farrell spoke about the need to ensure conservation programs meet the needs of our growers.

Joe Martin raised concerns about pricing, that pricing must keep up with inflation.

Maxine White and many others talked about wanting to see more technology used in the field to ensure the next generation of growers can effectively and efficiently create new ways to do what they do best: feed and clothe America.

I am proud to deliver surveys from eastern North Carolinians to be sub-

mitted for the official record for the 2023 farm bill.

I also heard about the need to address the labor crisis, including addressing the H-2A system. I will keep fighting for our agriculture community.

□ 1715

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL TEACHERS APPRECIATION WEEK

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

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Teachers Appreciation Week. The best way that we can show appreciation in Congress for our teachers is to fight for good wages, hours, and working conditions in the classroom.

In Oregon, the average starting teacher salary is a little over \$39,000. That is lower than the national average. Educators also make 81 cents on the dollar compared to other professionals with similar experience, credentials, and degrees.

Mr. Speaker, 94 percent of U.S. teachers spend their own money on their students to ensure classrooms have the resources they need, like books, supplies, music, and art. Put this all together and it is no wonder teachers can't pay off their student loans or buy homes in the communities where they teach.

We need workers to be able to afford to buy homes in their communities, and we also need to raise teacher pay. Their current salaries aren't keeping up with the rising cost of living. The pay gap is only growing and creating a teacher shortage crisis.

That is why, on National Teachers Appreciation Week, I am proud to co-sponsor the American Teachers Act, which would help States raise the minimum teacher salaries to \$60,000 for public K-12 schools.

Mr. Speaker, I thank our teachers. It is far past time we back them up.

#### ELIMINATE PARKING MINIMUM MANDATES

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

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, our Nation faces an affordable housing and climate crisis. That is why I have introduced the People Over Parking Act to eliminate parking minimum requirements near high-quality public transit.

Parking minimum mandates create a certain number of spaces, regardless of the needs of people who live there. This could add tens of thousands of dollars per space to construction costs.

Additionally, many spaces go unused, even as financial costs are passed on to renters regardless of whether or not

they own a car. In one study, parking mandates increase rent costs by 20 percent.

Our legislation doesn't prevent property owners from providing parking spots. It simply lets owners respond to local demand rather than mandates.

Eliminating parking minimums would also help reduce harmful emissions and reduce the heat island effect in cities.

By encouraging more people to live close to high-quality transit, we can afford more housing, increase transit ridership, protect our climate, and reduce transit congestion.

Mr. Speaker, it is both good housing and climate policy.

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#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO 10TH ANNUAL OUTSTANDING ATTENDANCE RECOGNITION EVENT

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

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the exceptional dedication and commitment of the students and families of Broward County.

As a testament to their perseverance, Broward County Public Schools will be hosting the 10th Annual Outstanding Attendance Recognition Event to honor these amazing students. This event not only acknowledges the students' academic success but also highlights the importance of consistent attendance to ensure our youth have access to quality education and an opportunity to reach their full potential.

It is my honor to congratulate Mathew Bastien, Jowinley Cimeus, Alshine Mondesir, Freya Sykes, Nicole McGowan, and Saioa Elesgarai for their outstanding record of attendance.

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#### HONORING HERBERT PAUL DOUGLAS, JR.

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

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Herbert Paul Douglas, Jr., who passed away as the oldest Olympic medalist in the United States at 101 years old.

Herb Douglas won the bronze medal for the long jump in 1948 at the Summer Olympic Games in London. For 2 years, he attended my alma mater, Xavier University of Louisiana, and later went on to earn his bachelor's degree in physical education and his master's in education from the University of Pittsburgh. Xavier University also awarded him an honorary degree in 2011.

As a student athlete, esteemed businessman, Olympian, and community leader, Herb Douglas excelled and made us proud. May he rest in peace.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF CHICAGO POLICE OFFICER AREANAH PRESTON

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

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the heart-breaking tragedy of a young and courageous public servant, Chicago Police Officer Areanah Preston, who was senselessly killed near her Avalon Park home this past weekend.

Officer Preston, just 24 years of age, had already devoted 3 years to protecting the citizens of Chicago, working tirelessly in the West Roseland community. She was also an exemplary student on the cusp of graduating from Loyola University with a master's of jurisprudence in Chicago today. Areanah's life was marked by her kindness, intellect, and unwavering commitment to service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in offering our shared condolences to Officer Preston's family, friends, and colleagues and to join me in honoring her life and unwavering dedication to protecting and serving the entire city of Chicago.

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#### CELEBRATING HOME FRONT HEROES DAY

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

Mr. ALLRED. Mr. Speaker, this week, I had the honor to introduce a resolution designating May 9 as Home Front Heroes Day. This was an idea from Major John "Lucky" Luckadoo, a 101-year-old World War II veteran and patriot who lives in Dallas.

Home Front Heroes Day would recognize those who sacrificed so much to support our servicemembers and keep our Nation going during the Second World War.

I was so honored last year to celebrate Home Front Heroes Day in person with Lucky himself. We can all learn a lot from Major Luckadoo's leadership, and it is something I hope to carry with me throughout my time in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to know Major Luckadoo, who has worked so hard to make sure that folks who were on the home front get the recognition they deserve. I appreciate the opportunity to play a small role in Lucky's story.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to celebrating Home Front Heroes Day for many years to come.

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#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STRONG). The Chair announces the

Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 7455(a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy:

Mr. RYAN, New York

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#### CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO YEMEN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-40)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Yemen declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012, is to continue in effect beyond May 16, 2023.

The actions and policies of certain former members of the Government of Yemen and others in threatening Yemen's peace, security, and stability continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13611 with respect to Yemen.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 11, 2023.

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#### ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023, TO MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

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#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF FALLEN POLICE OFFICERS

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

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate National Police Week across the country, I rise on the House floor this afternoon to honor the memory of the five fallen police officers who we lost last year in eastern Kentucky.

Three police officers in Prestonsburg, Kentucky, paid the ultimate sacrifice when they were tragically shot in the line of duty on June 30, 2022.

Ralph Harlow Frasure, a 39-year law enforcement veteran who served as captain of the Prestonsburg City Police Department for nearly four decades and a beloved school resource officer at Prestonsburg High School.

William Edward Petrey, a 31-year law enforcement veteran who served the Kentucky State Police, the Prestonsburg Police Department, and, finally, the Floyd County Sheriff's Office.

Jacob Russell Chaffins, a young 28-year-old law enforcement officer who courageously served the Kentucky Army National Guard, the Prestonsburg Police Department, and the Prestonsburg Fire Department and became a U.S. marshal.

Their heroic deaths were the greatest display of love described in John 15:13: “Greater love has no man than this: to lay down his life for his friends.”

It was with great courage of conviction that those three officers lived to protect the people of the United States, the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and especially those in Floyd County.

Two hours west in my district, the London Police Department also grieves the loss of two of their brave officers last year.

Logan Medlock, a young 26-year-old officer with the London City Police Department, a volunteer firefighter for the Keavy Fire Department, and a former correctional officer, was struck and killed by a drunk driver on October 30, 2022. Officer Medlock worked in lockstep with his father, Randy Medlock, on the police force. Together, they strived to make the city of London a safer place to live.

Finally, Travis Hurley, a beloved 21-year veteran of the London Police Department lost a long battle with COVID-19 early last year.

The names of these five brave men will be engraved on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial here in Washington, D.C., along with the names of two other officers from my district:

Oliver Little, a Floyd County sheriff's deputy who died from complications after contracting COVID-19 in the line of duty in 2021.

Dixon Allen Sasser, a veteran of the Harlan Police Department who was shot and killed in the line of duty back in 1918.

President Theodore Roosevelt, who was a former commissioner of the New York City Police Department, once said, “No man is worth his salt who is not ready at all times to risk his body, to risk his well-being, to risk his life, in a great cause.”

In a nation where police officers have been vilified in recent years by the actions of a few bad actors, may the lives of these fallen officers be a reminder of the outstanding integrity and sacrifice that the thin blue line represents.

We must continue to support our law enforcement officers across the country, ensuring they are fully equipped, adequately prepared, and never at the mercy of evildoers.

This Nation owes a great debt of gratitude for the valiant service of our fallen heroes. May their loved ones find peace and confidence in God's promise in Matthew 5:9: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

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

□ 1730

#### NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, 3 weeks ago, this body passed my commonsense resolution, H.J. Res. 42, to repeal the D.C. City Council's severely misguided anti-police law. We did so with bipartisan support, sending a clear message that the people's House remains resolute in our commitment to both back the men and women in blue of the Metropolitan Police Department and to restore public safety in our Nation's Capital City.

We are only 131 days into 2023, and Washington, D.C., has recorded 77 homicides, 62 incidents of sexual abuse, nearly 500 cases of assault with a dangerous weapon, more than 900 robberies, over 2,400 incidents of motor vehicle theft, and almost 4,200 reported thefts.

Clearly, there is a catastrophic crime crisis here in Washington, D.C., yet D.C. Council Chairman Phil Mendelson insists that there is “not a crime crisis in Washington, D.C.”

Meanwhile, it appears that the D.C. Attorney General is more concerned with the safety risks of gas stoves than the safety of citizens, and Mayor Bowser remains missing in action as criminals terrorize the city.

In an unconvincing attempt to showcase leadership, she held a public safety summit this week to discuss the issue of crime. However, the Mayor knows what must be done. She simply refuses to do it.

This isn't complicated. D.C.'s local government must prosecute criminals and support Metropolitan Police Department officers.

Due to D.C.'s failed local leadership, it is now up to Congress to save our Nation's Capital from itself. We have both the authority and the responsibility to do so, but we must act swiftly.

Residents, small businesses, visitors, and the heroic officers of the Metro-

politan Police Department are counting on us to act. Failure to do so will only embolden the dangerous, violent, and deranged criminals taking over Washington's streets.

So as I did this morning at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, I call on the Senate to pass H.J. Res. 42 and to put people over politics by joining our effort to improve public safety in our Nation's Capital City. I urge President Biden to follow suit, just as he did in our fight to nullify the Council's soft-on-crime Revised Criminal Code Act.

We must use our authority outlined in Article I, section 8, clause 17 of the United States Constitution to not only protect Americans in Washington but to protect MPD officers risking their lives to defend law and order in D.C.

Mr. Speaker, the clock is ticking, and we don't have a minute to waste.

The Senate needs to get this done and pass H.J. Res. 42 for the American people.

#### DEFENDING AMERICANS' SECOND AMENDMENT FREEDOMS

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the defense of Americans' Second Amendment freedoms.

In January, the ATF finalized its unconstitutional rule pertaining to firearms with stabilizing braces. Under the ATF's new rule, any pistol-braced firearm would be considered an unregistered short-barreled rifle, subjecting these firearms to draconian regulations under the National Firearms Act of 1934.

The ATF informed law-abiding gun owners possessing pistols housing these braces that they will have only 120 days to register these firearms or risk harsh NFA violations, including hefty fines of up to \$250,000 and up to 10 years in jail. This 120-day amnesty window ends later this month on May 31.

Now, keep in mind, this rule doesn't just violate Americans' Second Amendment liberties. It also subverts Congress' sole legislative authority because Congress makes laws, not unelected anti-gun bureaucrats at the ATF.

Yet, with the snap of ATF Director Dettelbach's finger—and nonexistent authority—millions of law-abiding gun owners, including many disabled veterans, will become criminals, felons, overnight if they refuse to register, turn in, destroy, or dismantle their pistol-braced firearms.

For months I have promised gun owners that I would relentlessly fight the ATF's unconstitutional pistol brace rule on their behalf, and I meant it.

Later this month, this body will pass my Congressional Review Act joint resolution, H.J. Res. 44, to prevent the Biden administration's tyrannical measure from taking effect.

We are not giving 1 inch in our constitutional right to keep and bear arms—not 1 inch, Mr. Speaker.

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

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, May 15, 2023, at noon for morning-hour debate.

## EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first quarter of 2023, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	
Hon. Randy Feenstra .....	2/3	2/5	Mexico .....	715.00	481.00	116.00	1,312.00			
Hon. Max Miller .....	2/19	2/24	Poland .....	973.50	14,029.88	302.75	15,306.13			
Committee total .....				1,688.50	14,510.88	418.75	16,618.13			

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. GLENN THOMPSON, Apr. 27, 2023.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	
Hon. Ken Calvert .....	3/12	3/15	Japan .....	1,059.45	20,693.25	609.97	22,362.67			
	3/15	3/16	Taiwan .....	281.51		206.21	487.72			
	3/16	3/17	South Korea .....	337.09		534.05	871.14			
Hon. Tom Cole .....	3/12	3/15	Japan .....	1,059.45	11,817.85	609.97	13,487.27			
	3/15	3/16	Taiwan .....	281.51		206.21	487.72			
	3/16	3/17	South Korea .....	337.09		534.05	871.14			
Hon. Steve Womack .....	3/12	3/15	Japan .....	1,059.44	11,817.85	609.97	13,487.26			
	3/15	3/16	Taiwan .....	281.51		206.21	487.72			
	3/16	3/17	South Korea .....	337.09		534.05	871.14			
Hon. David Joyce .....	3/12	3/15	Japan .....	1,059.44	11,125.15	609.97	12,794.56			
	3/15	3/16	Taiwan .....	281.51		206.21	487.72			
	3/16	3/17	South Korea .....	337.09		534.05	871.14			
Hon. Michael Garcia .....	3/12	3/15	Japan .....	1,059.44	20,991.25	609.97	22,660.66			
	3/15	3/16	Taiwan .....	281.51		206.21	487.72			
	3/16	3/17	South Korea .....	337.09		534.05	871.14			
Hon. Ed Case .....	3/12	3/15	Japan .....	1,059.43	17,868.45	609.97	19,537.85			
	3/15	3/16	Taiwan .....	281.51		206.21	487.72			
	3/16	3/17	South Korea .....	337.09		534.05	871.14			
Nicholas Vance .....	3/12	3/15	Japan .....	1,059.43	14,411.95	609.97	16,081.35			
	3/15	3/16	Taiwan .....	281.52		206.21	487.73			
	3/16	3/17	South Korea .....	674.18		534.05	1,208.23			
David Bortnick .....	3/11	3/15	Japan .....	1,427.18	14,684.95	609.97	16,722.10			
	3/15	3/16	Taiwan .....	281.52		206.21	487.73			
	3/16	3/17	South Korea .....	674.18		534.05	1,208.23			
Jason Gray .....	3/12	3/15	Japan .....	1,059.43	7,540.45	609.97	9,209.85			
	3/15	3/16	Taiwan .....	281.52		206.21	487.73			
	3/16	3/17	South Korea .....	674.18		534.05	1,208.23			
Hon. Henry Cuellar .....	3/18	3/21	Mexico .....	821.00	1,373.83	241.25	2,436.08			
Hon. Tony Gonzales .....	3/18	3/21	Mexico .....	821.00	1,287.53	241.25	2,349.78			
Hon. Jerry Carl .....	3/17	3/19	Panama .....	476.00	768.65		1,244.65			
Hon. Andrew Clyde .....	2/10	2/11	Greece .....	217.00		975.45	1,192.45			
	2/11	2/13	Romania .....	443.91		362.83	806.74			
	2/13	2/14	Poland .....	224.10		161.20	385.30			
Hon. Jerry Carl .....	2/19	2/21	Mexico .....	991.00			991.00			
	2/21	2/23	Guatemala .....	269.58			269.58			
	2/23	2/24	Honduras .....	187.00			187.00			
Hon. Mario Diaz-Balart .....	3/15	3/15	Dominican Republic .....	88.00	535.75	116.97	740.72			
Hon. Guy Reschenthaler .....	3/15	3/16	Dominican Republic .....	231.00	1,097.13	116.97	1,445.10			
Hon. Mike Quigley .....	3/15	3/15	Dominican Republic .....	88.00	676.65	116.97	881.62			
Susan Adams .....	3/15	3/16	Dominican Republic .....	231.00	1,097.13	116.97	1,445.10			
Erin Kolodjeski .....	3/15	3/16	Dominican Republic .....	231.00	1,097.13	116.97	1,445.10			
Clelia Alvarado .....	3/15	3/16	Dominican Republic .....	231.00	1,097.13	116.97	1,445.10			
Hon. Jake Elzer .....	2/16	2/19	Germany .....	1,263.00		3,472.95	4,735.95			
	2/19	2/20	Poland .....	531.50		1,916.14	2,447.64			
	2/21	2/21	Ukraine .....	151.83	1,000.00	154.45	1,306.28			
	2/22	2/22	Poland .....		2,168.04		2,168.04			
	2/22	2/23	Canada .....	283.94		364.03	647.97			
Committee total .....				24,262.25	143,150.12	20,743.44	188,155.81			

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. KAY GRANGER, Apr. 28, 2023.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	
Hon. Kelly Armstrong .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....	700.00		(3)				700.00
Hon. Kelly Armstrong .....	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....	557.10		(3)				557.10
Hon. Kelly Armstrong .....	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....	816.00		(3)				816.00
Hon. Gus Bilirakis .....	2/10	2/11	Greece .....	216.52		(3)				216.52
Hon. Gus Bilirakis .....	2/11	2/13	Romania .....	346.28		(3)				346.28
Hon. Gus Bilirakis .....	2/13	2/14	Poland .....	225.27		(3)				225.27
Hon. Mariannette Miller Meeks .....	2/3	2/5	Mexico .....	715.00		(3)				715.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3576.17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,576.17

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.<sup>3</sup> Military air transportation.

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, May 1, 2023.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>

## HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY, May 1, 2023.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Taryn Woody .....	2/17	2/18	Qatar .....	.....	384.00	.....	8,646.05	.....	.....	.....	9,030.05
John Morrisroe .....	2/17	2/18	Qatar .....	.....	384.00	.....	7,707.05	.....	.....	.....	8,091.05
Mark Akpaninyie .....	2/17	2/18	Qatar .....	.....	384.00	.....	7,707.05	.....	.....	.....	8,091.05
Aaron Jordan .....	2/17	2/18	Qatar .....	.....	384.00	.....	8,547.85	.....	.....	.....	8,931.85
Taryn Woody .....	2/18	2/19	UAE .....	.....	551.00	.....	69.09	.....	183.43	.....	803.52
John Morrisroe .....	2/18	2/19	UAE .....	.....	551.00	.....	69.09	.....	183.43	.....	803.52
Mark Akpaninyie .....	2/18	2/19	UAE .....	.....	551.00	.....	69.08	.....	183.42	.....	803.50
Aaron Jordan .....	2/18	2/19	UAE .....	.....	551.00	.....	69.08	.....	183.42	.....	803.50
Taryn Woody .....	2/20	2/24	Tajikistan .....	.....	1,263.00	.....	170.25	.....	81.00	.....	1,514.25
John Morrisroe .....	2/20	2/24	Tajikistan .....	.....	1,263.00	.....	170.25	.....	81.00	.....	1,514.25
Mark Akpaninyie .....	2/20	2/24	Tajikistan .....	.....	1,263.00	.....	170.25	.....	81.00	.....	1,514.25
Aaron Jordan .....	2/20	2/24	Tajikistan .....	.....	1,263.00	.....	170.25	.....	81.00	.....	1,514.25
Taryn Woody .....	2/24	2/26	Uzbekistan .....	.....	570.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	570.00
John Morrisroe .....	2/24	2/26	Uzbekistan .....	.....	570.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	570.00
Mark Akpaninyie .....	2/24	2/26	Uzbekistan .....	.....	570.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	570.00
Aaron Jordan .....	2/24	2/26	Uzbekistan .....	.....	570.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	570.00
Hon. David Cicilline .....	2/16	2/19	Germany .....	.....	904.00	.....	5,504.05	.....	.....	.....	6,408.05
Hon. Michael McCaul .....	2/19	2/24	Poland .....	.....	973.50	.....	2,531.00	.....	151.60	.....	3,656.10
Hon. Darrell Issa .....	2/19	2/24	Poland .....	.....	973.50	.....	2,531.00	.....	151.60	.....	3,656.10
Hon. Keith Self .....	2/19	2/24	Poland .....	.....	973.50	.....	2,531.00	.....	151.60	.....	3,656.10
Katherine Earle .....	2/19	2/24	Poland .....	.....	973.50	.....	2,531.00	.....	151.60	.....	3,656.10
McLaurine Pinover .....	2/19	2/24	Poland .....	.....	973.50	.....	2,531.00	.....	151.60	.....	3,656.10
Hon. Michael McCaul .....	2/21	2/21	Ukraine .....	.....	151.83	.....	1,750.00	.....	270.30	.....	2,172.13
Hon. Darrell Issa .....	2/21	2/21	Ukraine .....	.....	151.83	.....	1,750.00	.....	270.29	.....	2,172.12
Hon. Keith Self .....	2/21	2/21	Ukraine .....	.....	151.83	.....	1,750.00	.....	270.29	.....	2,172.12
Katherine Earle .....	2/21	2/21	Ukraine .....	.....	151.83	.....	1,750.00	.....	270.29	.....	2,172.12
Brendan Shields .....	2/19	2/22	El Salvador .....	.....	645.45	.....	520.33	.....	412.20	.....	1,577.98
Cart Weland .....	2/19	2/22	El Salvador .....	.....	645.45	.....	520.33	.....	412.19	.....	1,577.97
Maggie Goessler .....	2/19	2/22	El Salvador .....	.....	645.45	.....	520.33	.....	412.19	.....	1,577.97
Brendan Shields .....	2/22	2/26	Mexico .....	.....	1,399.08	.....	520.33	.....	1,628.00	.....	3,547.41
Cart Weland .....	2/22	2/26	Mexico .....	.....	1,399.08	.....	520.33	.....	1,628.00	.....	3,547.41
Maggie Goessler .....	2/22	2/26	Mexico .....	.....	1,399.08	.....	520.33	.....	1,628.00	.....	3,547.41
Joe Foltz .....	3/13	3/18	DRC .....	.....	745.00	.....	11,825.80	.....	.....	.....	12,570.80
Christopher Kulukundis .....	3/13	3/18	DRC .....	.....	745.00	.....	11,825.80	.....	.....	.....	12,570.80
Alexandra Davis .....	3/13	3/18	DRC .....	.....	745.00	.....	11,825.80	.....	.....	.....	12,570.80
Hon. Maria Salazar .....	3/18	3/20	Mexico .....	.....	821.00	.....	.....	.....	45.64	.....	866.64
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26,640.41	.....	97,323.77	.....	9,063.09	.....	133,027.27

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

HON. MICHAEL T. McCUAL, May 1, 2023.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>

## HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. BRYAN STEIL, Apr. 24, 2023.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure	Country	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency

HOUSE COMMITTEES  
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JIM JORDAN, Apr. 30, 2023.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure	Country	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency

HOUSE COMMITTEES  
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JAMES COMER, Apr. 27, 2023.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure	Country	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency

HOUSE COMMITTEES  
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. TOM COLE, Apr. 26, 2023.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure	Country	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency

HOUSE COMMITTEES  
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MIKE BOST, May 1, 2023.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total		
	Arrival	Departure	Country	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Hon. Kelly Armstrong .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....		700.00						700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....		557.10						557.10
	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....		816.00						816.00
Hon. Donald S. Beyer, Jr. .....	2/19	2/20	Mexico .....		699.56						699.56
	2/21	2/22	Guatemala .....		475.92						475.92
	2/23	2/24	Honduras .....		285.00						285.00
Hon. Mike Carey .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....		700.00						700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....		557.10						557.10
	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....		816.00						816.00
Hon. Lloyd Doggett .....	2/17	2/20	Italy .....		384.00		3,055.50				3,439.50
	2/20	2/22	Czech Republic .....		214.00		1,301.70				1,515.70
	2/22	2/25	Austria .....		342.00		1,134.15				1,476.15
Hon. Michelle Fischbach .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....		700.00						700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....		557.10						557.10
	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....		816.00						816.00
David Giordano .....	3/10	3/19	Indonesia .....		2,007.77		16,742.25				18,750.02
	2/7	2/11	India .....		1,347.37		7,510.25				8,857.62
Estephania Gongora .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....		700.00						700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....		557.10						557.10
	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....		816.00						816.00
Hon. Brian Higgins .....	2/17	2/20	Italy .....		384.00		3,055.50				3,439.50
	2/20	2/22	Czech Republic .....		214.00		1,301.70				1,515.70
	2/22	2/25	Austria .....		342.00		1,134.15				1,476.15
Hon. Daniel T. Kildee .....	2/19	2/20	Mexico .....		699.56						699.56
	2/21	2/22	Guatemala .....		475.92						475.92
	2/23	2/24	Honduras .....		285.00						285.00
Nicole Malliotakis .....	2/10	2/11	Greece .....		210.48						210.48
	2/11	2/13	Romania .....		421.56						421.56
	2/13	2/14	Poland .....		195.67						195.67
Hon. Carol D. Miller .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....		700.00						700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....		557.10						557.10
	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....		816.00						816.00
Cole Miller .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....		700.00						700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....		557.10						557.10
	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....		678.00						678.00
James O'Brien .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....		700.00						700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....		557.10						557.10

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Hon. Jimmy Panetta .....	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....	816.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	816.00
	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....	700.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....	718.73	.....	3,574.41	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,293.14
Hon. Jack Rosemond .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....	700.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....	557.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	557.10
Johnny Rubin .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....	700.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....	557.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	557.10
Jorge Rueda .....	3/10	3/18	Guyana .....	678.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	678.00
	3/10	3/19	Indonesia .....	2,007.77	.....	16,742.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,750.02
Terri Sewell .....	2/7	2/11	India .....	1,213.89	.....	7,510.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,724.14
	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....	700.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....	557.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	557.10
	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....	816.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	816.00
Hon. Adrian Smith .....	2/19	2/20	Mexico .....	699.56	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	699.56
	2/21	2/22	Guatemala .....	475.92	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	475.92
	2/23	2/24	Honduras .....	285.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	285.00
Hon. Jason Smith .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....	700.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....	557.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	557.10
	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....	816.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	816.00
Josh Snead .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....	700.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....	557.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	557.10
Hon. Beth Van Duyne .....	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....	700.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....	557.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	557.10
	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....	816.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	816.00
Katherine White .....	2/7	2/11	India .....	1,391.37	.....	7,510.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,901.62
	3/12	3/14	Mexico .....	700.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700.00
	3/14	3/16	Ecuador .....	557.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	557.10
	3/16	3/18	Guyana .....	678.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	678.00
Alexandra Whittaker .....	3/10	3/19	Indonesia .....	2,007.77	.....	16,742.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,750.02
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	47,093.22	.....	87,314.61	.....	.....	.....	.....	134,407.83

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

HON. JASON SMITH, May 1, 2023.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Hon. Michael Gallagher .....	2/16	2/20	Asia .....	931.14	.....	8,063.45	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,994.59
Adam Howard .....	2/16	2/20	Asia .....	931.14	.....	7,336.75	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,267.89
Rushton Turner .....	2/16	2/20	Asia .....	931.13	.....	7,336.75	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,267.88
Will Evans .....	2/16	2/20	Asia .....	931.13	.....	8,246.65	.....	.....	.....	.....	9,177.78
Hon. Michael Turner .....	3/30	4/5	Europe .....	1,198.09	.....	13,055.85	.....	.....	.....	.....	14,253.94
Hon. Chris Stewart .....	3/30	4/6	Europe .....	514.13	.....	7,662.65	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,176.78
Hon. Darin LaHood .....	3/30	4/2	Europe .....	185.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	185.00
Rick Crawford .....	3/30	3/30	Europe .....	208.70	.....	175.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	383.70
Kelly Repair .....	3/30	4/6	Europe .....	1,198.09	.....	3,622.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,820.34
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	7,028.55	.....	55,499.35	.....	.....	.....	.....	62,527.90

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

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER, Apr. 27, 2023.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
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HOUSE COMMITTEES  
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JASON SMITH, Apr. 24, 2023.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,  
ETC.

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

EC-908. A letter from the Acting Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Bay Area Air Quality Management District; Nonattainment New Source Review; 2015 Ozone Standard [EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0102; FRL-10369-02-R9] received May 5, 2023, pursuant

to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-909. A letter from the Acting Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Aspergillus Flavus Strain AF36; Amendment to an Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0940; FRL-10871-01-OCSPP] received May 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-910. A letter from the Acting Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Cyflufenamid; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2021-0788; FRL-10880-01-OCSPP] received May 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-911. A letter from the Acting Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Fomesafen; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0005; FRL-

10908-01-OCSPP] received May 5, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-912. A letter from the Chairman and General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting the Semiannual Report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 2022–March 31, 2023; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-913. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting a notification of a nomination and an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-914. A letter from the Legal Tech, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Graduate Boat Parade, Sturgeon Bay, WI [Docket Number: USCG-2022-0184] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-915. A letter from the Legal Tech, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Celebrate Our Stars and Stripes Fireworks, Raritan Bay, Perth Amboy, NJ [Docket Number: USCG-2022-0281] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-916. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Potomac River, Between Charles County, MD and King George County, VA [Docket Number: USCG-2022-0330] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-917. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile Marker 94 to 97 Above Head of Passes, New Orleans, LA [Docket Number: USCG-2022-0333] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-918. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Lake of the Ozarks, Mile Marker 7 Lake of the Ozarks, MO [Docket Number: USCG-2022-0646] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-919. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Ohio River, Cincinnati, OH [Docket Number: USCG-2022-0614] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-920. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Ohio River, Cincinnati, OH [Docket Number: USCG-2022-0660] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A);

Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-921. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.a. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0665; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00625-R; Amendment 39-22405; AD 2023-07-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-922. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-923. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-924. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-925. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-926. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-927. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-928. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-929. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-930. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-931. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-932. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-933. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-934. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-935. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-936. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-937. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-938. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corporation Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0022; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00564-E; Amendment 39-22400; AD 2023-06-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-939. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Canada Limited Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1488; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00788-R; Amendment 39-22391; AD 2023-06-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-940. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1404; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01044-A; Amendment 39-22410; AD 2023-07-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-941. 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-2023-0925; Project Identifier AD-2023-00255-T; Amendment 39-22411; AD 2023-07-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-942. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0019; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01155-T; Amendment 39-22393; AD 2023-06-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-943. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0023; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01030-T; Amendment 39-22398; AD 2023-06-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 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. 498. A bill to amend title V of the Public Health Service Act to secure the suicide prevention lifeline from cybersecurity incidents, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-52). Referred to the Committee on the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 801. A bill to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to provide for suspension of entries and imports from designated countries to prevent the spread of communicable diseases and import into the United States of certain controlled substances (Rept. 118-53). Referred to the Committee on 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. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. McCaul, Mr. HILL, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. GIMENEZ):

H.R. 3202. A bill to prohibit any official action to recognize or normalize relations with any Government of Syria that is led by Bashar al-Assad, 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. BARR (for himself, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. McGARVEY):

H.R. 3203. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to Chinese producers of synthetic opioids and opioid precursors, to hold Chinese officials accountable for the spread of illicit fentanyl, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Oversight and Accountability, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. OMAR (for herself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. BUSH, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. TONKO, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. GALLEGOS, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. BALINT, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. NADLER, Mr. POCAN, Mr. CARSON, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. McGARVEY, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CASAR, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. FROST, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CHU, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. TOKUDA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. OCASIO-CORTÉZ, Mr. EVANS, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. MENG, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 3204. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 and the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make breakfasts and lunches free for all children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Science, Space, and Technology, 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. McCaul:

H.R. 3205. A bill to disrupt the international fentanyl supply chain, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Oversight and Accountability, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MASSIE (for himself, Mr. BACON, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. CLINE, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. FALLON, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. GRIFFITH, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. PERRY, Mr. POSEY, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. OGLES):

H.R. 3206. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the inclusion in gross income of Social Security benefits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. EVANS, Mr. KILMER, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. TITUS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. NICKEL, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. NADLER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 3207. A bill to establish a grant program to address the crises in accessing affordable housing and child care through the co-location of housing and child care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, 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. JACKSON LEE (for herself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. COHEN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts):

H.R. 3208. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. ARRINGTON (for himself, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. PFLUGER, and Mr. JACKSON of Texas):

H.R. 3209. A bill to amend the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 to designate the Texas and New Mexico portions of the future Interstate-designated segments of the Port-to-Plains Corridor as Interstate Route 27, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 3210. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the corporate alternative minimum tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. GARBARINO):

H.R. 3211. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to carry out a competitive grant program to support community colleges and career and technical education centers in developing immersive technology education and training programs for workforce development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. BOEBERT (for herself, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. OGLES, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. ROSENDALE, and Mr. WEBER of Texas):

H.R. 3212. A bill to repeal each gun control measure enacted by the 117th Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Armed Services, Veterans' Affairs, Energy and Commerce, and Appropriations, 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. COHEN:

sions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BOST (for himself, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, and Mr. BERGMAN):

H.R. 3213. A bill to amend title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965 with respect to partnership grants for the establishment of rural teaching residency programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. BROWNLEY (for herself and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia):

H.R. 3214. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax credits to veterans for the establishment of franchises; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BURCHETT (for himself, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. BACON, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GUEST, Mr. FALLON, and Mr. NORMAN):

H.R. 3215. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for life imprisonment for certain offenses involving Fentanyl, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. CAMMACK (for herself, Mr. SOTO, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, and Ms. PEREZ):

H.R. 3216. A bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to reauthorize and improve the ReConnect loan and grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARTER of Texas:

H.R. 3217. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to tighten asylum laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. STEUBE, and Ms. SCHOLTEN):

H.R. 3218. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to report to Congress on the process by which air traffic control tower facilities are chosen for replacement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK:

H.R. 3219. A bill to provide for a moratorium on evictions from and foreclosures on residences during a major disaster or emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. BROWN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 3220. A bill to enhance coverage and oversight of occupational safety and health standards in correctional facilities, 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 Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 3221. A bill to prohibit States from carrying out more than one Congressional redistricting after a decennial census and apportionment, to require States to conduct

such redistricting through independent commissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. NADLER, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 3222. A bill to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 3223. A bill to authorize additional district judges for the district court for the eastern district of California; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. D'ESPOSITO (for himself, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 3224. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to extend the authorization of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. DELUZIO (for himself and Mr. MRVAN):

H.R. 3225. A bill to improve the management and performance of the capital asset programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs so as to better serve veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. ESHOO (for herself, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BURGESE, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 3226. A bill to reauthorize the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ESTES (for himself and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 3227. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act with respect to nursing facility requirements, 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. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mr. GOLDEN of Maine):

H.R. 3228. A bill to establish the Mental Health in Schools Excellence Program to increase the recruitment and retention of school-based mental health services providers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mr. GOLDEN of Maine):

H.R. 3229. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to apply the prohibition against contributions and donations by foreign nationals in connection with elections to contributions or donations in connection with ballot initiatives and referenda; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. FOXX (for herself and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 3230. A bill to amend the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 to provide for regulatory impact analyses for certain rules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, the Budget, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GALLEGOS:

H.R. 3231. A bill to permit the Secretary of Treasury to impose special measures on transactions related to illicit fentanyl trafficking; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. TURNER, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 3232. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to direct the forgiveness or offset of an overpayment of retired pay paid to a joint account for a period after the death of the retired member of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois (for himself, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. CHU, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. POCAN, Mr. TRONE, Ms. BUSH, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 3233. A bill to remove college cost as a barrier to every student having access to a well-prepared and diverse educator workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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 Mr. GOLDEN of Maine (for himself, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 3234. A bill to authorize the immediate expulsion of inadmissible aliens attempting to enter the United States by fraud or without a necessary entry document, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. COLE, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mrs. LEE of Nevada):

H.R. 3235. A bill to grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. BACON, Mr. ELLZEY, and Mr. ZINKE):

H.R. 3236. A bill to ensure that Federal laws that enable Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply equally to Tribal law enforcement agencies; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. JOYCE of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. SARBANES):

H.R. 3237. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require each off-campus outpatient department of a provider to include a unique identifier on claims for items and services, and to require providers with a department of a provider to submit to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services an attestation with respect to each such department; 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. LAHOOD (for himself, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. BEYER, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr.

KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FERGUSON, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. KUSTOFF, Ms. CHU, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. CAREY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. EMMER, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. ROSE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. BALDERSON, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. COHEN, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LAMALFA, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. PEREZ, Mr. MOLNARO, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Ms. MANNING, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mr. LATURNER):

H.R. 3238. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. EVANS, Ms. SCANLON, and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 3239. A bill to address systemic racism through the arts and humanities in the United States; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. LEE of Nevada (for herself, Mrs. STEEL, and Mr. TRONE):

H.R. 3240. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Veterans Association of Real Estate Professionals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. LESKO:

H.R. 3241. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to revise section 97.307(f) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, to allow greater flexibility in the amateur radio service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 3242. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to establish a permanent Bank Term Funding Program to provide member banks and other depository institutions with short-term liquidity against long-term assets; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 3243. A bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to allow the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to guarantee noninterest-bearing transaction accounts for a certain period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER (for himself, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. BARR, and Mrs. KIM of California):

H.R. 3244. A bill to provide authority to the Secretary of Treasury to take special measures against certain entities outside of the United States of primary money laundering concern in connection with illicit fentanyl and narcotics financing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, 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. MACE (for herself and Ms. MCCOLLUM):

H.R. 3245. A bill to strengthen the partnership between the nonprofit organizations and the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, 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. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. KEATING, Ms. WILD, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. GALLEG):

H.R. 3246. A bill to authorize the imposition of sanctions with respect to any foreign person endangering the integrity or safety of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant; 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 Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. MORELLE, and Mr. PAYNE):

H.R. 3247. A bill to prohibit the purchase, ownership, or possession of enhanced body armor by civilians, with exceptions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself and Ms. DEGETTE):

H.R. 3248. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase price transparency of clinical diagnostic laboratory tests 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. MOORE of Utah (for himself and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 3249. A bill to provide incentives for the domestic production of printed circuit boards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Science, Space, and Technology, 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. MORELLE (for himself and Mr. LANGWORTHY):

H.R. 3250. A bill to recognize the Margaret Woodbury Strong Museum in Rochester, New York; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MOYLAN (for himself, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. MACE, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. HUNT, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. MILLS, and Mr. STRONG):

H.R. 3251. A bill to permit the territories of the United States to provide and furnish statues for placement in the national statutory hall; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3252. A bill to authorize additional district judgeships for the district of Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. MOORE of Utah):

H.R. 3253. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the differential wage payment credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PAYNE (for himself and Mr. STRONG):

H.R. 3254. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a process to review applications for certain grants to purchase equipment or systems that do not meet or exceed any applicable national voluntary consensus standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. PAYNE (for himself, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. EVANS, Mr. NEGUSE, Mrs. FOUSHÉE, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. MOULTON, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 3255. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to sick leave for certain employees of Class I railroads, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PFLUGER (for himself, Mr. HERN, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. PERRY, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. OGLES, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. FINSTAD, Mrs. BICE, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. MOOLENAAR):

H.R. 3256. A bill to provide that Executive Order 14096 shall have no force or effect; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 3257. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prohibit States from using in the administration of an election for Federal office proprietary voting system hardware or software which prevents the system from meeting the voluntary voting system guidelines for interoperability and auditability issued by the Election Assistance Commission under such Act, a voting system whose hardware and software components are manufactured, maintained, or serviced outside the United States, or a voting system which is connected to the Internet; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BEYER, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. PORTER, Ms. CHU, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. BERA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. OMAR, Mr. McGOVERN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BUSH, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. TRONE, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK):

H.R. 3258. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities for creating or enhancing capacity to treat patients with Long COVID through a multidisciplinary approach; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. BUCSHON):

H.R. 3259. A bill to make nationals of Ukraine who are present in the United States eligible for REAL ID benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. SABLAN:

H.R. 3260. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to increase the payment limit under Medicaid for the Northern Mariana Islands; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SÁNCHEZ (for herself, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 3261. A bill to improve the retirement security of United States families by strengthening Social Security; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself and Mr. BILIRAKIS):

H.R. 3262. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to increase transparency of certain health-related ownership information; 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. SCHIFF (for himself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Ms. BARRAGÁN):

H.R. 3263. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to increase and support nurse faculty and clinical preceptors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. MC BATH, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. KILMER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. TITUS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. CARSON, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. PORTER, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. MENG, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 3264. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a refundable tax credit for certain teachers as a supplement to State efforts to provide teachers with a livable wage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. SCHNEIDER (for himself and Ms. STEVENS):

H.R. 3265. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to address the teacher and school leader shortage in early childhood, elementary, and secondary education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. SHERMAN (for himself, Mr. MAST, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. TRONE):

H.R. 3266. A bill to require the Secretary of State to submit annual reports reviewing the curriculum used by the Palestinian Authority, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. WITTMAN):

H.R. 3267. A bill to authorize the provision of non-medical counseling services to a member of the Armed Forces, or a dependent of such member, by a mental health professional, without regard to the location of the provider or recipient of such services; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 3268. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, to establish within the Office of Minority Health, the position of Outreach Coordinator, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STANTON (for himself, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. GALLEGU, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. BIGGS):

H.R. 3269. A bill to modernize Federal firearms laws to account for advancements in technology and less-than-lethal weapons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. STEEL (for herself, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. KUSTOFF, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia):

H.R. 3270. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently increase the standard deduction; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mrs. HINSON):

H.R. 3271. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exclude child and dependent care services and payments from the rate used to compute overtime compensation; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself, Ms. SHERILL, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Mr. CARL):

H.R. 3272. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the brave women who served in World War II as members of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and U.S. Navy Nurse Corps; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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. STEUBE:

H.R. 3273. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds for any DEI activity in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. STRICKLAND (for herself and Ms. SALAZAR):

H.R. 3274. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that the 3-month State residency requirement for applicants for naturalized citizenship do not apply with respect to spouses of members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty at a location in the United States, and for other

purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 3275. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to establish a pilot grant program to address damage from mudslides that occur after a wildland fire, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Ms. VELAZQUEZ (for herself, Ms.

NORTON, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. DOGGETT, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MFUME, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. OMAR, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 3276. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to establish a pilot grant program to make grants to school food authorities to provide 100 percent plant-based food and milk options, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 3277. A bill to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act with respect to functions assigned to Assistant Secretaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WALTZ:

H.R. 3278. A bill to limit the use of military personnel for certain purposes, to direct the Secretary of Defense to appoint a Director of COVID Policy of the Department of Defense, and to limit environmental projects of such Department; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself, Ms. FOXX, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. MANN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ROY, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. KILEY, and Mr. TIFFANY):

H.J. Res. 61. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule of the Department of Labor relating to “Rescission of Implementing Legal Requirements Regarding the Equal Opportunity Clause’s Religious Exemption Rule”; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana):

H.J. Res. 62. A joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Michael Govan as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana):

H.J. Res. 63. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Antoinette Bush as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana):

H.J. Res. 64. A joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Roger W. Ferguson

as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. BUSH (for herself, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Ms. BROWN, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. SOTO):

H. Con. Res. 42. Concurrent resolution honoring Mary Eliza Mahoney, America’s first professionally trained Black nurse; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BERNA (for himself and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H. Res. 389. A resolution acknowledging the essential contributions of frontline health workers to recovering progress and further expanding and sustaining gains in global health, saving the lives of millions of women, men, and children around the world, and strengthening the United States national security and global economic prosperity; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. MENG, Mr. CASE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. BERA, Mr. TRONE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GOMEZ, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. CONNOLY, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. RASKIN):

H. Res. 390. A resolution recognizing the significance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H. Res. 391. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 2023 as “Arthritis Awareness Month”; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself and Mr. HILL):

H. Res. 392. A resolution encouraging greater public-private sector collaboration to promote financial literacy for students and young adults; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California (for himself, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. POCAN, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. BALINT, and Mr. FROST):

H. Res. 393. A resolution honoring all families; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LAMBORN (for himself and Mr. MOULTON):

H. Res. 394. A resolution expressing support for the 60th anniversary of the Polaris Sales Agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin (for herself and Ms. PRESSLEY):

H. Res. 395. A resolution recognizing the work and contributions of doulas towards improving pregnancy, birth, and postpartum outcomes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WEBER of Texas (for himself, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. SANTOS, Ms. MACE, Mr. SELF, Mr. MANN, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. LESKO, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. ELLZEEY, Mr. BABIN, Mr. FALLON, Mr. McCUAUL, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. CRENshaw, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. GOODEN of

Texas, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. ROSE, Mr. DAVIDSON, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. EZELL, Mr. STRONG, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mrs. SPARTZ, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mrs. BICE, Mrs. CAMMACK, and Mr. CRAWFORD:

H. Res. 396. A resolution in honor of mothers, recognizing the significance of motherhood and the impact mothers have on raising the next generation, on the occasion of Mother's Day; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

#### 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. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 3202.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prevent normalization with dictator Bashar al-Assad

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 3203.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To impose sanctions with respect to Chinese producers of synthetic opioids and opioid precursors, to hold Chinese officials accountable for the spread of illicit fentanyl, and for other purposes.

By Ms. OMAR:

H.R. 3204.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Nutrition

By Mr. McCaul:

H.R. 3205.

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 disrupt the international fentanyl supply chain

By Mr. MASSIE:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Tax Reform

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 3207.

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. JACKSON LEE:

H.R. 3208.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is: to establish a DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 3209.

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:

Transportation

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 3210.

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:

Taxation

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 3211.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Supporting immersive technology education and training programs for workforce development and for other purposes.

By Mrs. BOEBERT:

H.R. 3212.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.:

The single subject of this legislation is:

Preservation of the Second Amendment

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 3213.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Rural education

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 3214.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Amendment XVI

The single subject of this legislation is:

veteran-owned small business

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 3215.

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:

To amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for life imprisonment for certain offenses involving Fentanyl, and for other purposes

By Mrs. CAMMACK:

H.R. 3216.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill amends the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to reauthorize and improve the ReConnect loan and grant program.

By Mr. CARTER of Texas:

H.R. 3217.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 Article 1 of the US Constitution

to provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Asylum

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 3218.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution provides Congress with the authority to "provide for the common Defense and general Welfare" of Americans.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill will bring transparency to the FAA's air traffic control tower replacement process.

By Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK:

H.R. 3219.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Housing

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 3220.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health/Safety of Incarcerated Workers

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 3221.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 4

The single subject of this legislation is:

Redistricting

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 3222.

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 require the Supreme Court to permit television coverage of all open sessions of the Court

By Mr. COSTA:

H.R. 3223.

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:

Seats on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California

By Mr. D'ESPOSITO:

H.R. 3224.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to extend the authorization of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

By Mr. DELUZIO:

H.R. 3225.

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:

Veterans Affairs

By Ms. ESHOO:

H.R. 3226.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To reduce premature births

By Mr. ESTES:

H.R. 3227.

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:

This bill repeals certain restrictions under Medicare and Medicaid that prohibit the approval of nurse-aide training and competency evaluation programs in skilled nursing facilities that have been subject to specified regulatory actions (e.g., civil penalties) for substandard quality of care.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 3228.

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:

This bill establishes a program to expand the mental health services workforce in schools.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 3229.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Elections

By Ms. FOXX:

H.R. 3230.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The authority to enact this bill is derived from, but may not be limited to, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution, and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Regulatory Reform

By Mr. GALLEGTO:

H.R. 3231.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Sanctions

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 3232.

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:  
Armed Forces and National Security

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois:

H.R. 3233.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill will help create a well-prepared and diverse educator workforce. These reforms will help to ensure that students that are the furthest from opportunity have access to diverse teachers who have completed high-quality pathways into the profession.

By Mr. GOLDEN of Maine:

H.R. 3234.

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:

Authorizing the immediate expulsion of inadmissible aliens attempting to enter the United States

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 3235.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 3236.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:  
to ensure that Federal laws that enable Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply equally to Tribal law enforcement agencies.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3237.

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 promote price transparency among hospitals and insurers on behalf of patients and employers.

By Mr. LAHOOD:

H.R. 3238.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: "The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes . . ."

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill expands and makes reforms to the low-income housing tax credit.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 3239.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Increases access to the arts and humanities

By Mrs. LEE of Nevada:

H.R. 3240.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 provides Congress with the power to "lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises" in order to "provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States."

The single subject of this legislation is:

Veteran Affairs

By Mrs. LESKO:

H.R. 3241.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To allow greater flexibility in data communications in the amateur radio service

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 3242.

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 amend the Federal Reserve Act to establish a permanent Bank Term Funding Program to provide member banks and other depository institutions with short-term liquidity against long-term assets.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 3243.

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 amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to allow the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to guarantee noninterest-bearing transaction accounts for a certain period.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 3244.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide authority to the Secretary of Treasury to take special measures against certain entities outside of the United States of primary money laundering concern in connection with illicit fentanyl and narcotics financing

By Ms. MACE:

H.R. 3245.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To strengthen the partnership between the nonprofit organizations and the Federal Government.

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.R. 3246.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize the imposition of sanctions with respect to any foreign person endangering the integrity or safety of the Zaporzhzhia nuclear power plant.

By Ms. MENG:

H.R. 3247.

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:

Body Armor

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 3248.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

The single subject of this legislation is:  
To lower costs for and improve the health of patients.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 3249.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The single subject of this legislation is tax credits for American manufacturing.

By Mr. MORELLE:

H.R. 3250.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The single subject of this legislation is public museums.

By Mr. MOYLAN:

H.R. 3251.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article one of the United States Constitution Congress has the power to enact this legislation.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill includes territories in the definition of State for the purposes of the national statutory collection in the U.S. capitol

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3252.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize three additional district judgeships for the district of Colorado

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 3253.

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:

Tax

By Mr. PAYNE:

H.R. 3254.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 15: Congress shall have Power to provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions

The single subject of this legislation is:  
public safety.

By Mr. PAYNE:

H.R. 3255.

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 make rules for the common defense and general welfare of the United States as enumerated in Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution. Interstate Commerce

The single subject of this legislation is:

Rail health and safety

By Mr. PFLUGER:

H.R. 3256.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To repeal executive order 14096

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 3257.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Sec 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Government Operations & Politics

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 3258.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill supports the development of multi-disciplinary Long COVID clinics.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 3259.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

REAL ID

By Mr. SABLAM:

H.R. 3260.

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 increase the payment limit under Medicaid for the Northern Mariana Islands

By Ms. SANCHEZ:

H.R. 3261.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To ensure increased benefits for Social Security recipients and improve the financial condition of the Trust Fund.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 3262.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

To promote price transparency among hospitals and insurers on behalf of patients and employers

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 3263.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Nursing school faculty workforce

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 3264.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Taxes

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 3265.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Teacher Retention

By Mr. SHERMAN:

H.R. 3266.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution. [Page H1714]

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Foreign Affairs

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 3267.

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 authorize the provision of non-medical counseling services to a member of the Armed Forces, or a dependent of such member, by a mental health professional, without regard to the location of the provider or recipient of such services.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 3268.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 1, Clause 1

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Public health

By Mr. STANTON:

H.R. 3269.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
To ensure law enforcement agencies throughout the country have access to the most modern less-than-lethal equipment.

By Mrs. STEEL:

H.R. 3270.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Tax

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 3271.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Modifies the Fair Labor Standards Act in

regards to compensation for child or dependent care services benefits or assistance for employees.

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 3272.

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:  
To award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the brave women who served in

World War II as members of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and U.S. Navy Nurse Corps.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 3273.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
To prohibit the use of Federal funds for

any DEI activity in the Armed Forces.

By Ms. STRICKLAND:

H.R. 3274.

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 Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that the 3-month State residency requirement for applicants or naturalized citizenship do not apply with respect to spouses of members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty at a location in the United States, and or other purposes.

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 3275.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:  
mudslide preparedness and recovery

By Ms. VELAZQUEZ:

H.R. 3276.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Education

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 3277.

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 Secretary of Energy to assign energy emergency and energy security functions to an Assistant Secretary, including responsibilities with respect to infrastructure and cybersecurity.

By Mr. WALTZ:

H.R. 3278.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 1, Article 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Military Recruitment

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.J. Res. 61.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

Congressional Review Act 5 USC section 801-808

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Disapproving the Executive Branch action to rescind a previous action.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:

H.J. Res. 62.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reappoints Michael Govan as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:

H.J. Res. 63.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Appoints Antoinette Bush as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:

H.J. Res. 64.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reappoints Roger W. Ferguson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 12: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.  
 H.R. 82: Mr. HORSFORD and Mr. NADLER.  
 H.R. 133: Mr. CAREY.  
 H.R. 190: Mr. BIGGS and Mrs. CAMMACK.  
 H.R. 205: Mr. NADLER and Mr. CROW.  
 H.R. 335: Mrs. LESKO.  
 H.R. 340: Mr. CURTIS and Mr. MOSKOWITZ.  
 H.R. 396: Mr. GRIJALVA.  
 H.R. 494: Mr. DUNN of Florida.  
 H.R. 496: Mr. BURCHETT.  
 H.R. 506: Mr. MILLER of Ohio.  
 H.R. 531: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. PENCE, and Mr. GIMENEZ.  
 H.R. 533: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 536: Mr. KEATING.  
 H.R. 541: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER.  
 H.R. 547: Mr. THANEDAR and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.  
 H.R. 589: Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.  
 H.R. 648: Mr. BOST.  
 H.R. 666: Mr. LIEU.  
 H.R. 694: Mr. CLEAVER.  
 H.R. 700: Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.  
 H.R. 715: Mr. NEAL.  
 H.R. 735: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.  
 H.R. 745: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York.  
 H.R. 789: Mr. CLEAVER.  
 H.R. 807: Mr. JAMES, Mr. EMMER, Mr. BACON, Ms. WILD, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, and Ms. TOKUDA.  
 H.R. 830: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 835: Mr. EMMER.  
 H.R. 882: Mr. ESPAILLAT and Mr. KEATING.  
 H.R. 895: Mrs. STEEL.  
 H.R. 906: Mr. OBERNOLTE and Ms. PINGREE.  
 H.R. 913: Mr. MORELLE.  
 H.R. 930: Mr. MOORE of Utah and Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.  
 H.R. 932: Ms. PEREZ and Mr. STEUBE.  
 H.R. 953: Ms. STANSBURY.  
 H.R. 961: Mr. PETERS.  
 H.R. 987: Mr. LALOTA, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. LEVIN, and Ms. LOFGREN.  
 H.R. 1015: Ms. STRICKLAND and Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.  
 H.R. 1026: Mr. MOYLAN.  
 H.R. 1044: Ms. TOKUDA.  
 H.R. 1050: Mrs. HAYES and Mr. KEATING.  
 H.R. 1096: Mr. PETERS, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.  
 H.R. 1097: Mr. CARL.  
 H.R. 1105: Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. BENTZ, Mr. FITZGERALD, Ms. LEE of Florida, Mr. ALFORD, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BOST, Mr. BARR, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. McCaul, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. BUCSHON.  
 H.R. 1122: Mr. POSEY.  
 H.R. 1147: Mr. WALBERG.  
 H.R. 1191: Mr. GARCIA of Illinois.  
 H.R. 1216: Mr. CLINE.  
 H.R. 1218: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.R. 1250: Mr. CLINE.  
 H.R. 1263: Mr. KEATING.  
 H.R. 1269: Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. KEATING.  
 H.R. 1277: Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. MOORE of Utah, and Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 1294: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Mr. POCAN.  
 H.R. 1322: Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. BARR, Mr. TRONE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.  
 H.R. 1323: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 1351: Mr. RUIZ, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, and Ms. LOFGREN.  
 H.R. 1385: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. POSEY, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. LATURNER.  
 H.R. 1395: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 1406: Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. BOST, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mr. NICKEL.  
 H.R. 1413: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, and Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER.  
 H.R. 1421: Ms. PEREZ.  
 H.R. 1453: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 1458: Mr. CAREY.  
 H.R. 1462: Mr. TIFFANY and Mr. FULCHER.  
 H.R. 1477: Ms. WEXTON and Ms. MANNING.  
 H.R. 1499: Ms. LOFGREN.  
 H.R. 1505: Mr. RUTHERFORD.  
 H.R. 1509: Ms. NORTON and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 1510: Mr. CASTEN, Mrs. McCLELLAN, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mr. KEATING, and Mrs. TRAHAN.  
 H.R. 1555: Mr. VALADAO.  
 H.R. 1582: Mr. RUIZ, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. MANN, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, and Mr. GARBARINO.  
 H.R. 1610: Mr. EVANS.  
 H.R. 1624: Mr. STEUBE and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.  
 H.R. 1640: Mr. VEASEY.  
 H.R. 1679: Ms. LEE of California.  
 H.R. 1685: Mr. NICKEL.  
 H.R. 1699: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Mr. SWALWELL.  
 H.R. 1705: Mr. MORELLE.  
 H.R. 1713: Ms. STEVENS and Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.  
 H.R. 1719: Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. DELUZIO, and Mr. MOLINARO.  
 H.R. 1724: Mr. DUNN of Florida.  
 H.R. 1725: Mr. NEWHOUSE.  
 H.R. 1733: Ms. VAN DUYNE.  
 H.R. 1737: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 1742: Mr. KEATING.  
 H.R. 1761: Mr. OWENS, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. ARRINGTON.  
 H.R. 1769: Mr. CLINE.  
 H.R. 1770: Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. NICKEL, and Ms. KUSTER.  
 H.R. 1776: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS and Mr. SWALWELL.  
 H.R. 1777: Ms. MENG, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. STEUBE, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.  
 H.R. 1794: Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. VEASEY, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.  
 H.R. 1795: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.  
 H.R. 1801: Ms. TOKUDA.  
 H.R. 1816: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. HUIZENGA, and Mr. CLINE.  
 H.R. 1818: Mr. FULCHER, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. CISCOMANI.  
 H.R. 1827: Mrs. LESKO.  
 H.R. 1833: Ms. TITUS and Mrs. FOUSHÉE.  
 H.R. 1837: Ms. TENNEY and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.  
 H.R. 1839: Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. CAREY, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. HUDSON.  
 H.R. 1840: Mr. CASTEN and Mr. TONKO.  
 H.R. 1843: Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.  
 H.R. 2369: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 2384: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.  
 H.R. 2385: Ms. LOFGREN.  
 H.R. 2386: Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.  
 H.R. 2389: Ms. TITUS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. MOLINARO, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. BALINT, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. COLE, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mrs. BICE, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. VASQUEZ, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CASE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CORREA, Mr. CARL, Ms. JACOBS, and Mr. THANEDAR.  
 H.R. 2394: Ms. CRAIG, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mr. CARBAJAL.  
 H.R. 2401: Mr. BOST and Mr. McGOVERN.  
 H.R. 2407: Mr. MEUSER, Mr. ESTES, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. CORREA, Mr. BERA, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. HUNT, Mrs. STEEL, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. WILD, Mr. STEUBE, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. PLASKETT, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. DUNN of Florida, and Mr. CARL.  
 H.R. 2428: Ms. MENG, Ms. SCHOLTEN, and Mr. KEATING.  
 H.R. 2433: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 2447: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 2451: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.  
 H.R. 2463: Ms. SALINAS and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.  
 H.R. 2494: Mr. RESCHENTHALER and Mr. D'ESPOSITO.  
 H.R. 2532: Mr. STANTON and Ms. KUSTER.  
 H.R. 2547: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.  
 H.R. 2548: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
 H.R. 2550: Mr. PASCRELL.  
 H.R. 2567: Ms. KUSTER.  
 H.R. 2573: Mrs. PELTOLA, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. TAKANO.  
 H.R. 2584: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.  
 H.R. 2663: Ms. SCHRIER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CARDENAS, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, and Mr. COHEN.  
 H.R. 2664: Mr. KILMER.  
 H.R. 2665: Mr. VASQUEZ, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. KAPUR, Mr. CAREY, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. STEFANIK, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK, Mr. KEATING, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, and Mr. CUELLAR.  
 H.R. 2666: Mr. SWALWELL and Mr. CRENshaw.  
 H.R. 2672: Mrs. LUNA.  
 H.R. 2673: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LATURNER, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. EMMER, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. SESSIONS, and Ms. PETTERSEN.  
 H.R. 2676: Mr. CARSON and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.  
 H.R. 2685: Mr. CURTIS.  
 H.R. 2711: Mr. KILMER, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.  
 H.R. 2739: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
 H.R. 2757: Ms. PORTER, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. GALLEGOS, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. BACON, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. SABLON, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. LEE of California,

Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. NEGUSE, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. TONKO, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. CASE, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, and Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 2760: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.  
H.R. 2761: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.  
H.R. 2784: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 2801: Mr. SOTO.  
H.R. 2826: Mr. GARBARINO.  
H.R. 2838: Mr. BERGMAN.

H.R. 2870: Mr. KEATING, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 2874: Ms. NORTON, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 2891: Ms. TITUS, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, and Ms. PORTER.

H.R. 2894: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 2904: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2905: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2914: Mrs. SPARTZ.

H.R. 2923: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. AMODEI, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 2928: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 2930: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 2933: Mr. BANKS.

H.R. 2955: Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 2973: Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. MENG, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 2976: Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 2986: Mr. MOONEY.

H.R. 3009: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.

H.R. 3016: Mr. MILLER of Ohio.

H.R. 3021: Mr. FINSTAD.

H.R. 3033: Mr. PFLUGER and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 3037: Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 3038: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 3048: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 3056: Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 3072: Mr. TIFFANY and Ms. HAGEMAN.

H.R. 3074: Mr. WENSTRUP.

H.R. 3080: Mr. CLYBURN and Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 3091: Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. NEHLS, Ms. MACE, Mrs. LESKO, and Ms. LETLOW.

H.R. 3096: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 3098: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 3099: Mr. JAMES.

H.R. 3111: Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 3115: Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 3136: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 3141: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.

H.R. 3143: Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 3148: Mr. MILLER of Ohio.

H.R. 3152: Mr. ALLRED, Mr. COSTA, Mr. HERN, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, and Mr. MILLS.

H.R. 3170: Mr. VALADAO, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. PASCARELL, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 3175: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 3177: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.

H.R. 3183: Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. ALLRED, and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 3191: Mr. ROSENDALE.

H.R. 3195: Mr. FINSTAD.

H.J. Res. 33: Mr. BARR and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.J. Res. 40: Mr. CLINE.

H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. LALOTA and Mr. MOLINARO.

H. Con. Res. 13: Mr. BABIN, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. GIMENEZ, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H. Con. Res. 24: Mr. YAKYM.

H. Con. Res. 33: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. CARAVEO.

H. Con. Res. 40: Mr. RESCHENTHALER and Mr. D'ESPOSITO.

H. Res. 69: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GARBARINO, and Mr. POSEY.

H. Res. 114: Ms. TOKUDA.

H. Res. 269: Mr. MÉNENDEZ.

H. Res. 272: Ms. TITUS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. PAPPAS, and Ms. LEE of California.

H. Res. 288: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Ms. MENG, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H. Res. 324: Mr. KEATING.

H. Res. 334: Mr. KEATING.

H. Res. 339: Ms. DE LA CRUZ and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.

H. Res. 342: Mr. CONNOLLY.

H. Res. 343: Mr. CORREA.

H. Res. 352: Mr. GARBARINO.

H. Res. 362: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. LUBETKEMEYER, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. PETERS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. ALLRED.

H. Res. 363: Mr. HUIZENGA, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. MANN, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, and Mr. HUNT.

H. Res. 375: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H. Res. 376: Mr. GARBARINO.

H. Res. 380: Mr. EVANS.

H. Res. 382: Mr. LAWLER, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. SALAZAR, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. MACE, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. LATTA, and Mr. MOORE of Utah.



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023

No. 80

## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable GARY C. PETERS, a Senator from the State of Michigan.

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Gracious God, most holy, the source of our hope, keep us from dragging the honor of this great Nation in the dust.

Lord, our Senators need Your presence and help for the journey ahead. You have promised that You will never fail or forsake them. So empower them to trust You, come what may. Allow them to minister to those on life's margins, continuing Your work of setting the captives free.

Lord, give our lawmakers wisdom and courage to serve their generation in a way that honors You. May they place their lives and this Nation's future into Your all-powerful hands.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, May 11, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable GARY C. PETERS, a Senator from the State of Michigan, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,  
President pro tempore.

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

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the en bloc con-

sideration of the following joint resolutions, which the clerk will report:

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 23) 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".

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 24) 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".

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

### DEBT CEILING

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, with June 1 only 21 days away, the most important thing congressional leaders can do to protect the well-being of Americans is to say, loud and clear, default is off the table.

That is the assurance the President gave 2 days ago when he met with congressional leaders. It is the assurance Leader JEFFRIES and myself gave that day at the meeting, as well. Even Leader MCCONNELL said the United States will not default on the national debt.

Speaker MCCARTHY, however, continues on a path to drive the country toward disaster. Instead of taking default off the table, Speaker MCCARTHY is taking default hostage.

Let me say that again because that sums up what is happening right now.

Instead of taking default off the table, Speaker MCCARTHY is taking default hostage.

The strategy of the hard right remains "our way or the highway." Either Americans accept devastating

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



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cuts to veterans, law enforcement, and even cancer research, or the hard right will allow default—what a terrible choice.

And that is what makes this default fight uniquely dangerous: The hard right is dominant in the House, and they seem to be ready—seem to be perfectly willing—to let the United States default.

Speaker MCCARTHY realizes his hard-right agenda—as embodied in their “Default on America Act”—cannot win support from the American people on the merits. So he and the hard right are holding the country hostage to default.

And if anyone doubts that the hard right is in control, all they have to do is watch last night’s CNN town hall, where former President Donald Trump openly called on Republicans to “do a default” if they cannot enact their hard-right agenda.

Never mind that, under Donald Trump’s watch, Republicans agreed to avoid default three times without ever getting hung up about unrelated partisan priorities. And never mind that 25 percent—a quarter—of the national debt was actually accumulated while President Trump was in office.

He is openly calling on his party to destroy the economy if they can’t pass their radical agenda.

By now, of course, it is old news that Donald Trump is about as qualified to run the country as a broken brick, but the danger here is he holds enormous sway over Speaker MCCARTHY and the hard right.

If Donald Trump says that it is better for the United States to default than it is for Republicans to compromise, that, unfortunately, only makes default more likely.

Donald Trump’s demand for default would cause tens of millions of Americans to suffer.

This isn’t difficult: Can we all clearly and unmistakably take default off the table? Will Speaker MCCARTHY take default off the table? He is the only one of the five of us who met at the White House who has not answered that.

Speaker MCCARTHY, will you allow the hard right to keep pulling the strings and push our country off a cliff, or will you make it clear that, no matter what, we will preserve the full faith and credit of the United States?

Look, we recognize that Republicans have objections about certain policies, certain spending, certain investments. We do not agree with them, but these discussions are a normal part of the budget process that both sides have engaged in for a long time. This is too important for brinksmanship and reckless ultimatums.

White House staff, along with my office, the Speaker’s office, Leader McCONNELL, and Leader JEFFRIES, will continue to meet in an attempt to find a constructive way forward on the budget, appropriations priorities.

If Speaker MCCARTHY is willing to state that, despite what Trump says,

default is off the table, there can be real progress on the budget. Obviously, as the Speaker of the House, MCCARTHY will have some real influence in that. But that progress should not and cannot be tied to default.

I hope Americans take a moment to listen to the dangerous things President Trump has said last night about default, because he exposed just how unfit MAGA Republicans are for governing and how serious they are about their threats.

(Ms. ROSEN assumed the Chair.)

#### MILITARY NOMINATIONS

Madam President, now, on military holds, I want to talk about the profane and dangerous things a colleague of ours recently said on the radio. For the past couple of months, hundreds of senior military officers and their families have had their lives unnecessarily put on hold because of a Senator from Alabama.

Senator TUBERVILLE’s actions are endangering our military readiness, provoking reaction not just from the current Secretary of Defense but from seven—seven—former Defense Secretaries from both parties.

And, earlier this week, new comments of his came to light where he not only doubled down on his obstruction but also, apparently, bemoaned the military’s efforts to root out White nationalism from our Armed Forces.

Let me read the exchange with Senator TUBERVILLE because it is shocking. During the interview, the Senator was asked:

Do you believe [the Defense Department] should allow White nationalists in the military?

The Senator’s response:

Well, they call them that. I call them Americans.

Can you believe that? Revolting—utterly revolting. Does Senator TUBERVILLE honestly believe that our military is stronger with White nationalists in its ranks? I cannot believe this needs to be said, but White nationalism has no place in our Armed Forces and no place in any corner of American society. Period. Full stop. End of story.

I urge Senator TUBERVILLE to think about the destructive spectacle he is creating in the Senate. His actions are dangerous. His words are gravely damaging, and his refusal to think about the consequences of his actions on our military personnel and families is a stain upon this Chamber.

Senators are called to a higher standard of conduct, but our colleague from Alabama is dragging all of us down. And for what? To push the hard right’s party line on banning freedom of choice.

Senator TUBERVILLE needs to do two things. He needs to come out and state clearly and unequivocally that White nationalism is un-American, and he needs to drop his destructive holds on hundreds of our senior military leaders. This farce is endangering our national security and putting the lives of

men and women who have served our country for decades in real trouble, and it needs to end.

#### BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Madam President, now on Senate business, it has been a very, very busy week on and off the Senate floor. There is so much going on in the country that it may have overshadowed the fact that it has been an extremely busy week and much is being accomplished this week.

On the floor, we confirmed more of President Biden’s appointees to important positions across the government. And today, we will vote to advance Bradley Garcia to serve as a circuit court judge for the DC Circuit, one of the most important Federal courts in the country, teeing up his nomination for Monday when the Senate returns.

Off the floor, our committees are hard at work holding hearings and advancing important nominees and legislation. The Commerce Committee yesterday moved the Railway Safety Act, sponsored by Senators BROWN and VANCE of Ohio, out of committee and with bipartisan support. I thank the Senators from Ohio and Senators CASEY around FETTERMAN from Pennsylvania and other cosponsors for their work on this bill after the derailment in East Palestine.

I look forward to working with them to bring it to the floor for a vote. Today, the HELP Committee is holding a hearing on our bipartisan cannabis legislation, the SAFE Banking Act. We made a lot of good bipartisan progress on SAFE Banking last Congress, and the work is continuing. And there is also a markup today in the HELP Committee on legislation for PBM reform, which could lead to lower costs of insulin for non-Medicare Americans.

It has been a very busy week in the Senate on very important issues that affect us all: rail safety, SAFE Banking, making growing and selling marijuana safe, and PBM reform, which can lead to reduction of insulin costs for non-Medicare people. We will keep moving ahead with our work to support the American people and reward the trust they placed in us.

#### ANNIVERSARY OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK, SHOOTING

Madam President, finally, on the shooting in Buffalo a year ago, this weekend, the hearts of every single American will be with the “City of Good Neighbors,” Buffalo, NY. At 2:30 in the afternoon on Saturday, May 14, of last year, in a predominantly Black neighborhood on Buffalo’s east side, 10 lives were cut short from the worst shooting in Buffalo history—10 beautiful Americans. We will never get them back. They were parents, they were sons and daughters, friends, security guards, a policeman—all taken away from us in just minutes.

I am going to read their names: Ruth Whitfield, Roberta Drury, Aaron Saltier, Jr., Heyward Patterson, Pearl Young, Geraldine Talley, Celestine Chaney, “Kat” Massey, Margus Morrison, Andre Mackneil.

God bless their memories.

I don't know what could possess someone to bring violence to a place like that. But I do know that the Buffalo shooting was a manifestation of the original sin of this Nation, the legacy of slavery and the centuries of racial hatred that continue to poison our society.

It is also one of the worst examples in recent memory of another terrible epidemic in this Nation, the epidemic of gun violence. We have made important progress in the area of gun violence. Last year, in the wake of what happened in Buffalo and Uvalde, the Senate came together in a way that it hadn't for decades, beating back the dark forces of the NRA and passing the first gun safety bill in more than a quarter century. Some of the friends and relatives of those who passed away in Buffalo were instrumental in importuning us to pass this legislation, and I thank them for it, for lighting that candle.

But we have a long way to go and a lot of work to do before our job is done. Gun violence is a shameful blemish on this Nation. We cannot allow ourselves to tolerate it. Indifference on this subject has been a death sentence for too many Americans.

Finally, Madam President, today the Senate will meet for a special caucus to talk about the next steps on gun violence. While nobody pretends progress will come easily, we have a moral obligation to keep pushing, keep fighting, keep working to rid this Nation of gun violence.

May God bless Buffalo and bless all the families impacted by the tragedy 1 year ago.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, the Biden administration's reckless policies have created chaos on our southern border, and further mistakes from the Democrats are taking things from very bad to even worse.

For more than 2 years now, President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas have proven they are either incapable, unwilling, or uninterested in defending and maintaining our borders. Illegal crossings at our southern border have exploded under this administration—2.38 million in fiscal year 2022 alone. And that is just the subset of people whom the authorities actually found and stopped. It doesn't count the ones who got away.

The vast majority of these crossers are single adults—not families, not children but unaccompanied grownups.

Customs and Border Protection stopped 67 known terrorist suspects at the southern border ports of entry last year alone, but they found 98 attempting to cross the border elsewhere—more than six times as many as the previous year. As of March, authorities had already seized nearly three times

as much fentanyl this fiscal year as they had by this time last year.

All of these terrible numbers have come with a stopgap pandemic policy called title 42 actually in place. Every month of the Biden Presidency, anywhere from 20 to 75 percent of the illegal crossers have been turned right around and expelled, rather than apprehended and processed in the typical way. But the Biden administration has failed so badly that even with this stopgap in place, our border facilities have still been overwhelmed and overrun.

Now, as the Democrats finally give up the COVID state of emergency, title 42 is going away. That wouldn't pose a crisis for an administration that was willing to get tough on its own and enforce existing immigration law, but Democrats don't seem to be willing to do that—just the opposite.

President Biden's team has designed a bizarre Rube Goldberg system that amounts to a special concierge service to help even more illegal immigrants come here more easily. It is a whole parallel system with processing centers in foreign countries—not to make people come in our front door but to help even more people surge in through the back door. Now I understand there is even an official U.S. Government smartphone app to help illegal immigrants along the journey—your taxpayer dollars hard at work. Our colleague, the senior Senator from Missouri, has correctly summarized the Democrats' plan as "Ticketmaster for illegal immigrants"—"Ticketmaster for illegal immigrants." Remember, things are already at an unacceptable level before this new craziness.

According to one public report, the authorities are already considering—listen to this—"street releases of migrants [into] communities across [the] border if NGO shelters and CBP facilities do not have the capacity to hold them . . . releases of migrants at bus stops, gas stations, supermarkets, etc., in communities across the border."

Now, this week, some of our Democratic colleagues are feigning great angst and indignation over title 42's demise. They claim to be outraged that President Biden doesn't have a better plan. But every Senator had a chance just last year to vote to keep funding title 42 measures. Senate Republicans gave our Democratic colleagues that opportunity, and every single Democrat voted in lockstep against it. Every Senate Democrat voted in unison to let title 42 lapse with no better solution in place. So the country reaps what Democrats sowed.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. President, on another matter, the National Defense Authorization Act is a must-pass piece of legislation, but Senate Democrats have developed a bad habit of letting our national security actually languish.

Last year, the 2023 NDAA spent 5 months in limbo. Even at the eleventh hour, the Democratic leader refused to

bring the Senate's own bill to the floor. It took an informal conference between our colleagues on the Armed Services Committee and their House counterparts just to get this must-pass bill over the finish line.

Our Democratic friends like to invoke America's competition with China whenever they are seeking to justify huge outlays of domestic spending, but they push the nuts and bolts of actually defending America to the back burner. Case in point: Chairman REED just announced the Armed Services Committee will wait an entire extra month before beginning consideration of this year's NDAA. You can bet China isn't waiting around and twiddling its thumbs, but apparently Leader SCHUMER's Senate will do just that.

What would the Democratic majority have us do instead? Our colleagues are making a push for a grab bag of left-of-center domestic priorities they call another China bill.

Let's remember the last so-called China bill that we just passed last year. The Commerce Secretary and other Biden administration officials told us with great alarm that reshoring microchip production was a hugely urgent national security priority. This was last year. Now, that is a genuine bipartisan concern, and many of us Republicans actually agreed. But since then, the administration's stated urgency has all but disappeared.

President Biden's approach to implementing the law has been atrocious—atrocious. They are violating congressional intent and trying to attach extra strings to the microchip money to end run liberal social policy through the private sector.

The Biden Commerce Department has tried to say that the semiconductor companies can't get grants unless they tilt their hiring to benefit Big Labor, unless they provide all kinds of free employment benefits to the satisfaction of Washington bureaucrats—you get the picture. It reminds me of a couple of months ago when Transportation Secretary Buttigieg asserted that one important problem with building American infrastructure is the racial and demographic composition of the construction crews. For goodness' sake.

So Washington Democrats have spent trillions of dollars—trillions—on a never-ending wish list of leftwing domestic priorities, heaping historic inflation on the American economy, but not a penny of their partisan bills built up our hard power.

If my colleagues were truly serious about competing with China, first of all, they would prioritize the NDAA, not let it languish, and second, Democrats would join Republicans in pushing for the strong, commonsense policies that will actually help us build and make things.

So let's prioritize real, robust permitting reform—the Capito-Barrasso bills. Let's green-light domestic mining for our own critical minerals and

reduce our dependence on Chinese supply chains. Let's unleash America's abundant domestic energy reserves. Let's combat China's rampant espionage and theft of high-tech research and intellectual property.

If our Democratic colleagues really want us to outcompete China, then let's put first things first and stop using this issue as a Trojan horse for unrelated liberal demands.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). The Republican whip.

#### BORDER SECURITY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, at a press conference on Tuesday, President Biden was asked if the United States was ready for the surge of people expected to come across the border after title 42 COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. His answer?

It is going to be chaotic for a while.  
It is going to be chaotic for a while.

Well, that, unfortunately, could describe the situation at the border during his entire Presidency. The Biden administration has been defined by chaos at the border for 2 long years and counting—2 years of recordbreaking numbers of individuals attempting to cross our southern border illegally; more than 5 million attempted illegal crossings in total, an average of 6,300—some individuals per day—6,300 individuals per day. To put that number in perspective, during the last administration, the average number of illegal crossings per day was approximately 1,800.

All of these numbers just refer to individuals who were actually apprehended. There have been well over 1 million known “got-aways” during the Biden administration—individuals the Border Patrol saw but was unable to apprehend. In fact, one in five border crossers is a “got-away,” meaning that huge numbers of people are entering our country illegally, without our knowing who they are or what their purpose is in coming here.

The fact that we have seen 80 individuals on the terrorist watch list attempt to enter our country illegally via the southern border since just October is a powerful reminder that not everyone trying to enter our country illegally is simply looking for a better life. And it is profoundly troubling that so many unknown individuals are evading the Border Patrol and making their way into our country. It is a problem that has been compounded as scores of Border Patrol agents have been pulled off the frontlines to provide humanitarian assistance.

So we have had 2 years—2 years—of chaos at our southern border, 2 years of chaos that has exacted a tremendous cost. Our border communities are overwhelmed. Our Border Patrol agents are overwhelmed. And the chaos at our border is unquestionably facilitating illegal cross-border activity, including the smuggling of deadly drugs like fentanyl into our country.

We didn't get here by accident. President Biden hasn't just happened to

have presided over a recordbreaking influx of illegal immigration at the southern border. No, sir. The chaos we have been experiencing is a direct result of the President's policies.

From his campaign on, President Biden was focused on distancing himself from the immigration policies of his predecessor and satisfying the open borders caucus that makes up a huge part of today's Democratic Party.

On his very first day in office, President Biden rescinded the declaration of a national emergency at our southern border. He halted construction of the border wall. He revoked a Trump administration order that called for the government to faithfully execute our immigration laws. His Department of Homeland Security issued guidelines pausing deportations except under certain conditions. And that was all on his first day.

Needless to say, the effect of all of this was to declare to the world that U.S. borders were effectively open, and the President's policies since that day have done little to correct that impression, which brings us to today.

Today, the Biden administration is ending the use of pandemic-era title 42 authorities, which have enabled U.S. Customs and Border Protection to quickly turn back at least some illegal immigrants at the border. Title 42 has played an essential role in preventing the crisis at our border from becoming a full-blown catastrophe, and with its end, the flood of illegal immigrants coming across our border is expected to become a torrent.

I mentioned that during the Biden administration, we have seen an average of 6,300 migrants a day attempting to illegally cross our southern border. Well, get this: The administration is expecting that number to possibly double once title 42 is lifted, to as many as 13,000 illegal crossings per day—13,000 per day. If border communities and the Border Patrol were overwhelmed before, it is difficult to even conceive how things will be for them now.

The Biden administration is busy putting eleventh hour policy changes in place in an attempt to stem the expected surge, but how much of it will be too little, too late remains to be seen.

The President's prediction that things at the border will be chaotic for a while does not exactly inspire confidence that the administration is on top of this situation nor did the NBC article yesterday morning noting that the Biden administration is preparing to release the migrants into the United States with “no way to track them”—“no way to track them”—as a way to deal with the overcrowding at the border.

We're already breaking and we haven't hit the starting line.

That is a quote from a Department of Homeland Security official in that story.

We're already breaking and we haven't hit the starting line.

So, as I said, the Biden administration is not exactly inspiring confidence, especially since the President continues to reject commonsense measures that could actually help keep numbers down, like reinstating the Migrant Protection Protocols, often referred to as “Remain in Mexico,” which will require illegal immigrants to stay in Mexico while their asylum cases are adjudicated.

We have already seen an early surge in anticipation of title 42 ending, with the Border Patrol's apprehending more than 11,000 individuals at our southern border on Tuesday. And I am deeply concerned about the border communities and the Border Patrol agents who will have to deal with what the lifting of title 42 brings—and not just about border communities because, while border communities have to deal with the greatest immediate challenges, the consequences of unchecked illegal immigration at our southern border are felt all over the country.

New York City has seen a flood of illegal immigrants as a result of President Biden's border crisis, and New York City Mayor Eric Adams recently stated that his city is “being destroyed by the migrant crisis.” It seems that the Biden border crisis is even too much for the sanctuary cities that helped stoke it.

Our current fentanyl crisis is also a good reminder that illegal activity at our southern border affects every State in the Nation. I have talked to sheriffs in South Dakota—about as far from our southern border as you can get—who are dealing with fentanyl that has been trafficked across the border from Mexico; and as I said earlier, that trafficking is undoubtedly being facilitated by the chaos at our southern border.

Mr. President, this has been a grim speech, but it is a grim situation. It has been 2 years of crisis at the southern border under the Biden administration, and we are well on our way to catastrophe. President Biden has the power to do something about this, but after 2 years of ineffective or, simply, absent leadership from the President, my hopes that he will take the steps necessary to secure our border aren't high. We will see what the coming days will bring.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

S.J. RES. 23

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, later today, we will be voting on legislation I introduced with 20 of our colleagues, S.J. Res. 23. This resolution rescinds the Biden administration's 2022 rule that rolled back a commonsense and necessary definition of “habitat” under the Endangered Species Act from the previous administration.

When Congress passed the Endangered Species Act, it granted the Secretaries of the Interior and Commerce, through the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service, respectively, the authority to

designate areas as “critical habitat.” Section 7 of the Act prohibits the “destruction or adverse modification” of these critical habitat designations.

There is no doubt that habitat loss is a contributing factor to species’ declines, so protecting habitat that is necessary to the survival of species is appropriate. The problem that has arisen, however, is that these designations have, on occasion, been weaponized to the detriment of landowners, the American public, and the very species we are trying to protect.

Two-thirds of all endangered species are located on private lands. For these species to be recovered, private landowners must be part of the solution and not treated as the enemy. Unfortunately, through aggressive critical habitat designations, as well-intentioned as they might be, private landowners are penalized and harmed instead of incentivized to help with species recovery.

A recent study that examined more than 13,000 real estate transactions for land within or near critical habitat for two listed species in California found that a designation “resulted in a large and statistically significant decrease in land value,” specifically 48 percent for the red-legged frog and at least 78 percent for the Bay checkerspot butterfly.

This is true across the country. Let me tell you a story from Louisiana.

In 2001, the Fish and Wildlife Service listed the dusky gopher frog as an endangered species. After litigation by the Center for Biological Diversity, in 2010, the Service proposed to designate critical habitat for the species and included 1,544 acres on a Louisiana site owned by Weyerhaeuser Company and a group of family landowners. The Service included the site even though the frog was last seen there in 1965.

Additionally, the site would require substantial modification to support a sustainable population. According to the Service’s own report, designation of the site could cost the landowners nearly \$34 million in lost development value. Weyerhaeuser sued the Fish and Wildlife Service over the designation, arguing, among other things, that the site could not be critical habitat because the frog, which did not exist at the site, could not survive there without the site’s being transformed from a closed canopy timber plantation to an open canopy, longleaf pine forest. In other words, their land could not be critical habitat for the frog because it was not habitat at all.

In a unanimous 8 to 0 decision in 2018, the Supreme Court agreed. It said the ESA “does not authorize the Secretary to designate an area as critical habitat unless it is also habitat for the species.”

Now, the problem is that the term “habitat” itself is not defined within the Endangered Species Act. Prompted by that unanimous Weyerhaeuser Supreme Court case, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service finalized a rule in 2020

that defined the word “habitat” for the purposes of designating “critical habitat” under the ESA.

The definition is simple: Habitat is an area that “currently or periodically contains the resources and conditions necessary to support one or more life process of a species.”

It seems pretty reasonable.

In 2022, the Biden administration caved to radical groups that wanted to return to free-for-all designations and finalized a rule to rescind this very reasonable, commonsense definition.

So we are now operating under an ad hoc system that creates decreased property values and predatory legal challenges for American families and businesses. In fact, it incentivizes landowners to make sure that their land could never be habitat for threatened or endangered species.

With the Trump-era rule rescinded, there is no regulation to bind Federal Agencies in determining the habitat of an endangered species from which critical habitat can be designated. Without the certainty of what “habitat” actually means, the development of any type can be blocked, including necessary infrastructure projects that the majority of this body recently spent hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars to support.

It is for this reason that a huge group of outside groups endorsed this resolution, including the American Road & Transportation Builders Association, the American Farm Bureau, the National Water Resources Association, the National Association of Counties, the Public Lands Council, the National Association of Home Builders, and many others.

In closing, the only way to recover endangered species is to enlist the help of private landowners in our efforts. Overly broad critical habitat designations do just the opposite. My friends across the aisle have argued these designations are necessary for species recovery. The facts simply don’t back this up. Among the 60 species still listed from the ESA because of recovery as of July 2020, 51 of them never even had critical habitat designations.

By lowering private landowner opposition to conservation efforts, which will happen if we pass this rule, our Nation can help recover threatened and endangered species while simultaneously supporting our private landowners and public land users in their worthy goals of providing food, energy, jobs, and homes necessary for the survival of our own species.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes in support of this resolution.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON S.J. RES. 23

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the joint resolutions are considered read a third time en bloc.

The joint resolutions were ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and were read the third time, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third

time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 122 Leg.]

YEAS—51

Barrasso	Graham	Murkowski
Blackburn	Grassley	Paul
Boozman	Hagerty	Ricketts
Braun	Hawley	Risch
Britt	Hooven	Romney
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Capito	Johnson	Rubio
Cassidy	Kennedy	Schmitt
Collins	King	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Manchin	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Vance
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Mullin	Young

NAYS—49

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

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 23) was passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 23

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves 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” (87 Fed. Reg. 37757 (June 24, 2022)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.*

(Mr. SCHATZ assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. MERKLEY assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. REED assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. HICKENLOOPER assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. LUJÁN assumed the Chair.)

(Mrs. SHAHEEN assumed the Chair.)

VOTE ON S.J. RES. 24

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have been requested.

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 123 Leg.]  
YEAS—51

Barrasso	Graham	Murkowski
Blackburn	Grassley	Paul
Boozman	Hagerty	Ricketts
Braun	Hawley	Risch
Britt	Hoeven	Romney
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Capito	Johnson	Rubio
Cassidy	Kennedy	Schmitt
Collins	Klobuchar	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Manchin	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Vance
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Mullin	Young

NAYS—49

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

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 24) was passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 24

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves 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” (87 Fed. Reg. 73488 (November 30, 2022)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.*

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Bradley N. Garcia, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

#### RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:16 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 1:45 p.m. when called to order by the Acting President pro tempore.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, I yield back all time.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair

lays before the Senate the pending closure 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. 4, Bradley N. Garcia, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Ben Ray Luján, Tammy Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Amy Klobuchar, Jack Reed, Jeanne Shaheen, Benjamin L. Cardin, Edward J. Markey, Alex Padilla, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto, Gary C. Peters.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 Bradley N. Garcia, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) would have voted “nay” and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) would have voted “nay.”

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 54, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 124 Ex.]

YEAS—54

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

NAYS—41

Barrasso	Grassley	Romney
Blackburn	Hagerty	Rounds
Boozman	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Britt	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lee	Thune
Cotton	Lummis	Tillis
Cramer	McConnell	Tuberville
Crapo	Mullin	Vance
Daines	Paul	Wicker
Ernst	Ricketts	Young
Fischer	Risch	

NOT VOTING—5

Budd	Hooven	Moran
Cruz	Marshall	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). On this vote, the yeas are 54, the nays are 41.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

#### IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, as the whole Nation knows by now, title 42, the COVID-19 public health laws used by the Border Patrol to expel people at the southern border, will expire at midnight tonight.

At our border communities, in the 1,200 miles of our border with Mexico and Texas, they are bracing for a tsunami of humanity. As we know, over the last couple of years, title 42 has been one of the tools in the Border Patrol’s toolbox to prevent the Biden border crisis from becoming the Biden border catastrophe or calamity.

To give you a sense of the impact of title 42, which will go away tonight, since President Biden took office, U.S. Customs and Border Protection has logged more than 5 million illegal border crossings—5 million. Because of title 42, the United States hasn’t been required to detain, identify, and process every single person who crossed the border illegally. In fact, nearly half of those 5 million were removed under title 42, a total of almost 2.4 million people.

Consider the countless stories we have heard over the last 2 years about overcrowded detention facilities. I have seen them myself. We have all seen them on television or in the print media. We have seen these shelters bursting at the seams. That was the case when Border Patrol was detaining only roughly half of the individuals who illegally crossed the southern border because they were able to use title 42.

Starting tomorrow, agents will have to apprehend every single person under DHS’s—Department of Homeland Security’s—traditional title 8 authority. The problem is that law enforcement doesn’t have the space to hold those individuals, not even close.

Last spring, Secretary Mayorkas, the Secretary of Homeland Security, said, Customs and Border Protection detention facilities could hold approximately 18,000 people. That sounds like a large number, until you begin to look at the number of people who are crossing the border every day.

This week, we have already seen an average of about 10,000 border crossings a day. And he says we can detain 18,000. And you are getting 10,000 a day?

Well, once title 42 is lifted, that number will climb even higher. Detention facilities, which are already overcapacity, will become even more crowded. And once they are fully maxed out, the Biden administration will simply release people into the United States, using what they call parole.

Now, parole—we are perhaps familiar with parole in the criminal context—but parole in the immigration context means that they will be released into the interior of the United States, whether or not they can satisfy the legal requirement to be granted asylum, and they will be told to go to an Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in the interior of the United States—in Chicago, in New York, here in Washington, DC, or wherever they may end up.

Unfortunately, immigration court backlogs because of the vast numbers of people coming in. If you show up in New York, and you have been paroled in the United States, assuming you even show up, which many don't, you could wait as many as 10 years to begin the process of being heard in immigration court.

And here is the real unfairness. Consider the people—although it is a small minority, maybe 15 percent or so of these migrants who claim asylum will have a valid claim. They have to wait in line with the 85 or more percent who we know will not have a valid plan. How unfair is it to those people to leave them in legal limbo because of the uncontrolled numbers coming across the border?

Well, anyone who thinks this is somehow a scare tactic or a made-up story is in for a rude awakening. Over the last several weeks, as the title 42 end date has crept closer, we have seen migrants gathering in larger and larger numbers along the border in Mexico. It is currently estimated that more than 100,000 migrants are already waiting. With this deadline just around the corner, the Secretary of Homeland Security traveled to Brownsville, TX, last Friday to talk about what is to come.

Brownsville, TX, which is at the very tip of the Rio Grande Valley, right across from Mexico, is one of three Texas cities to declare a state of emergency already, anticipating the end of title 42. Laredo and El Paso were the other two because they are preparing, as best they can, for an unprecedented surge of migrants.

Over the last couple of weeks, more than 15,000 migrants have arrived in Brownsville. Law enforcement and city officials have been overwhelmed by the arrival of so many people, and they are bracing for an even larger surge on Friday.

With this as a backdrop, Secretary Mayorkas made an absolutely dumbfounding statement last week—one of many that he has made in the past. He said: The border is not open; it has not been open; and it will not be open subsequent to May 11.

It is beyond my comprehension how someone can see what we are seeing on our TV screens or in the media and then to have a public official like the Secretary of Homeland Security tell us a lie repeatedly about the border not being open.

I don't know what he calls 5 million people coming across the border. Well,

about half of them have been expelled, so let's say, roughly, 2.5 million after you consider those who were repatriated as a result of title 42. He said this in Brownsville, which is a city that has absorbed less than 15,000 migrants in less than 2 weeks.

You know, in some of the newspapers they have a Pinocchio test where they will give you one Pinocchio, two Pinocchios, three Pinocchios, four Pinocchios, based on how outrageous the lie is. And I don't think you can count up enough Pinocchios to award Secretary Mayorkas for his outright falsehood that he continues to spew, sitting in the critical position to do something about this.

The border has clearly been open, and President Biden and his administration have laid out the welcome mat. And that is why there has been absolutely no deterrence. You know, law enforcement, including Border Patrol, doesn't just enforce the law. They, by enforcing the law and by people knowing that they are enforcing the law, hope to deter other people from violating the law.

But when people see an open border with no enforcement, there is no deterrence. And so people do what we can expect they will continue to do, and that is to continue to come.

Well, at midnight tonight, title 42 expires. Secretary Mayorkas must really think that the American people are stupid or dumb. But they are not. They are smart. They can see what is going on. They know he is not telling the truth. And for some reason, President Biden continues to keep him on the payroll. You would think, at some point, somebody should get fired for this disaster, which is about ready to get worse. There needs to be some sort of accountability.

If you did something like this in the private sector, what do you think would happen to you? You would be held accountable. But apparently not in the Biden administration. You can lie to the American people. You can fail to do your job until it gets so bad that presumably something has to give.

All of us can see photos and videos of the chaos at the southern border. We see it on our social media feeds and on the nightly news. We understand what is happening, and we know who is responsible.

So the administration is being dishonest when they say the border is not open. And they have made it painfully obvious that nothing is going to change until they are forced to do so.

After a couple of years—I have been writing to the Secretary of Homeland Security for at least the last 2 years, saying: When title 42 ends, as we know it will at some point, what is your plan? What is your plan?

Well, on the eve of this looming crisis and catastrophe, after the end of title 42, the administration has rolled out something they call the circumvention of lawful pathways rule.

The problem is, the Constitution does not give the executive branch—the President of the United States—the power to write immigration laws or to stand up new pathways for legal status. If young people who were given Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals have learned one thing, it is that the President does not have the authority to unilaterally change immigration laws. That is something he has to do in conjunction with the Congress.

But the Biden administration seems eager to repeat history with this rule, which funnels migrants into new, unconstitutional, so-called lawful pathways that were unilaterally created by the executive branch.

You know, there has got to be a little office somewhere—I haven't found it yet here in Washington DC—that generates these names for legislation or new rules and regulations, which actually are the opposite of what they do. That was true with the Inflation Reduction Act, which didn't reduce inflation. And it is true of this so-called circumvention of Lawful Pathways Act. It is not lawful. It is not constitutional for the President to do it by himself.

Unfortunately, that is just one of many problems with this rule. The broad goal, plainly, is to ensure a more orderly asylum process by reducing the number of border crossings between ports of entry and encouraging migrants to seek asylum at ports. Well, if that were actually what was going to happen, that would be improvement. Those who fail to present themselves at a port of entry would, theoretically, be ineligible for asylum. And it purports to regulate the flow of asylum seekers into land ports of entry so they don't become dangerously overcrowded.

As I said, at face value, these seem like constructive ideas, but this rule is brimming with flaws and exceptions and loopholes that were explicitly designed to ensure migrants will be released into the United States en masse.

I learned as a law student: What the front page giveth, the back page can taketh away.

While the Biden administration may want to put on this happy face that, yes, we learned our lesson, we are changing the rules, we are going to restrict the pathways by which people can seek asylum in the United States, the truth is they have no commitment to an orderly, lawful, and humane system of immigration.

The Biden plan includes broad exemptions for migrants who show up at a port of entry without an appointment and are illiterate—or at least claim to be. It provides an exception for migrants who can't access the DHS scheduling system or who experience significant technical issues with the notoriously glitchy CBP One app. And the Department all but admits in the fine print that these migrants will be paroled.

Remember what I said about parole. It is just releasing these migrants into the United States and quickly being

given employment authorization documents.

The exceptions swallow the rule by outlining broad exceptions that can't be objectively evaluated and are easily gamed. If they can't be gamed, they will be gamed.

The Biden administration has provided the cartels with a road map or a playbook. The administration is saying: Instruct migrants to use one of these excuses. Coach them to use one of these excuses, and they will be eligible for asylum, and they will be released into the interior of the United States.

Migrants can make the dangerous journey to the border, show up at a port of entry without an appointment, say the magic words, and still be paroled into the United States.

As the administration has made clear, it plans to "expeditiously process" migrants who arrive at the southwest border. With title 42 set to expire and 100,000 immigrants gathering across the border, this is President Biden's plan. It is called expedited catch-and-release.

The circumvention of lawful pathways rule is dangerous and unconstitutional. I am in the process of introducing a Congressional Review Act resolution to disapprove of it. This rule would rapidly increase the number of migrants being paroled in the United States while doing nothing—zero—to deter migrants with weak asylum claims.

Immigration groups on the left and the right, interestingly, oppose this rule. Some of our colleagues in the Democratic caucus have expressed that they are deeply disappointed with the administration and that it has chosen to move forward in publishing this proposed rule. That is from a Democratic Member of the Senate.

I urge Senator SCHUMER, the majority leader, who sets the schedule around here, to allow us to vote on my resolution as soon as possible.

The White House has claimed that this is the only option available to address a looming catastrophe, but that is false too. In the nineties, President Clinton signed a law establishing something called expedited removal. In short, it allows Border Patrol to detain and quickly remove people who cannot prove their legal requirement in order to stay. Expedited removals have been utilized by Republicans and Democrats over the years. It is a part of that powerful deterrent that we need to reestablish.

So those who have no legitimate claim to legal status will make that dangerous journey, having paid thousands of dollars to a coyote or cartel to get here. If a person is likely to be removed from the United States within a few days of crossing, fewer and fewer of them will even attempt to make the dangerous journey in the first place.

That is the power of expedited removal. It sends a clear message that America's immigration laws will be en-

forced, something that has not happened during President Biden's watch.

President Biden has the authority today to conduct expedited removals. He has had that authority since day one but refuses to fully utilize it.

I have heard the Press Secretary for the President say: Well, it is up to Congress to deal with this.

Well, Congress has already dealt with this, and President Clinton signed it into law.

It is because President Biden has unilaterally surrendered to the cartels that continue to make billions of dollars and whose poison kills tens of thousands of Americans each year because it continues to flow across the border. President Biden has the tools he needs today. So don't believe this: Well, it is their fault.

It is the blame game, which is an Olympic sport here in Washington, DC—trying to blame somebody else, denying personal responsibility.

But this one sits at the feet of the President of the United States. Rather than stand up new facilities or hire more personnel to make the expedited removal process function, the Biden administration has, instead, chosen to release people into the interior of the country at an unprecedented pace.

Where the expedited removal serves as a deterrent, President Biden's wide-scale catch-and-release is a magnet. People are being released to wait immigration court dates that are years down the road—if they show up, and many of them won't. Some migrants aren't scheduled to appear before an immigration judge until 2032—9 years from now. Believe me, when that happens, word travels fast, and more people are sure to follow suit. Why wouldn't they?

President Biden has effectively said: Keep coming. We are going to wave you on through the turnstile at the border, maybe never to be heard from again and never to appear in front of an immigration judge. How unfair is it to those who do have legitimate claims to have to wait in line for 9 or 10 years with the vast majority of people who we know will not qualify?

Well, this is what we have seen since President Biden took office and decided to undo everything the previous President had done. And the pace is going to do nothing but accelerate once title 42 goes away at midnight tonight.

This administration needs to get serious about expedited removals, about using the tools that are already available. It needs to make sure that those with invalid claims are quickly removed from the United States and, yes, people with valid claims need to be welcomed for following the lawful process.

That is what I mean when I say we need a legal, humane, and orderly immigration system. Legal immigration has been one of the greatest things our country has ever embraced. Virtually all of us, or at least our ancestors, came from somewhere else. And we

have always tended to attract people who are leaving dire circumstances—perhaps economic, perhaps otherwise—in their home country, who want to come to the United States to pursue their dreams.

I believe that is the secret sauce that has made our country what it is today—the powerhouse that it is today, economically and otherwise. But it is lawful immigration. It is orderly immigration. It is humane immigration. It is not the chaos and the criminality that we see at the border today.

Sometimes I ask myself: How bad does this have to get before the politicians in Washington, DC, wake up and decide to do something?

I hope we are at that point. I hope it doesn't have to get worse because it can get worse if we simply do nothing.

But the first step is for the President to use the tools available to him already signed into law. In order to do that, they need to increase detention space so frontline personnel will have the capacity to actually carry out these expedited removals.

The Biden administration also needs to stop waving or paroling people into the country to wait for an appointment with immigration and customs enforcement that is years in the future. Again, that is for the ones that show up.

These are just a few of the ways that the President can deal with this crisis today. Those options have been available since the day he took office. He just refuses to use them and tries to shift the blame to others.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

#### DEBT CEILING

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, the most consequential question now before Congress—the one that most impacts the most people we all represent—is whether the United States of America will do what it has always done: pay its bills in full and on time.

It was Alexander Hamilton who established the precedent that has become an enduring principle: America pays its bills.

But in order to preserve that principle, Congress must raise the debt limit. It is important to remind ourselves that raising the debt ceiling does not allow any additional spending, nor does it include new obligations for our taxpayers. It allows Congress to continue to pay for the spending that has already been approved by this and prior Congresses.

The debt ceiling is an anomaly in the United States. Other countries recognize the obvious. When a legislative body approves spending—whether it is for the defense of the nation, the healthcare of its citizens, the support for its farmers—it is then that the legislative body incurs the obligation. It is really no different than when a family takes out a mortgage or a car loan. When that bill becomes due each month, you pay the mortgage and you pay the car loan. Otherwise, things end

very badly for that family, as they will for our country if we allow the United States to default on its debt.

The debt limit debate in the past was accompanied by political grandstanding from both parties. The party out of power used it to criticize the economic record of the incumbent party. But grandstanding was always set aside, and the President and the majority party in Congress—Republican or Democratic—accepted the burden of raising the debt ceiling to make sure the country did not default.

This time, the House's default threat is different. It is far more dangerous and far more extreme, even than in 2011.

Let me explain.

A default looms as early as June 1, and congressional leaders met this week with President Biden.

The President and all of the leaders pledged that default was not an option—all except one leader. Speaker McCARTHY continues to champion the House bill that will lead us to default unless the Congress and the President capitulate to House Republicans' very extreme budgetary demands. Their budget would cut veteran benefits, furlough thousands of Border Patrol agents even as title 42 expires, and it would repeal key parts of the Inflation Reduction Act and the thousands of jobs—many of which, by the way, are in Republican districts—that it has created.

The Speaker's demands that President Biden relinquish his primary legislative achievement, the IRA, really would be comparable to the Democrats demanding when Donald Trump was President that, as a condition of not defaulting, he repeal what he regarded as his signature legislative accomplishment: his tax cuts—which, by the way, were vehemently opposed by Democrats.

Speaker McCARTHY's posture reflects the posture of his conference and the reality within his own caucus. He won't take default off the table because he can't. The most extreme Members of his caucus have extracted numerous concessions to lend their support, and it took 15 votes for him to get elected to the speakership. What we are seeing now is the result: They will default unless they get their way.

Former President Trump, who as President raised the debt ceiling multiple times, is still a leading voice for many of the Republicans in the caucus. Last night on CNN, at a townhall meeting, he encouraged default, adding fuel to the fire and even more peril for our country.

I think we all know, in all candor, that the default threat would be catastrophic, and we are being propelled over the brink.

All responsible people know that a default—No. 1, it would destroy America's reputation and jeopardize the value of the dollar as the world's reserve currency. No. 2, it would really delight our Russian and Chinese adver-

saries, who would promote our default for what it is—a sign of internal weakness, economic chaos, and disunity. A default in all likelihood would plunge our fragile economy into a recession, hurting Americans across the entire country regardless of what their political persuasion was. In a very cruel irony, according to Moody's, a default could increase our deficit by as much as \$850 billion, not reduce it as default advocates claim.

We can't allow default. We can't allow self-inflicted harm to befall Americans with the Speaker's very reckless gambit.

I thank Majority Leader SCHUMER, Minority Leader McCONNELL, Minority Leader JEFFRIES, and President Biden for taking default off the table.

Speaker McCARTHY, before it is too late, do the same.

I am willing, as I believe the vast majority of our colleagues are, to engage in a serious budget discussion to bring down America's debt, but what I am not willing to do—not now, not ever—is abandon America's historic commitment to paying its bills. I am not willing to inflict the damage to our economy and the pain on our people a catastrophic default would impose, nor is President Biden.

While leadership talks continue, all of us must be mindful of the real peril we face, and we must take the precautionary step of reviewing the 14th Amendment and its requirement. Section 4 of the 14th Amendment states:

The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law . . . shall not be questioned.

The Constitution is saying what we all know: A debt incurred is a debt that must be paid.

Every obligation tied to our debt is a result of a law that this or a previous Congress has passed. To renege on the obligation that law required, whether to our veterans, our seniors, our farmers, or the military, is for Congress to tell the President to break that law and disobey the Constitution.

We cannot do this. We must not do this. We must, as America has always done, pay our bills in full and on time.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The senior Senator from Maryland.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, this week is Public Service Recognition Week—a week we have set aside each year since 1985 to recognize and honor public servants. I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep, heartfelt gratitude to America's 20 million Federal, State, county, and local public servants. From astronauts to astrophysicists, caseworkers to court clerks, detectives to doctors, soldiers to superintendents, teachers to transit workers, America's public servants comprise one of our Nation's most critical and often maligned assets.

Men and women serve in harm's way to defend our Nation. Other public

servants support them. Public servants teach our children, deliver the mail, administer our elections, keep our streets and communities safe and clean, guide air traffic, protect our natural resources and food and drug supplies, respond to natural disasters and other emergencies, conduct pioneering basic research, provide healthcare, interpret and enforce our laws, ensure that seniors and veterans receive the benefits they have earned, and represent our Nation's interests in foreign posts. I could go on and on. The work that public servants perform affects each and every one of us on a daily basis, making our lives so much better.

The public sector workforce—particularly at the Federal level—tends to be older, better educated, and more experienced than the private sector workforce. So many public servants could earn higher salaries in private sector jobs, but their motivation is more than pecuniary gain; it is a sense of duty and a love of their community and country that compel them.

President Biden issued a proclamation this week that says:

At a time when public servants are facing threats and hostility simply for doing their jobs, their continued willingness to serve is even more meaningful and important. We have an obligation to support them and to recognize and value their commitment and sacrifice. Our Nation's future depends on ensuring our public servants have good jobs with competitive pay and benefits, along with the resources they need to accomplish their work. It also depends on the next generation of smart, dedicated people answering the call of public service and joining their ranks, helping deliver the promise of America to more of our citizens.

I couldn't agree with the President more.

Just 7 percent of America's Federal workers are under the age of 30. I join President Biden in urging young Americans to consider careers in public service. We need your talents, your energy, your ideas, and your idealism to ensure that America remains prosperous, secure, and a beacon of liberty for all humanity.

Each year, in conjunction with Public Service Recognition Week, the non-profit Partnership for Public Service announces the finalists for the prestigious Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals. The awards are named after the partnership's founder and benefactor and highlight excellence in our Federal workforce.

I am proud that Maryland is home to 12 finalists.

They are, in the field of science, technology, and environment, Dr. Adam Phillippy, Dr. Sergey Koren, and Dr. Arang Rhie, Investigator, Associate Investigator, and Staff Scientist respectively at the National Institutes of Health, National Human Genome Research Institute, and the Telomere Consortium, which Dr. Phillippy cofounded in 2018, having cracked the last 8 percent of humans' genetic code.

Their research into understanding the most difficult parts of our DNA has

enabled scientists to discover more than 2 new million variants in our genetic makeup, many of which can cause serious health problems. We will make leaps and bounds in understanding Down syndrome, autism, and cancer, and devising effective gene therapies for a host of diseases.

Dr. Phillippe put it this way:

It is really easy to get up and go to work in the morning because our work is making such a difference.

What a dedicated public servant.

In management excellence, Megan Meacham, Allison Hutchings, and Sarah O'Donnell, Director, Deputy Director, and Team Lead respectively at the Department of Health and Human Services' Rural Strategic Initiatives Division under the Health Resources and Services Administration, created the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program to provide grant funding for a wide array of innovative and effective opioid use prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

The program, which they established 5 years ago, has served more than 2 million people each year in more than 1,800 rural counties across 47 States and 2 territories. As Megan Meacham has stated, "We are here to help and passionate to serve. Even when we hit a roadblock, we find a way around it."

We know the challenges of opioid addiction. Our public servants are answering the challenge.

In management excellence, Gloria Morgan Shepherd, Executive Director, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, is one of three DOT senior managers being honored for helping to craft and implement the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

We were proud to pass that bill. It wasn't so easy to implement it. Dedicated public servants at the Department of Transportation are making sure our legislation carries out its intended purpose. Thanks to their work, DOT initiated 1,887 transportation projects last year that were awarded nearly \$10 billion in discretionary funds on top of \$82.3 billion in formula funding that will help modernize the Nation's highways, bridges, shipping ports, railroads, and airports.

Gloria Morgan Shepherd and her colleagues implemented 76 new or expanded grant programs and initiated bridge repair programs, a national electric vehicle charging network, and a host of safety initiatives. That is what we intended. Our public servants at DOT are carrying that out.

In management excellence, Rear Admiral Nancy Hann, Director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Commissioned Corps and Director of NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, has implemented policies to curb sexual harassment, assault, and bullying among employees aboard NOAA's marine fleet and aircraft, creating a safer workplace and changing the organization's culture.

Admiral Hann, who has been with NOAA for 26 years, said:

It is really important for everyone to have a voice and to feel comfortable physically, emotionally, and mentally in the workplace. I have the responsibility to be the voice of the people who don't feel like they have a voice or are too scared. I take that responsibility very seriously.

We are all better off because of Admiral Hann's work.

The Paul A. Volcker Career Achievement Award: Dr. Eric J. "Rocky" Feuer, Chief, Statistical Research and Applications Branch, Surveillance Research Program, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, has developed new methods to estimate the chances of individuals being diagnosed with cancer at different times during their lives.

Over the past four decades, he has designed a sophisticated system using statistical analysis to understand national cancer trends better, leading to significant prevention, screening, and treatment options that have benefited millions of Americans.

In 2000, he created the Cancer Intervention and Surveillance Modeling Network, allowing statisticians and scientists to address critical cancer-related questions collaboratively. He has stated that the statistical analysis he has engaged in over the course of his career is "backbencher type of work," but added it has helped "move people to action" and improve healthcare.

Yes, we are dealing with cancer challenges in our communities, and people like Dr. Feuer are making a huge difference.

Safety, security, and international affairs: Lisa Hsiao, Assistant Director, Consumer Protection Branch, Department of Justice, has protected the public from harmful or misleading trade practices by businesses across a wide range of industries, including Altria, R.J. Reynolds, Facebook, and Dish Network, securing some of the largest fines in U.S. history and requiring the disclosure of important safety and privacy information.

As Dr. Lisa Hsiao has said, "I'm proud that through these cases we have created law that can be built upon. As a lawyer, it's pretty rare to be able to make precedent that both protects the public and effects good public policy."

Protecting consumers, protecting the public, that is what public servants do.

Management excellence: Robert Gorman, Senior Trial Attorney, Department of Transportation, is one of three DOT officials in the Office of Aviation Consumer Protection who has led an aggressive campaign to require airlines to compensate air travelers for airfare and other related costs for canceled or significantly delayed flights due to circumstances within the airlines' control. The campaign has produced a record \$8.4 million in fines and more than \$1 billion in passenger refunds.

Robert Gorman and his colleagues looked for patterns to determine if an

airline were repeatedly being unresponsive or noncompliant with respect to consumer complaints, leading the Aviation Consumer Protection Office to issue two regulatory notices, launch investigations, bring enforcement actions, and in some instances, reach settlements for travelers to be reimbursed.

Thanks to Robert Gorman and his colleagues, the skies are finally friendlier for fliers.

Science, Technology, and the Environment: Dr. Sarah Nelson, Director of Defense Programs Office of Experimental Sciences, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy, played a leading role in overseeing scientists who, for the first time in history, produced a fusion reaction that produced more energy than it required, a breakthrough with enormous implications for abundant clean energy and national defense. When harnessed and expanded to utility scale, fusion energy will produce reliable electricity without releasing greenhouse gases or producing radioactive waste.

Dr. Nelson started as an intern at the NNSA's Lawrence Livermore research laboratory.

She said:

It was a tremendously influential experience for me, but I had no idea that I'd be sitting in this chair 20 years later when such a scientific breakthrough would be accomplished. If we are able to use this technology someday to enable clean energy, [it would be a game-changer].

She is right on that.

So we can debate the proper role and size of our government, but I hope we can all agree that we want the best and brightest to serve. These individuals and their fellow honorees represent the best our Federal workforce has to offer. But we should be grateful for all public servants who go to work each day determined to make a positive difference for their fellow Americans, and we should be grateful all year long.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ANDREW CHAPOTON

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I thank the Presiding Officer for that heartfelt welcome here on the Senate floor.

I know the Presiding Officer is excited, and I know the pages are excited. Heck, half of America is excited because, once again, it is Thursday afternoon, and I am back on the floor giving probably my favorite speech of the week, the "Alaskan of the Week." As many of you know, it is an opportunity for me as I love to come down to the Senate floor and brag about somebody in my State who makes it such a great State. Usually, it is somebody who is doing something good for their local community, maybe for the State, maybe for the country, maybe for the world.

Boy, we have had so many famous Alaskans of the Week, but this one—

this one, my colleagues—is really special. It is about real special heroism that we see in Alaska a lot. It is about a young man named Andrew Chapoton. I am going to talk a lot about Andrew—he is an Army soldier up in Alaska—and how his bravery and heroism saved some lives in a way that is just remarkable. But I always like to begin my speech by talking a little bit about what is going on in Alaska.

I try to get home with Julie, my wife.

Hi, Julie.

She is up in the Gallery. Am I allowed to do that? I am doing it anyway.

Anyway, pretty much every weekend we have been home. Boy, over the last couple of weekends, I was out on an epic—epic—Kodiak hunting trip. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to partake in one of our State's most cherished traditions. It was an experience I won't forget. I will never forget it.

Kristin Wilson, if you are watching, I know you love bears, and I love bears too. She is a big fan of the “Alaskan of the Week.”

But I also like to talk about what is going on with the weather.

It is still pretty cold in a lot of places, but the Sun is higher in the sky. It is actually getting really high. The days are getting longer and longer. Today, in Anchorage, the Sun rose at 5:30 a.m., and it will set tonight at around 10:30 p.m., gaining more than 5 minutes since yesterday. So sunlight is really increasing rapidly. Birds are migrating by the tens of thousands. The excitement of spring is in the air. Winter is finally retreating. We love winter in Alaska, but, boy, we had a long, cold winter in most places.

So, if you are watching, by the way, in the Gallery or on TV, come up to Alaska. It will be the trip of a lifetime. I guarantee you it will be the trip of a lifetime.

Now let's get to our Alaskan of the Week, SFC Andrew Chapoton, and the heroic actions he took last May—about a year ago—that earned him the U.S. Army Soldier's Medal. That is the highest honor a soldier can receive for an act of heroism in a noncombat situation.

Andrew was born and raised in the township of Clinton, MI, but he knew that he was always going to join the military. Being in the military, from his perspective and his family's perspective, was a good, honorable thing to do. Of course, he is right. His father fought in Vietnam, and his grandfather fought in World War II. Both of his sisters are in the Army. So he enlisted when he got out of high school and did a number of deployments—three tours to Iraq, a deployment to Haiti—and then was stationed in Alaska from 2015 to 2018 as part of the 4th Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division. It is what we call in Alaska the 4-25. I am a marine, but the 4-25 sure is one of my favorite units in the entire U.S. military, but that is a story for another day. I love the 4-25.

Andrew and his wife love Alaska—the hiking, the camping.

He said:

Everything [is] available right outside my front door.

So they were determined to come back to Alaska. They bought a house in beautiful Eagle River, outside of Anchorage. They did come back. In 2021, he came back to Alaska where we now have the storied U.S. 11th Airborne Division. A lot of people don't know that. We stood up an airborne division in Alaska just last year, so now we have the 82nd Airborne Division on the east coast and the 11th Airborne Division in Alaska. Andrew and his wife, now with two children and another one on the way, love Alaska.

So what did Andrew do to win the Army Soldier's Medal? Here is how the Army described it in the summary of that medal:

Sergeant First Class Andrew Chapoton voluntarily risked his own life in the heroic pursuit of saving others at a deadly car wreck near Seward, Alaska. His extraordinary act of valor exemplified the highest standards of selfless service and character as he repeatedly put himself in mortal danger to save others trapped in a horrific . . . car wreck. SFC Chapoton dived into the burning vehicles again and again to save three trapped occupants, without [any] regard for his own life [or his own safety].

So that is the summary.

Here is the longer version of why this great American, great Alaskan, is today's Alaskan of the Week.

Last May, Andrew and his wife had an out-of-town visitor who wanted to go whale watching. OK. That is something we do in Alaska. It is amazing. It is a great thing to do in our State. So one of the great places to whale watch is out of Seward, which is a few hours south of Anchorage. He almost didn't go as he had done that tour often, but in his words, he caved and said: Let's go do it.

So they all went. Their friend, his spouse, and their two kids got in the car and headed to Seward. They had a great time. By the way, it is another great thing to do in Alaska—whale watching. They saw a lot of whales, and they were celebrating the trip on the way back.

Then something tragic—horrible—happened. On the Seward Highway, two cars collided—a Jeep and a Dodge Dakota—almost right in front of his car. He had to swerve to miss them. It was a nasty, horrible crash. Debris went flying; smoke was billowing from both cars; and gasoline was dripping out of these cars. But Andrew didn't continue to drive. He pulled over on the shoulder, jumped out of his car, and without thinking, in his words, “as cliche and corny as it sounds, 18 years of training kicked in, and I ran toward the scene of the accident.” That is what Andrew said. As a result, he saved the lives literally of three people.

Now, he doesn't even have a memory of how he got from his car to the accident—training, bravery, heroism—but he does remember approaching the first

car, the Dakota. He was flagging people down and yelling for a medic. There were three people in the Dakota, but none of them were moving, and the car was bursting into flames. He tried to smash the driver's door open. He had to move the camping equipment that had fallen on the driver, and he was able to get her safely out of the car.

At this point, the car was engulfed in flames, but he went back in and got another person out of the car and to safety, which was so difficult because the car door had been smashed and crushed. Unfortunately—and we know this is hard for Andrew. I hope he is watching, by the way, and his family—he went back again but could not save the third person. The door was also crushed, and he couldn't open it. He couldn't find a pulse. He says it haunts him to this day.

But, again, Andrew's instincts and training kicked in, and he transitioned to getting the driver out of the other burning car, the burning Jeep. After he got that passenger out, he performed Combat Lifesaver triage and lifesaving medical care for these three very seriously wounded Americans.

This story of heroism doesn't end there.

Both cars, by now, had turned into raging infernos. Flaming liquid was flowing down the road and toward one of the injured passengers. With the help of another Good Samaritan, Andrew moved one of the gravely injured passengers away from the impending explosion of this car. Then he shielded her body when the car did explode. Debris and shrapnel were flying everywhere. Even after the fire department arrived, Andrew continued to take the lead in performing lifesaving medical treatment.

Eventually, a Life Flight helicopter arrived to take the seriously injured individuals to the hospital. Andrew stayed and gave his statement to the troopers. He handed his keys to his wife, got back in his car, and drove back home several miles—a couple of hours—to Anchorage. It was a quiet ride.

He said:

I used up every single ounce of adrenalin that was in my 38-year-old body.

His children saw much of what happened, and they are proud of their father, and Andrew is proud and so deserving to receive the Army Soldier's Medal. But he did say he would trade that in a thousand times over if only all the passengers had survived.

These are the kind of people who live in Alaska—brave, selfless, and heroic. And these are the kind of people—by the way, America—who make up our military. Not every American citizen would have done what Andrew just did. As a matter of fact, I would say most people probably wouldn't—people who risk their lives, their own lives, whether it is protecting Americans at home or people abroad, so that others could live. That is what our military members do.

This is how the Army summed up this heroic action:

SFC Chapoton's ability to perform these heroic acts under extreme pressure while simultaneously taking control of the scene [of this horrific crash] is a testament to his [U.S.] Army values. [Fundamentally] understanding the extreme personal risk to his own life, SFC Chapoton selflessly endangered himself again and again to save American lives. He risked his own safety to help avert a catastrophic outcome. Without his selfless courage in the face of grave danger, more lives would have been lost.

So thank you, Andrew, for your bravery, your heroism, your example, not just to your friends and family or to Alaskans but to all Americans and all veterans. Thank you for protecting our Nation. Thank you for volunteering to serve. Thank you for making your home in Alaska. Thank you for your heroic actions on that day. We want to congratulate you for being awarded the U.S. Army Soldier's Medal, one of the highest honors a soldier can achieve and, certainly, Andrew, one of the highest honors you can achieve in the U.S. Senate: being our Alaskan of the Week. Great job.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, before I do the wrap-up and lay down some stuff we are doing next week, I would like to talk about the week we just had.

As Democrats here in the Senate work to continue to avoid default, the No. 1 issue affecting our country has also been a very productive week in the Senate. So much has happened around the country over the past few days that it may have overshadowed just how busy things have been in the Senate this week and the kind of productive week that we have had on many important issues that affect the American people. I am very proud of what we were able to accomplish.

On the floor, with the return of Senator FEINSTEIN, the Senate today advanced Bradley Garcia to serve as circuit court judge for the DC Circuit—one of the most important Federal courts in the country—and Members should be ready to vote on confirmation come Monday. That is probably the second-most important court in the country, and we are appointing a very good person as circuit court judge there.

Off the floor, the Judiciary Committee was busy as well. The Judiciary Committee just reported out six more judicial nominees for lifetime appointments to the Federal bench. Judges were a top priority last Congress, and they remain a top priority in this Congress. We are hoping to move forward on many more judges.

Also, yesterday, the Commerce Committee, under the able leadership of MARIA CANTWELL, also reported out the Railway Safety Act—sponsored by Senators BROWN and VANCE of Ohio—with bipartisan support. This is significant.

After the derailment of East Palestine, the need for the rail safety reform became clear as day, and Americans are demanding that the Senate take action.

The Railway Safety Act is a major step forward for avoiding accidents similar to the one in East Palestine and improving rail safety across the country. It is going to make all our railroads safer. We have all seen so many of these derailments, often because the railroads weren't doing what they were supposed to. This act is a big step forward in requiring them to do so. I look forward to working with both sides to bring the Railway Safety Act to the floor.

And, today, the Senate Banking Committee also held a hearing, a big step on our bipartisan SAFE Banking Act that we have worked on together, Mr. President.

The SAFE Banking Act would ensure cannabis businesses have equal access to critical banking infrastructure in States that have legalized cannabis. We have all heard the tales of small businesses, and even larger ones, walking around with a huge amount of cash because they can't do banking. SAFE Banking would change that and allow them to bank as other businesses because it is legal in many States.

And I am working to ensure we include criminal justice provisions in SAFE Banking Plus—most importantly, the expungement of criminal records for certain low-level marijuana offenses.

We have made a lot of good bipartisan progress on SAFE Banking last Congress. And after today's hearing, we hope there will be a markup on this bill in the near future. We are really moving forward in a record way on a very important issue.

Finally, last, but certainly not least, the HELP Committee also advanced PBM and generic drug-pricing reform. It will reform the PBM system, which we know is one of the reasons the cost of drugs is so high. Hopefully, with the reform, the cost of prescription drugs like insulin for non-Medicare Americans will come down. We reduced insulin to \$35 for those on Medicare, but we need to work on reducing insulin costs for everybody, and this bill is a major step forward in that direction.

So it has been a busy week—significant progress on many issues: judicial nominees; rail safety; SAFE Banking reform; and PBM reform, which can lower insulin costs for millions of Americans. It has been a good, strong week. And I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for moving forward.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations: all nominations placed on the Secretary's Desk in the Coast Guard; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that

the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

#### NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

##### IN THE COAST GUARD

\* PN440-1 COAST GUARD nominations (314) beginning ALAINA M. ACCUMANNO, and ending KRISTEN E. ZELMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 14, 2023.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

##### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

#### ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

#### DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. OE-23. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 21-52 of July 30, 2021.

Sincerely,

MIKE MILLER  
(For James A. Hursch, Director)  
Enclosure.

## TRANSMITTAL NO. OE-23

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(a), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Israel.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 21-52.

Date: July 30, 2021.

Implementing Agency: Navy.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing (FMF).

(iii) Description: On July 30, 2021, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 21-52 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of up to eighteen (18) CH-53K Heavy Lift Helicopters; up to sixty (60) T408-GE-400 Engines (54 installed, 6 spares); and up to thirty-six (36) Embedded Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) with Selective Availability/Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM). Also included is communication equipment; GAU-21 .50 caliber Machine Guns; Mission Planning System; facilities study, design and construction; spare and repair parts; support and test equipment; publications and technical documentation; aircrew and maintenance training; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost was \$3.4 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$2.4 billion of this total.

This transmittal reports the inclusion of the following non-MDE items: ARC-210 RT-2036(C) Radio Transmitters (RT); Advanced Data Transfer Systems (ADTS); post-production line modifications; and Containerized Flight Training Devices (CFTD) with initial Integrated Logistics Support (ILS), spares and support equipment. The estimated total cost of the new items is \$75 million. The estimated total case value will remain \$3.4 billion and the MDE cost will remain \$2.4 billion.

(iv) Significance: The proposed sale will improve Israel's capability to communicate securely across a wide spectrum with voice and data, and to conduct secure mission planning integrated across platforms and premier operational planning tools.

(v) Justification: The United States is committed to the security of Israel, and it is vital to U.S. national interests to assist Israel to develop and maintain a strong and ready self-defense capability. This proposed sale is consistent with those objectives.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The ARC-210 RT-2036(C) Radio Transmitter (RT) is networked communications airborne radio, which provides the latest and most capable software defined radio receiver-transmitter. The RT-2036(C) provides VHF/UHF open and secure voice and data communications, enabling interconnected software and network management systems. The RT also features the latest SATURN waveform technology for proven next-generation frequency-agile communications.

The Advanced Data Transfer System (ADTS) provides a next generation Video Recorder system that consolidates data transfer and recording devices, while leveraging Department of Defense technology and Department buys. ADTS provides modern data transfer devices that interface with both off and on aircraft mission planning applications and data. The system provides Moving Map, video recording integration, sensor data transfer, security (encryption and decryption), and storage with aircraft mission safety and weapon systems.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Delivered to Congress: May 10, 2023.

## ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY  
COOPERATION AGENCY,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0F-23. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 22-60 of November 9, 2022.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,  
Director.

Enclosure.

## TRANSMITTAL NO. 0F-23

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 26(b)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Lithuania.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 22-06; Date: November 9, 2022; Implementing Agency: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds

(iii) Description: On November 9, 2022, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 22-60 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of eight (8) M 142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) Launchers; thirty-six (36) M30A2 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) Alternative Warhead (AW) Missile Pods with In-sensitive Munitions Propulsion System (IMPS); thirty-six (36) M31A2 GMLRS Unitary High Explosive (HE) Missile Pods; thirty-six (36) XM403 Extended Range GMLRS (ER GMLRS) Alternative Warhead (AW) Missile Pods with IMPS; thirty-six (36) XM404 Extended Range GMLRS (ER GMLRS) Unitary Pods with IMPS; and eighteen (18) M57 Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) Missile Pods. Also included are M28A2 Low Cost Reduced Range Practice Rocket (LCRRPR) pods; International Field Artillery Tactical Data System (IFATDS); battle management system Vehicle Integration Kits; ruggedized laptops; training equipment publications for HIMARS and munitions; and

other related elements of program and logistics support. The total estimated cost was \$495 million. Major Defense Equipment (MOE) constituted \$440 million of this total.

This transmittal reports MOE that was previously reported as non-MOE: twenty-five (25) International Field Artillery Tactical Data Systems (IFATDS). The overall MOE value will remain \$440 million. The total case value will remain \$495 million.

(iv) Significance: The proposed sale will contribute to Lithuania's military goals of updating its capability while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allies. Lithuania intends to use these defense articles and services to modernize its armed forces and expand its capability to strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally that is an important force for ensuring political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: IFATDS is a multi-service (U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps) automated, expert decision support system used for command, control, communications, integration, and synchronization of fires on ground targets during all phases of military conflict. IFATDS provides the automated tools that significantly augment the capability of fire support coordinators and fire support asset commanders.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is UNCLASSIFIED.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 9, 2023.

## ISRAEL

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, today, May 14, 2023, I want to recognize our great friend and ally, Israel, on the 75th anniversary of its independence. Israel's everlasting commitment to freedom and democracy serves as a beacon of light to freedom-loving people around the world. I am proud to support the expansion and solidifying of the Abraham Accords, to encourage normalized relations with Israel, economic prosperity, and safety for all citizens in the region. The United States and Israel share a unique bilateral relationship, and I look forward to many more years of a flourishing friendship between our two countries.

## HEAD START

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the work of the Head Start providers and programs across the United States as the National Head Start Association gathers in Phoenix, AZ, for its 50th annual conference.

Since 1965, more than 37 million Americans have relied on Head Start to provide high-quality early childhood education programming to families in need. Head Start programs operate in all 50 States through a variety of models, serving families from before birth to age 5 in Early Head Start and Head Start. But it is not just children who reap the benefits of a Head Start program. Parents and families are an integral part of Head Start, whether by

volunteering in a classroom, participating in educational programming, or even embarking on a career in early childhood education through Head Start, which is happening in Arizona.

Earlier this year, I was lucky enough to meet with an Arizona Head Start parent in my office, along with staff and administrators from our State. Being a new grandfather made it even more meaningful to me to hear the appreciation in the voice of the parent as she described the economic and educational opportunities Head Start was creating for her family. It also made it harder to hear that challenges in finding and retaining teachers and staff mean that classrooms are closing and hundreds of thousands of children are stuck on waiting lists.

That is why I am committed to growing Senate support for Head Start. I am proud that the most recent appropriations bill included nearly \$12 billion for Head Start, representing a \$960 million increase from the prior year. With this funding, Head Start staff can get paid closer to what they deserve, and more families can gain access to the early childhood education that we know makes a long-term difference. But there is certainly more to do, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to help more children and families succeed.

To the Head Start providers, staff, and families throughout this country: We are with you. Thank you for the work you do every day.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING VAN HEMERT'S DUTCH OVEN BAKERY

- Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week it is my privilege to recognize Van Hemert's Dutch Oven Bakery of Boone, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Van Hemert's Dutch Oven Bakery was founded by husband and wife duo Denny and Terri Van Hemert in 1983. The bakery's motto is, "A Little Dutch in the Heart of Iowa," and the Van Hemert's have accomplished that. Operating as a full-line scratch bakery, Van Hemert's Dutch Oven Bakery is famous for their Dutch letters, which are made by creating a light pastry shell and filling it with homemade almond paste. Although they craft a wide range of letters, they claim that the Dutch letter "S" is their most popular. They also offer other Dutch pastries on their menu including almond horns, Dutch windmills, and creme horns. In addition to Dutch pastries, they also have pies, muffins, donuts, cakes, and seasonal items on the menu.

Another unique aspect of the bakery is that their menu is more than just

pastries and sweets. They have goods for all occasions, including homemade bread, a breakfast and lunch menu, and a "Koffie Haus" with a wide range of caffeinated beverages.

Van Hemert's Dutch Oven Bakery has been recognized for their hard work. They have locations in Boone and Ames, IA, and were named by the Iowa State Daily in 2016 and 2017 as the student choice best bakery. They have even been recognized nationally, placing fifth in the Dawn Food's America's Sweetest Bakery competition in 2017.

Van Hemert's Dutch Oven Bakery's commitment to providing quality pastries in central Iowa is clear. I want to congratulate the Van Hemert family and the entire team at Van Hemert's Dutch Oven Bakery for their continued dedication to providing Dutch sweets and treats to Iowans. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, one of his secretaries.

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

##### REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13611 OF MAY 16, 2012, WITH RESPECT TO YEMEN—PM 12

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Yemen declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012, is to continue in effect beyond May 16, 2023.

The actions and policies of certain former members of the Government of Yemen and others in threatening Yemen's peace, security, and stability continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national

emergency declared in Executive Order 13611 with respect to Yemen.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 11, 2023.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1221. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's fiscal year 2022 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1222. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Report to Congress on Investigation, Enforcement, and Implementation of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act Requirements" received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 243. A bill to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish procedures for conducting maintenance projects at ports of entry at which the Office of Field Operations conducts certain enforcement and facilitation activities (Rept. No. 118-23).

S. 310. A bill to establish an advisory group to encourage and foster collaborative efforts among individuals and entities engaged in disaster recovery relating to debris removal, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-24).

S. 679. A bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to require Federal agencies to submit to the Comptroller General of the United States a report on rules that are revoked, suspended, replaced, amended, or otherwise made ineffective (Rept. No. 118-25).

S. 717. A bill to improve plain writing and public experience, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-26).

S. 794. A bill to require a pilot program on the participation of non-asset-based third-party logistics providers in the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (Rept. No. 118-27).

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. BROWN for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

\*Solomon Jeffrey Greene, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

\*Ron Borzekowski, of Maryland, to be Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, for a term of six years.

\*David Uejio, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

\*Jared Bernstein, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Charnelle Bjelkengren, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington.

Marian F. Gaston, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

S. Kato Crews, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

Jeremy C. Daniel, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Brendan Abell Hurson, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland.

Darrel James Papillion, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SCHATZ:

S. 1550. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include fees paid by airline passengers for goods and services offered during the course of a flight as amounts paid for taxable transportation; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. WELCH, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 1551. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish an Office of Consumer Protection in the Department of Transportation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1552. A bill to establish the Coastal Management Fellowship and the Digital Coast Fellowship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 1553. A bill to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to improve the management of grazing permits and leases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. BENNET, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Mr. OSSOFF, and Mr. MULLIN):

S. 1554. A bill to grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1555. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to support solar projects under the Rural Energy for America Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1556. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to authorize the payment of a basic allowance for housing for certain members of the uniformed services assigned to naval vessels undergoing maintenance, and to amend title 5, United States Code, to authorize an increase in the number of Navy deployed resiliency counselors available to such members; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WYDEN, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1557. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. DAINES, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1558. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the brave women who served in World War II as members of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and U.S. Navy Nurse Corps; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BRAUN, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 1559. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the corporate alternative minimum tax; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 1560. A bill to require the development of a comprehensive rural hospital cybersecurity workforce development strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 1561. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow qualified distributions from qualified tuition programs for certain aviation maintenance and commercial pilot courses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MULLIN (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 1562. A bill to ensure that Federal laws that enable Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to access firearms apply equally to Tribal law enforcement agencies; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BUDD, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1563. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to clarify the fiduciary duty of plan administrators to select and maintain investments based solely on pecuniary factors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1564. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to establish, or otherwise ensure the provision of, a training program on artificial intelligence

for Federal management officials and supervisors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 1565. A bill to require Executive agencies to submit to Congress a study of the impacts of expanded telework and remote work by agency employees during the COVID-19 pandemic and a plan for the agency's future use of telework and remote work, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 1566. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to identify certain aircraft shelters for aviation assets in the Indo-Pacific region and submit a plan to make improvements to such shelters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1567. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to address the teacher and school leader shortage in early childhood, elementary, and secondary education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 1568. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 and the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make breakfasts and lunches free for all children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. THUNE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. SCHMITT, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 1569. A bill to protect law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. DAINES, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1570. A bill to amend the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act to require hygienic handling of breast milk and baby formula by security screening personnel of the Transportation Security Administration and personnel of private security companies providing security screening, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 1571. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore State authority to waive for certain facilities the 35-mile rule for designating critical access hospitals under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HAGERTY:

S. 1572. A bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to address transaction account guarantees, and for other purposes;

to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 1573. A bill to reauthorize the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 1574. A bill to establish the Mental Health Excellence in Schools Program to increase the recruitment and retention of school-based mental health services providers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 1575. A bill to authorize additional district judgeships for the district of Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KING, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1576. A bill to provide for advancements in carbon removal research, quantification, and commercialization, including by harnessing natural processes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 1577. A bill to require the appointment or designation of emerging technology leads in certain Federal agencies; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1578. A bill to require reports on the adoption of cryptocurrency as legal tender in El Salvador; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 1579. A bill to improve the process for awarding grants under certain programs of the Department of Transportation to certain counties in which the majority of land is owned or managed by the Federal Government and to other units of local government and Tribal governments in those counties, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 1580. A bill to improve the process for awarding grants under certain programs of the Department of Agriculture to certain counties in which the majority of land is owned or managed by the Federal Government and to other units of local government and Tribal governments in those counties, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. Kaine, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. WARREN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 1581. A bill to remove college cost as a barrier to every student having access to a well-prepared and diverse educator workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. KING, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. LUIJÁN):

S. 1582. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to expand

the national organic certification cost-share program into a comprehensive organic program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 1583. A bill to require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress classified dissent cables relating to the withdrawal of the United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1584. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a refundable tax credit for certain teachers as a supplement to State efforts to provide teachers with a livable wage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1585. A bill to allow Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. CASEY, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1586. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a national graduate nurse education program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. THUNE, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CASSIDY, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1587. A bill to provide incentives for States to recover fraudulently paid Federal and State unemployment compensation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1588. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to direct the forgiveness or offset of an overpayment of retired pay paid to a joint account for a period after the death of the retired member of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1589. A bill to provide for transparency of funds appropriated for purposes of implementing part E of title XI of the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 1590. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend increased dependency and indemnity compensation paid to surviving spouses of veterans who die from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, regardless of how long the veterans had such disease prior to death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. VANCE (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. RUBIO):

S.J. Res. 26. A joint resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BUDD:

S.J. Res. 27. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs of the Department of Labor relating to "Rescission of Implementing Legal Requirements Regarding the Equal Opportunity Clause's Religious Exemption Rule"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 207. A resolution marking the 60th anniversary of the Polaris Sales Agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KELLY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. TESTER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. Res. 208. A resolution expressing support for the designation of November 12, 2023, as "National Warrior Call Day" and recognizing the important of connecting warriors in the United States to support structures necessary to transition from the battlefield, especially peer-to-peer connection; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. Kaine, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. WARNER):

S. Res. 209. A resolution recognizing the significance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Res. 210. 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 National Championship; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CARPER, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. HASAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. OSSOFF):

S. Res. 211. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the United States during Public Service Recognition Week; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 212. A resolution commemorating 50 years of women serving as naval aviators in the United States; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 26

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 26, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the amendments made to reporting of third party network transactions by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

S. 133

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 133, a bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project.

S. 203

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to amend section 923 of title 18, United States Code, to require an electronic, searchable database of the importation, production, shipment, receipt, sale, or other disposition of firearms.

S. 247

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 247, a bill to support State, Tribal, and local efforts to remove access to firearms from individuals who are a danger to themselves or others pursuant to court orders for this purpose.

S. 288

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 288, a bill to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally.

S. 305

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSBOFF) were added as cosponsors 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. 378

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 378, a bill to amend the Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 to appropriately limit attorney's fees.

S. 466

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr.

DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 466, a bill to provide for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to study and report on a Federal research agenda to advance the understanding of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 597, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 626

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 626, a bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes.

S. 639

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 639, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 662

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 662, a bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to create a new national program to support mid-career workers, including workers from underrepresented populations, in reentering the STEM workforce, by providing funding to small- and medium-sized STEM businesses so the businesses can offer paid internships or other returnships that lead to positions above entry level.

S. 668

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 668, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins to honor and memorialize the tragedy of the Sultana steamboat explosion of 1865.

S. 697

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 697, a bill to amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to modify the treatment of revenue from timber sale contracts and certain payments made by counties to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior under good neighbor agreements, and for other purposes.

S. 708

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 708, a bill to improve outcomes for Medicaid beneficiaries with major depressive disorder or other mental health conditions.

S. 767

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 767, a bill to enhance mental health and psychosocial support within United States development and humanitarian assistance programs.

S. 1079

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1079, a bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to provide additional assistance to rural water, wastewater, and waste disposal systems, and for other purposes.

S. 1170

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1170, a bill to reauthorize and update the Project Safe Childhood program, and for other purposes.

S. 1199

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1199, a bill to combat the sexual exploitation of children by supporting victims and promoting accountability and transparency by the tech industry.

S. 1264

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1264, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to strengthen the drug pricing reforms in the Inflation Reduction Act.

S. 1491

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 1491, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 1529

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1529, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide for greater protection of roosters, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 188

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as

cosponsors of S. Res. 188, a resolution celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1567. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to address the teacher and school leader shortage in early childhood, elementary, and secondary education, and for other purposes; 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. 1567

*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 “Retaining Educators Takes Added Investment Now Act” or the “RETAIN Act”.

#### SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to create a refundable tax credit for early childhood educators, teachers, early childhood education program directors, school leaders, and school-based mental health services providers in early childhood, elementary, and secondary education settings that rewards retention based on the time spent serving high-need students.

#### SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The shortage of experienced, qualified early childhood educators and elementary school and secondary school teachers is a national problem that compromises the academic outcomes and long-term success of students.

(2) The shortage is the result of many factors including low pay, frequent turnover in school leadership, poor teaching conditions, and inadequate teacher supports.

(3) The shortage is worse in high-poverty areas where the factors contributing to the shortage are particularly acute and have an increased negative impact on teachers of color remaining in the field.

(4) A child’s access to high-quality early childhood education is critical to supporting positive outcomes, and early childhood educators—

(A) play an important role in setting the foundation for future learning, and

(B) promote the development of vital skills, habits, and mindsets that children need to be successful in school and in life.

(5) In 2021, the national median pay of early childhood educators was a mere \$30,210, with many early childhood educators relying on government assistance programs such as Medicaid, the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), or the temporary assistance for needy families program established under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), and struggling to provide for their own families.

(6) Studies have demonstrated that well-qualified, experienced teachers are the single most important school-based element contributing to a child’s academic achievement and success.

(7) In the 2021–2022 academic year, the average teacher salary in public elementary schools and secondary schools was only \$66,397, a 2 percent increase from the previous academic year. When adjusted for inflation, the average teacher salary has declined by 6.4 percent over the past decade.

(8) On average, public elementary school and secondary school teachers were paid 23.5 percent less than other college graduates working in non-teaching fields, and many teachers struggle with large amounts of student loan debt.

(9) In 2021, the average teacher salary for a first-year teacher in a public elementary school or secondary school was \$41,770.

(10) An experienced, well-qualified education workforce must also be reflective of the diversity of the student body across race, ethnicity, and disability.

(11) Higher pay for teachers can result in a more diverse teacher workforce, and minority students often perform better on standardized tests, have improved attendance, and are suspended less frequently when they have at least one same-race teacher.

(12) Experienced, well-qualified school leaders and school-based mental health service providers are essential for providing strong educational opportunities and services for students and promoting teacher retention through improved professional supports and teaching conditions.

(13) Between February 2020 and May 2022, at least 300,000 teachers at public elementary schools and secondary schools left the field, a nearly 3 percent decline in the teacher workforce.

#### SEC. 4. REFUNDABLE TAX CREDIT FOR TEACHER AND SCHOOL LEADER RETENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after section 36B the following new section:

#### “SEC. 36C. TEACHER AND SCHOOL LEADER RETENTION CREDIT.

##### “(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual who is employed in a position described in paragraph (2) during a school year ending with or within the taxable year, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this subtitle for the taxable year an amount equal to the applicable amount (as determined under subsection (b)).

“(2) ELIGIBLE POSITIONS.—The positions described in this paragraph shall consist of the following:

“(A) An eligible early childhood educator.

“(B) An eligible early childhood education program director.

“(C) An eligible early childhood education provider.

“(D) An eligible teacher.

“(E) An eligible paraprofessional.

“(F) An eligible school-based mental health services provider.

“(G) An eligible school leader.

##### “(b) APPLICABLE AMOUNT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, the applicable amount shall be an amount determined based on the number of school years for which the individual has been continuously employed in any position described in subsection (a)(2), as follows:

“(A) Subject to paragraph (2), for the first year of employment, \$5,800.

“(B) For the second continuous year of employment, \$5,800.

“(C) For the third and fourth continuous year of employment, \$7,000.

“(D) For the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth continuous year of employment, \$8,700.

“(E) For the tenth continuous year of employment, \$11,600.

“(F) For the eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth continuous year of employment, \$8,700.

“(G) For the sixteenth continuous year of employment, \$7,000.

“(H) For the seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth continuous year of employment, \$5,800.

“(2) FIRST YEAR.—For purposes of the first year of employment ending with or within a taxable year, an individual must have been so employed for a period of not less than 4 months before the first day of such taxable year.

“(3) LIMITATION BASED ON TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHOOL YEARS.—In the case of any individual who has been employed in any position described in subsection (a)(2) for a total of more than 20 school years, the applicable amount shall be reduced to zero.

##### “(c) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2024, each of the dollar amounts in subsection (b)(1) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for such calendar year by substituting ‘calendar year 2023’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“(2) ROUNDING.—If any increase determined under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of \$100, such increase shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$100.

##### “(d) SUPPLEMENTING, NOT SUPPLANTING, STATE AND LOCAL EDUCATION FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A State educational agency or local educational agency shall not reduce or adjust any compensation, or any assistance provided through a loan forgiveness program, to an employee of the State educational agency or local educational agency who serves in any position described in subsection (a)(2) due to the individual’s eligibility for the credit under this section.

“(2) METHODOLOGY.—Upon request by the Secretary of Education, a State educational agency or local educational agency shall reasonably demonstrate that the methodology used to allocate amounts for compensation and for loan forgiveness to the employees described in paragraph (1) at qualifying schools or qualifying early childhood education programs ensures that employees at each qualifying school or qualifying early childhood education program in the State or served by the local educational agency, respectively, receive the same amount of State or local funds for compensation and loan forgiveness that the qualifying school or qualifying early childhood education program would receive if the credit under this section had not been enacted.

“(e) INFORMATION SHARING.—The Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall provide the Secretary with such information as is necessary for purposes of determining whether an early childhood education program or an elementary school or secondary school satisfies the requirements for a qualifying early childhood education program or a qualifying school, respectively.

##### “(f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ESEA DEFINITIONS.—The terms ‘elementary school’, ‘local educational agency’, ‘secondary school’, and ‘State educational agency’ have the meanings given the terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

“(2) ELIGIBLE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM DIRECTOR.—The term ‘eligible early childhood education program director’ means an employee or officer of a qualifying

early childhood education program who is responsible for the daily instructional leadership and managerial operations of such program.

“(3) ELIGIBLE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROVIDER.—The term ‘eligible early childhood education provider’ means an individual—

“(A) who—

“(i) has an associate’s degree or higher degree in early childhood education or a related field, or

“(ii) is enrolled during the taxable year in a program leading to such an associate’s or higher degree and is making satisfactory progress toward such degree, and

“(B) who is responsible for the daily instructional leadership and managerial operations of a qualifying early childhood education program in a home-based setting.

“(4) ELIGIBLE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR.—The term ‘eligible early childhood educator’ means an individual—

“(A) who—

“(i) has an associate’s degree or higher degree in early childhood education or a related field, or

“(ii) is enrolled during the taxable year in a program leading to such an associate’s or higher degree and is making satisfactory progress toward such degree,

“(B) who has credentials or a license under State law for early childhood education, as applicable, and

“(C) whose primary responsibility is for the learning and development of children in a qualifying early childhood education program during the taxable year.

“(5) ELIGIBLE PARAPROFESSIONAL.—The term ‘eligible paraprofessional’ means an individual—

“(A) who is a paraprofessional, as defined in section 3201 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7011),

“(B) who meets the applicable State professional standards and qualifications pursuant to section 1111(g)(2)(M) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 6311(g)(2)(M)),

“(C) whose primary responsibilities involve working or assisting in a classroom setting, and

“(D) who is employed in a qualifying school or a qualifying early childhood education program.

“(6) ELIGIBLE SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDER.—The term ‘eligible school-based mental health services provider’ means an individual—

“(A) described in section 4102(6) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7112(6)), and

“(B) who is employed in a qualifying school or a qualifying early childhood education program.

“(7) ELIGIBLE SCHOOL LEADER.—The term ‘eligible school leader’ means a principal, assistant principal, or other individual who is—

“(A) an employee or officer of a qualifying school, and

“(B) responsible for the daily instructional leadership and managerial operations in the qualifying school.

“(8) ELIGIBLE TEACHER.—The term ‘eligible teacher’ means an individual who—

“(A) is an elementary school or secondary school teacher who, as determined by the State or local educational agency, is a teacher of record who provides direct classroom teaching (or classroom-type teaching in a nonclassroom setting) to students in a qualifying school, and

“(B)(i) meets applicable State certification and licensure requirements, including any requirements for certification obtained through alternative routes to certification, in the State in which such school is located

and in the subject area in which the individual is the teacher of record, or

“(ii) is enrolled during the taxable year in a program leading to State certification and licensure as described in clause (i) and is making satisfactory progress toward such certification and licensure requirements.

“(9) QUALIFYING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualifying early childhood education program’ means an early childhood education program, as defined in section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003), that, regardless of setting—

“(i) serves children who receive services for which financial assistance is provided in accordance with the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9857 et seq.), the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.), or the child and adult care food program established under section 17 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766), and

“(ii) participates in a State tiered and transparent system for measuring program quality.

“(B) SPECIAL RULE.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), an early childhood education program that does not satisfy the requirements of subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be deemed to be a qualifying early childhood education program until September 30, 2023, if the program—

“(i) satisfies all requirements of subparagraph (A) except for clause (ii) of such subparagraph, and

“(ii)(I) meets the Head Start program performance standards described in section 641A(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836a(a)), if applicable, or

“(II) is accredited by a national accreditor of early learning programs as of the date of enactment of the Retaining Educators Takes Added Investment Now Act.

“(10) QUALIFYING SCHOOL.—The term ‘qualifying school’ means—

“(A) a public elementary school or secondary school that—

“(i) is in the school district of a local educational agency that is eligible for assistance under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.), or

“(ii) is served or operated by an educational service agency that is eligible for such assistance, or

“(B) an elementary school or secondary school that is funded by the Bureau of Indian Education and that is in the school district of a local educational agency that is eligible for such assistance.”.

“(b) W-2 REPORTING OF CONTINUOUS EMPLOYMENT FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS AT QUALIFYING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR QUALIFYING SCHOOLS.—Section 6051(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (16), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (17) and inserting “, and”, and by inserting after paragraph (17) the following new paragraph:

“(18) in the case of an employee who is employed in a position described in subsection (a)(2) of section 36C, the number of school years for which such employee has been continuously employed in any such position.”.

“(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The table of sections for subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 36B the following:

“Sec. 36C. Teacher and school leader retention credit.”.

(2) Section 6211(b)(4)(A) of such Code is amended by inserting “36C,” after “36B,”.

(3) Paragraph (2) of section 1324(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting “36C,” after “36B.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.

#### SEC. 5. DEVELOPING INTERAGENCY DATA SERIES.

The Secretary of Labor, in coordination with the Secretary of Treasury, the Secretary of Education, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall—

(1) develop and publish on the internet website of the Bureau of Labor Statistics a data series that captures—

(A) the average base salary of teachers in elementary schools and secondary schools, disaggregated by—

(i) employment in public elementary schools and secondary schools that receive assistance under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.),

(ii) employment in public elementary schools and secondary schools that do not receive such assistance, and

(iii) geographic region, and

(B) the average base salary of early childhood educators, disaggregated by highest level of degree attained, and

(2) update the data series under paragraph (1) on an annual basis.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 1571. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore State authority to waive for certain facilities the 35-mile rule for designating critical access hospitals under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; 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. 1571

*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 “Rural Hospital Closure Relief Act of 2023”.

#### SEC. 2. RESTORING STATE AUTHORITY TO WAIVE THE 35-MILE RULE FOR CERTAIN MEDICARE CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL DESIGNATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1820 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i-4) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B)(i)—

(i) in subclause (I), by striking “or” at the end;

(ii) in subclause (II), by inserting “or” at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following new subclause:

“(III) subject to subparagraph (G), is a hospital described in subparagraph (F) and is certified on or after the date of the enactment of the Rural Hospital Closure Relief Act of 2023 by the State as being a necessary provider of health care services to residents in the area;”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(F) HOSPITAL DESCRIBED.—For purposes of subparagraph (B)(i)(III), a hospital described in this subparagraph is a hospital that—

“(i) is a sole community hospital (as defined in section 1886(d)(5)(D)(iii)), a medicare dependent, small rural hospital (as defined in section 1886(d)(5)(G)(iv)), a low-volume hospital that in 2021 receives a payment adjustment under section 1886(d)(12), a subsection

(d) hospital (as defined in section 1886(d)(1)(B)) that has fewer than 50 beds, or, subject to the limitation under subparagraph (G)(i)(I), is a facility described in subparagraph (G)(ii);

“(ii) is located in a rural area, as defined in section 1886(d)(2)(D);

“(iii)(I) is located—

“(aa) in a county that has a percentage of individuals with income that is below 150 percent of the poverty line that is higher than the national or statewide average in 2021;

“(bb) in a health professional shortage area (as defined in section 332(a)(1)(A) of the Public Health Service Act); or

“(II) has a percentage of inpatient days of individuals entitled to benefits under part A of this title, enrolled under part B of this title, or enrolled under a State plan under title XIX that is higher than the national or statewide average in 2020 or 2021;

“(iv) subject to subparagraph (G)(ii)(II), has attested to the Secretary two consecutive years of negative operating margins preceding the date of certification described in subparagraph (B)(i)(III); and

“(v) submits to the Secretary—

“(I) at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require, an attestation outlining the good governance qualifications and strategic plan for multi-year financial solvency of the hospital; and

“(II) not later than 120 days after the date on which the Secretary issues final regulations pursuant to section 2(b) of the Rural Hospital Closure Relief Act of 2023, an application for certification of the facility as a critical access hospital.

“(G) LIMITATION ON CERTAIN DESIGNATIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not under subsection (e) certify pursuant to a certification by a State under subparagraph (B)(i)(III)—

“(I) more than a total of 175 facilities as critical access hospitals, of which not more than 20 percent may be facilities described in clause (ii); and

“(II) within any one State, more than 10 facilities as critical access hospitals.

“(ii) FACILITY DESCRIBED.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—A facility described in this clause is a facility that as of the date of enactment of this subparagraph met the criteria for designation as a critical access hospital under subparagraph (B)(i)(I).

“(II) NONAPPLICATION OF CERTAIN CRITERIA.—For purposes of subparagraph (B)(i)(III), the criteria described in subparagraph (F)(iv) shall not apply with respect to the designation of a facility described in subclause (I); and

(2) in subsection (e), by inserting “, subject to subsection (c)(2)(G),” after “The Secretary shall”.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall issue final regulations to carry out subsection (a).

(c) CLARIFICATION REGARDING FACILITIES THAT MEET DISTANCE OR OTHER CERTIFICATION CRITERIA.—Nothing in this section shall affect the application of criteria for designation as a critical access hospital described in subclause (I) or (II) section 1820(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i-4(c)(2)(B)(i)).

(d) GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—

(1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States (in this section referred to as the “Comptroller General”), in consultation with the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, shall conduct a study on the implementation of the amendments made by subsection (a). Such study shall include an analysis of—

(A) the characteristics of facilities designated as critical access hospitals pursuant to section 1820(c)(2)(B)(i)(III) of the Social Security Act, as added by subsection (a);

(B) the financial status and outlook for such facilities based on their designation as a critical access hospital pursuant to such section;

(C) any increase in expenditures under the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.) as a result of such designation, relative to the expected baseline expenditures under the Medicare program if such facilities had not received such designation; and

(D) whether the authority to designate facilities as critical access hospitals pursuant to such section 1820(c)(2)(B)(i)(III) should be maintained as is, modified in scale or scope, or sunset.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 7 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), together with recommendations for such legislation and administrative action as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

(e) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of on which the Comptroller General submits the report to Congress under subsection (d)(2), the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services shall establish a mechanism and provide guidance and technical assistance to facilities that have been designated as a critical access hospital pursuant to section 1820(c)(2)(B)(i)(III) of the Social Security Act, as added by subsection (a), on how such facilities may consider transitioning to a different payment model under the Medicare program.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KING, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1576. A bill to provide for advancements in carbon removal research, quantification, and commercialization, including by harnessing natural processes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise today to introduce the Carbon Removal and Emissions Storage Technologies Act, the CREST Act. I want to thank Senator CANTWELL for her partnership in working on this bill. Our bipartisan bill would direct the Department of Energy to research and evaluate the feasibility of innovative carbon removal and storage pathways. The name the “CREST Act” alludes to the fact that we have reached the “crest” of our emissions, and we must work to reduce them.

With more and more private and public sector commitments to reach net-zero emissions within certain timeframes, companies are scrambling to invest in quantifiable, durable, and verifiable carbon removal solutions. Microsoft, for example, has made a commitment to be carbon negative by 2030. Even though Microsoft plans to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by more than half, it will need to remove the rest of its carbon emissions. In order to do this, Microsoft plans to invest \$1 billion in carbon removal technologies, such as direct air capture, forestation, and carbon mineralization.

Despite the growing number of companies that are looking to offset their emissions, current cost estimates show that private sector investment alone will not be sufficient to research and deploy carbon removal pathways. I supported the Energy Act of 2020, which authorized the first comprehensive Federal carbon removal research and development program, and the bipartisan infrastructure bill, which invested \$3.6 billion in direct air capture. Although these investments have been significant, more work is needed in further research, increased testing, and enhanced public-private partnerships to help aid in scaling carbon removal technologies.

The CREST Act would expand the Department of Energy’s carbon removal research and development programs to include carbon removal pathways that can permanently sequester carbon dioxide or use carbon dioxide to produce biofuels or products. The key areas of focus for research and development in our legislation are biomass carbon removal and storage, geological removal, atmospheric and aquatic removal, carbon dioxide storage, and carbon dioxide removal quantification.

Our legislation also aims to accelerate the commercialization of innovative carbon solutions through a pilot program at the Department of Energy. This pilot program would be charged with accelerating the deployment of affordable and proven carbon removal technologies. This reverse-auction style pilot program would position the government to purchase innovative and promising technologies, subject to certain criteria, and reduce the costs of those technologies. This would allow companies that may not have as much purchasing power as Microsoft to participate in carbon removal to help offset emissions.

This pilot program could also support companies that are leading the way in carbon removal technology, like Running Tide in Maine, in bringing down the cost of its product. Running Tide captures carbon dioxide using kelp microforests, sun, ocean currents, and gravity. This new and exciting company grows floating kelp microforests attached to biodegradable buoys that sink as they break down. The carbon captured through the floating microforest is effectively removed for hundreds of years once it hits the ocean floor. Running Tide hopes to soon be selling “kelp carbon credits” to help offset private entities’ emissions. They are currently working to commercialize quickly. These innovative approaches are the kinds that our new pilot program could encourage.

Climate change is a significant environmental challenge that requires innovative and global solutions to reduce greenhouse gas pollution. While carbon removal is only a small part of the solution, it is critical that we promote innovation in this area. Our bipartisan bill has earned endorsements from Bipartisan Policy Center Action,

ClearPath Action, Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions, and many others. I urge my colleagues to join Senator CANTWELL and me in supporting this legislation.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 1583. A bill to require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress classified dissent cables relating to the withdrawal of the United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. THUNE. 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. 1583

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

**SECTION 1. SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF DISSENT CABLES RELATING TO WITHDRAWAL OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES FROM AFGHANISTAN.**

(a) SUBMISSION OF CLASSIFIED DISSENT CABLES TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to Congress any classified Department of State cable or memo that expresses a dissenting recommendation or opinion with respect to the withdrawal of the United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan.

(b) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF UNCLASSIFIED DISSENT CABLES.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall make available to the public an unclassified version of any such cable or memo.

(c) PROTECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—The name and any other personally identifiable information of an author of a cable or memo referred to in subsection (a) shall be redacted before submission under that subsection or publication under subsection (b).

**SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS**

**SENATE RESOLUTION 207—MARKING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POLARIS SALES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 207

Whereas, on December 21, 1962, President John F. Kennedy and Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Harold Macmillan met in Nassau, Bahamas, and issued a joint statement (commonly referred to as the “Statement on Nuclear Defense Systems”), agree-

ing that the United States would make Polaris missiles available on a continuing basis to the United Kingdom for use in submarines;

Whereas, on April 6, 1963, Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Her Majesty’s Ambassador to the United States David Ormsby-Gore signed the Polaris Sales Agreement, reaffirming the Statement on Nuclear Defense Systems and agreeing that the United States Government shall provide and the Government of the United Kingdom shall purchase from the United States Government Polaris missiles, equipment, and supporting services;

Whereas the HMS *Resolution* launched the first Polaris missile of the United Kingdom on February 15, 1968, and, in 1969, commenced the first strategic deterrent patrol for the United Kingdom, initiating a continuous at-sea deterrent posture for the United Kingdom that remains in effect;

Whereas the Polaris Sales Agreement was amended to include the Trident II (D5) strategic weapon system on October 19, 1982, in Washington, D.C., through an exchange of notes between Secretary of State Jonathan Howe and Her Majesty’s Ambassador to the United States Oliver Wright; and

Whereas through an exchange of letters in 2008 between Secretary of Defense the Honorable Robert Gates and Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom the Right Honorable Desmond Browne and under the auspices of the Polaris Sales Agreement, the United States Government and the Government of the United Kingdom agreed to continue cooperation to design a common missile compartment for the follow-on ballistic missile submarines of each nation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) marks the 60th anniversary of the Polaris Sales Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America, done at Washington April 6, 1963;

(2) congratulates the Royal Navy for steadfastly maintaining a Continuous At-Sea Deterrent;

(3) recognizes the important contribution of the Continuous At-Sea Deterrent to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization;

(4) reaffirms that the United Kingdom is a valued and special ally of the United States; and

(5) looks forward to continuing and strengthening the shared commitment of the United States and the United Kingdom to sustain submarine-based strategic deterrents well into the future.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 208—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF NOVEMBER 12, 2023, AS “NATIONAL WARRIOR CALL DAY” AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT OF CONNECTING WARRIORS IN THE UNITED STATES TO SUPPORT STRUCTURES NECESSARY TO TRANSITION FROM THE BATTLEFIELD, ESPECIALLY PEER-TO-PEER CONNECTION**

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KELLY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. TESTER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. ROSEN) submitted the following resolution; which was re-

ferred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 208

Whereas establishing an annual “National Warrior Call Day” will draw attention to the members of the Armed Forces whose connection to one another is key to the veterans in the United States who may be dangerously disconnected from family, friends, and support systems;

Whereas the number of suicides of members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty was 519 in 2021;

Whereas, in 2020, there were 6,146 veteran suicide deaths, and the unadjusted rate of suicide in 2020 among veterans was 31.7 per 100,000;

Whereas, after adjusting for sex and age, the rate of veteran suicide in 2020 was 57 percent higher than non-veteran adults;

Whereas more veterans have died by suicide in the last 10 years than members of the Armed Forces who died from combat in Vietnam;

Whereas many of the veterans who take their own lives have had no contact with the Department of Veterans Affairs;

Whereas the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic can lead to increased isolation and disconnection, further exacerbating mental and physical ailments such as post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury;

Whereas invisible wounds linked to an underlying and undiagnosed traumatic brain injury can mirror many mental health conditions, a problem that can be addressed through appropriate medical treatment;

Whereas additional research is needed to highlight the connection between traumatic brain injury as a root cause of invisible wounds and suicide by members of the Armed Forces and veterans; and

Whereas November 12, 2023, would be an appropriate day to designate as “National Warrior Call Day”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of November 12, 2023, as “National Warrior Call Day”;

(2) encourages all individuals in the United States, especially members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty and veterans, to call a warrior, have an honest conversation, and connect them with support, understanding that making a warrior call could save a life; and

(3) implores all individuals in the United States to recommit themselves to engaging with members of the Armed Forces through “National Warrior Call Day” and other constructive efforts that result in solutions and treatment for the invisible scars that members of the Armed Forces carry.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 209—RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH AS AN IMPORTANT TIME TO CELEBRATE THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF ASIAN AMERICANS, NATIVE HAWAIIANS, AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS TO THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES**

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. Kaine, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ,

Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. WARNER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 209

Whereas the people of the United States join together each May to pay tribute to the contributions of generations of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders who have enriched the history of the United States;

Whereas the history of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in the United States is inextricably tied to the story of the United States;

Whereas the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander community is an inherently diverse population, composed of more than 45 distinct ethnicities and more than 100 language dialects;

Whereas, according to the Bureau of the Census, the Asian American population grew faster than any other racial or ethnic group over the last decade, surging nearly 55.5 percent between 2010 and 2020, and during that same time period, the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander population grew by 30.8 percent;

Whereas there are approximately 24,000,000 residents of the United States who identify as Asian and approximately 1,600,000 residents of the United States who identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, making up more than 7 percent of the total population of the United States;

Whereas the month of May was selected for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month because the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States on May 7, 1843, and the first transcontinental railroad was completed on May 10, 1869, with substantial contributions from Chinese immigrants;

Whereas section 102 of title 36, United States Code, officially designates May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month and requests the President to issue an annual proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities;

Whereas 2023 marks several important milestones for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, including—

(1) the 125th anniversary of United States v. Wong Kim Ark, 169 U.S. 649 (1898), a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States that determined that the 14th Amendment grants birthright citizenship to all persons born in the United States, regardless of the national origin of their parents;

(2) the 80th anniversary of the Act entitled “An Act to repeal the Chinese Exclusion Acts, to establish quotas, and for other purposes”, approved December 17, 1943 (commonly known as the “Magnuson Act of 1943”) (57 Stat. 600, chapter 344), which formally repealed the Act entitled “An Act to execute certain treaty stipulations relating to Chinese”, approved May 6, 1882 (commonly known as the “Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882”) (22 Stat. 58, chapter 126);

(3) the 35th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (50 U.S.C. 4211 et seq.), which granted reparations to Japanese Americans incarcerated during World War II; and

(4) the 30th anniversary of the enactment of Public Law 103-150 (107 Stat. 1510), which acknowledged the 100th anniversary of the January 17, 1893, overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii and offered an apology to Native Hawaiians on behalf of the United States;

Whereas Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have made significant contributions to the United States at all levels of the Federal Government and in the Armed Forces, including—

(1) Daniel K. Inouye, a Medal of Honor and Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient who, as President pro tempore of the Senate, was the then-highest-ranking Asian American government official in the history of the United States;

(2) Dalip Singh Saund, the first Asian American elected to Congress;

(3) Patsy T. Mink, the first woman of color and Asian American woman elected to Congress;

(4) Hiram L. Fong, the first Asian American Senator;

(5) Daniel K. Akaka, the first Senator of Native Hawaiian ancestry;

(6) Norman Y. Mineta, the first Asian American member of a Presidential cabinet;

(7) Elaine L. Chao, the first Asian American woman member of a Presidential cabinet; and

(8) Kamala D. Harris, the first woman and the first Asian American to hold the Office of the Vice President;

Whereas the 118th Congress includes 21 Members of Asian or Pacific Islander descent;

Whereas, in 2023, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, a bicameral caucus of Members of Congress advocating on behalf of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, is composed of 72 Members, and other congressional caucuses work on Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander issues also;

Whereas, in 2023, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders are serving in State and Territorial legislatures across the United States in record numbers, including in—

(1) the States of Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming; and

(2) the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

Whereas Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders represent more than 6 percent of Federal judges and 7 percent of Federal employees, including hundreds of staffers of Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander descent who serve as staff in the Senate and the House of Representatives;

Whereas, since March 2020, there has been a dramatic increase in reports of anti-Asian hate crimes and incidents, including those related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including—

(1) a 339-percent increase in anti-Asian hate crimes in 2021, and a 124-percent increase in 2020;

(2) according to Stop AAPI Hate, over 11,000 hate incidents reported since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic through March 2022, and countless others that have not been reported;

(3) on March 16, 2021, the murder of 8 people, including 6 Asian women, at 3 separate Asian-owned businesses in the Atlanta, Georgia, region; and

(4) on May 15, 2022, the shooting of 5 people in Laguna Hills, California, in which the Taiwanese congregation at Geneva Presbyterian Church was targeted;

Whereas the incidence of hate crimes against Asian Americans continues to be

above levels observed before the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas discrimination against Asian Americans, especially in moments of crisis, is not a new phenomenon, and violence against Asian Americans has occurred throughout United States history, including—

(1) the enactment of the Act entitled “An Act supplementary to the Acts in relation to Immigration”, approved March 3, 1875 (commonly referred to as the “Page Act of 1875”) (18 Stat. 477, chapter 141), which restricted entry of Chinese, Japanese, and other Asian women to the United States and effectively prohibited the immigration of Chinese women, preventing the formation of Chinese families in the United States and limiting the number of native-born Chinese citizens;

(2) the enactment of the Act entitled “An Act to execute certain treaty stipulations relating to Chinese”, approved May 6, 1882 (commonly known as the “Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882”) (22 Stat. 58, chapter 126), which was the first law to explicitly exclude an entire ethnic group from immigrating to the United States;

(3) the issuance of Executive Order 9066 in 1942, which authorized the forced relocation and incarceration of approximately 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry during World War II, the majority of whom were citizens of the United States;

(4) the murder of Vincent Chin;

(5) on January 17, 1989, the Cleveland Elementary School shooting in which a gunman used an AK-47 to kill 5 children, 4 of whom were of Southeast Asian descent;

(6) the rise in discrimination and violence against Muslim, Sikh, Arab, Middle Eastern, and South Asian Americans following the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001; and

(7) on August 5, 2012, the mass shooting at a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, in which a white supremacist fatally shot 6 people and wounded 4 others;

Whereas, in response to the uptick in anti-Asian hate crimes throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress passed the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act (Public Law 117-13; 135 Stat. 265), which was signed into law by President Joseph R. Biden on May 20, 2021;

Whereas, in celebration of the contributions of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders in the United States, Congress passed the Commission To Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act (Public Law 117-140; 136 Stat. 1259) to establish a commission to study the creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture, which was signed into law by President Biden on June 13, 2022;

Whereas, as part of the American Women Quarters Program, the United States Mint has issued, or will issue, commemorative quarters honoring the contributions of—

(1) Chinese American film star Anna May Wong;

(2) Native Hawaiian composer and cultural advocate Edith Kanaka’ole; and

(3) Congresswoman Patsy Mink;

Whereas there remains much to be done to ensure that Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have access to resources and a voice in the Federal Government and continue to advance in the political landscape of the United States; and

Whereas celebrating Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month provides the people of the United States with an opportunity to recognize the achievements, contributions, and history of, and to understand the challenges faced by, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the significance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States; and

(2) recognizes that Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities enhance the rich diversity of and strengthen the United States.

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**SENATE RESOLUTION 210—CONGRATULATING THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY FIGHTING TIGERS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2023 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 210

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") Division I Women's Basketball National Championship (referred to in this preamble as the "national championship"), defeating the University of Iowa Hawkeyes by a score of 102 to 85;

Whereas the LSU Fighting Tigers won their first NCAA national championship in LSU history, with 9 freshman or transfer players playing in their first season for the team;

Whereas during the national championship game—

(1) the LSU Fighting Tigers scored 102 points, becoming the first team to score more than 100 points in a national 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 associate head coach Bob Starkey, assistant coach Daphne Mitchell, and assistant coach Gary Redus II deserve recognition for their historic accomplishment;

Whereas the LSU Fighting Tigers finished the season with 34 wins and 2 losses, with 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 honors, including—

(1) Angel Reese, First Team All-SEC and SEC All-Defensive Team;

(2) Alexis Morris, First Team All-SEC;

(3) Sa'Myah Smith, SEC All-Freshman Team; and

(4) Flau'Jae Johnson, SEC All-Freshman Team, and was named SEC Freshmen of the Year; and

Whereas Angel Reese was named most outstanding player of the NCAA Division I

Women's Basketball Tournament Final Four and set the record for most double-doubles in a single season, with 34; 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 National 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 president of Louisiana State University, William F. Tate IV; and

(C) the athletic director of Louisiana State University, Scott Woodward.

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**SENATE RESOLUTION 211—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT PUBLIC SERVANTS SHOULD BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTINUED SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES DURING PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK**

Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CARPER, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. OSSOFF) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 211

Whereas the week of May 7 through May 13, 2023, has been designated as "Public Service Recognition Week" to honor employees of the Federal Government and State and local governments and members of the uniformed services;

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to recognize and promote the important contributions of public servants and to honor the diverse men and women who meet the needs of the United States through work at all levels of government and as members of the uniformed services;

Whereas millions of individuals serve the public in government service and as members of the uniformed services in every State, county, and city across the United States and in hundreds of cities abroad;

Whereas public servants provide crucial customer service in their local communities to millions of individuals throughout the United States;

Whereas public service is a noble calling involving a variety of challenging and rewarding professions;

Whereas the ability of the Federal Government and State and local governments to be responsive, innovative, and effective depends on the outstanding performance of dedicated public servants;

Whereas the United States continues to reaffirm the critical importance of public service employees in responding to public health and economic challenges;

Whereas the United States is a great and prosperous country, and public service employees contribute significantly to that greatness and prosperity;

Whereas the United States benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of the highly

trained individuals who work in public service;

Whereas public servants—

(1) defend the freedom of the people of the United States and advance the interests of the United States and the ideals of democracy around the world;

(2) provide vital strategic support functions to the Armed Forces and serve in the National Guard and Reserves;

(3) fight crime and fires;

(4) ensure equal access to secure, efficient, and affordable mail service;

(5) deliver benefits under the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), including benefits under the Medicare program under title XVIII of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.);

(6) fight disease and promote better health;

(7) protect the environment and the parks of the United States;

(8) enforce laws guaranteeing equal employment opportunity and healthy working conditions;

(9) defend and secure critical infrastructure;

(10) help the people of the United States recover from natural disasters, pandemics, and terrorist attacks;

(11) teach and work in schools and libraries;

(12) develop new technologies and explore Earth, the moon, and space to improve knowledge on how the world changes;

(13) improve and secure transportation systems;

(14) promote economic stability and growth; and

(15) assist veterans of the Armed Forces;

Whereas members of the uniformed services and civilian employees at all levels of government—

(1) make significant contributions to the general welfare of the United States; and

(2) are on the front lines in the fight to defeat terrorism and maintain homeland security;

Whereas public servants work in a professional manner to build relationships with other countries and cultures in order to better represent the interests and promote the ideals of the United States;

Whereas public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, and abuse, and to dangers to public health;

Whereas the individuals serving in the uniformed services, as well as the skilled trade and craft employees of the Federal Government who provide support to their efforts—

(1) are committed to doing their jobs regardless of the circumstances; and

(2) contribute greatly to the security of the United States and the world;

Whereas public servants have bravely fought in armed conflicts in the defense of the United States and its ideals and deserve the care and benefits they have earned through their honorable service;

Whereas public servants—

(1) have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise and innovative ideas; and

(2) serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants;

Whereas legislative branch employees, including members of the United States Capitol Police and officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives, ensure the smooth functioning of Congress and the safety and security of Members of Congress, their staffs, and visitors to the Capitol complex;

Whereas legislative branch employees working for Members of Congress, congressional committees, and legislative branch agencies work tirelessly to serve constituents and support Congress in fulfilling its constitutional obligations;

Whereas public servants have decisively and resolutely responded to conflicts around

the globe, including the evolving crisis in Ukraine, through creative diplomatic approaches; and

Whereas the week of May 7 through May 13, 2023, marks the 39th anniversary of Public Service Recognition Week; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of May 7 through May 13, 2023, as “Public Service Recognition Week”;

(2) commends public servants during Public Service Recognition Week for their outstanding contributions to this great country throughout the year;

(3) salutes government employees and members of the uniformed services for their unyielding dedication to, and enthusiasm for, public service;

(4) honors government employees and members of the uniformed services who have given their lives in service to their communities and their country;

(5) calls upon a new generation to consider a career in public service as an honorable profession;

(6) encourages efforts to promote public service careers at every level of government; and

(7) expresses gratitude to the Federal workers who have selflessly answered the call to serve their country.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 212—COMMEMORATING 50 YEARS OF WOMEN SERVING AS NAVAL AVIATORS IN THE UNITED STATES**

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 212

Whereas, while women had officially served in various capacities in the Navy since 1908, prior to 1973, women had been prevented from serving as naval aviators;

Whereas, in October 1972, the Navy announced a program to open flight training to women;

Whereas, on January 10, 1973, Secretary of the Navy John Warner presented flight training orders to Judith Neuffer, the first woman to be selected for flight training in the Navy;

Whereas 7 additional women were selected for training as naval aviators, and the group consisted of 4 women who already served as Navy officers and 4 civilians;

Whereas, on March 2, 1973, the first 4 women already serving as Navy officers began flight training at Naval Air Station Pensacola in Pensacola, Florida;

Whereas the 4 civilian women selected for flight training were commissioned in May 1973, and reported to training at Naval Air Station Pensacola on June 4, 1973;

Whereas, on February 22, 1974, Barbara Allen became the first female naval aviator to earn her Wings of Gold;

Whereas, out of the 8 women to be selected for flight training, 6 women, nicknamed the “First Six” (referred to in this preamble as the “First Six”), would go on to earn their Wings of Gold;

Whereas the First Six comprised Judith Neuffer, Barbara Allen, Rosemary Conatser, Jane Skiles, Joellen Drag, and Ann Marie Scott;

Whereas Naval Air Station Pensacola is the “Cradle of Naval Aviation” and serves as the training ground for every naval aviator;

Whereas Naval Air Station Pensacola has played a valuable role in the historic mile-

stone of women training to be naval aviators; and

Whereas the First Six became the first women to hold various naval aviation positions in the Navy; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors the invaluable contributions that the first 6 women to earn their Wings of Gold (referred to in this resolution as the “First Six”) made to naval aviation in the United States;

(2) applauds the steadfast leadership and courage of the First Six that opened doors for women to serve in every level of naval aviation in the United States today;

(3) recognizes 50 years of women serving as naval aviators in the United States and the roles that Naval Air Station Pensacola and the Pensacola, Florida community have played in this milestone and in naval aviation history in the United States; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Commanding Officer of Naval Air Station Pensacola, Captain Terrence M. Shashaty.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I have seven requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

**COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS**

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 9:45 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS**

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 11, 2023.

**COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION**

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a subcommittee hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS**

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 10 a.m.

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

**AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR AN EVENT TO CELEBRATE A KING KAMEHAMEHA DAY LEI DRAPING CEREMONY**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 35, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 35) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate a King Kamehameha Day Lei Draping Ceremony.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

**CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND LEADERS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR MAKING ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 195.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 195) congratulating the students, parents, teachers, and leaders of charter schools across the United States for making ongoing contributions to education, and supporting the ideals and goals of the 24th annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 7 through May 13, 2023.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 195) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 4, 2023, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

## RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions: S. Res. 210, S. Res. 211, and S. Res. 212.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

## ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, May 15; 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 Garcia nomination postcloture; that all time be considered expired at 5:30 p.m.; further, that if any nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

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

## ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator STABENOW. And, knowing her, I am sure they will be excellent remarks.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Michigan.

## TRIBUTE TO EMILY CARWELL

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I thank our leader for all of his wonderful work, all the time.

I rise today to pay tribute to a phenomenal member of my staff, a leader who has played a key role in so many things I have been able to accomplish here in the Senate.

Emily Carwell is leaving the upper Chamber for a new leadership change

across the Rotunda—dare I say, the lower Chamber—after more than 8 years in my office. And, honestly, it feels like Emily has been with me forever. To speak in Senate terms, Emily has been my legislative director for 2,383 votes.

It is actually quite fitting that she is returning to the House, though, because it is where she started, sort of. When I first interviewed her, I loved her right away: her Midwestern sensibilities, her enthusiasm, her eagerness to work for the people of Michigan. Anyone who has met Emily knows exactly what I mean. As somewhat of an afterthought, I asked her: You were in the House, right? You have House experience, right?

She said yes.

It turns out that her House experience was an unpaid fellowship. But—do you know what?—it didn't even matter. She joined my office as a legislative assistant. She hit the ground running, and she simply has not stopped.

She organized the first-ever bipartisan delegation to tour all of our Michigan military installations, which was very significant for us to do.

And, as legislative director, Emily has played a key role in so many areas that I couldn't even list them all. But I have to say, at the top of the list is our work on mental health.

Her passion and tenacity are a major reason why we were able to get certified community behavioral health clinics signed into law, the largest Medicaid expansion since the Affordable Care Act. And it was a wonderful bipartisan effort. And you can bet I will keep her number on speed dial as these clinics are expanded across the country.

Emily has also served as policy director of our Democratic Policy and Communications Committee, a job she has excelled at. And, Mr. President, as vice chair of the DPCC, I know you know that well.

She has led amazing efforts to modernize the committee, including launching the "DPCC FloorWatch" app to bring us into the 21st century, which features everything from floor alerts to amendments, to floor and committee hearing videos.

If you had to describe Emily in one word—although there are so many words, but if you had to describe her in one word—"relentless" would be a good choice. During vote-aramas, when everyone else was collapsed at their desks in the middle of the night, Emily was still typing away on amendments to make sure our caucus members had the information they needed. And she was tireless during the earliest days of the pandemic, when we had to figure out how to run a Senate office remotely while helping the people of Michigan in every way we could.

She has been a wonderful partner on codels, and we have traveled the world together. I will never forget the time when we were in Jordan at a refugee camp, meeting with Syrian refugees.

Emily speaks fluent Arabic. So she was able to connect with these people who had been through so much in such a special, incredible way. I was listening, but I wasn't able to speak to them in their language. And it was very powerful.

On a lighter note, Emily, I know about the time when you neglected to tell me that you were accidentally given the hotel suite I was supposed to get, and I got a smaller room. I just want you to know now that I know that.

Just as important as the work she has done is the positive energy she has brought to the office. Emily has a way of bringing people together, whether it is for an office happy hour around her desk, an impromptu lunch outing, or Costco pizzas in the conference room.

Her family is very important to her, and I am so glad her sister is here with us today. And she treats her coworkers like she treats her own family. Just one example: hand-delivering a tin of two kinds of homemade cookies to the home of a coworker who was sick.

Emily is an amazing team player, skills she likely learned on the basketball court. She played on her college team, and she has also played against U.S. Senators who are at least twice her size. And all I am going to say is you will have to ask Senator TESTER how that game went.

Emily, thank you so much for everything—for your hard work, your talent, your dedication, your service to the people of Michigan and our country. And, most importantly, I am so grateful for your friendship. You will always be a part of my family. I have no doubt that you will excel in your new position, and the House is so lucky to get you back—this time, in a paid position.

And I am also very happy that you will be only 7 minutes away. We actually timed it. So Godspeed and, again, all the best, always.

I yield the floor.

## ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023, AT 3 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 3 p.m., Monday, May 15, 2023.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 3:49 p.m., adjourned until Monday, May 15, 2023, at 3 p.m.

## CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate May 11, 2023:

## IN THE COAST GUARD

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ALAINA M. ACCUMANNO AND ENDING WITH KRISTEN E. ZELMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 14, 2023.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DEBORAH DAWN CSASZAR

#### **HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Deborah Dawn Csaszar of Blossom, Texas. Mrs. Csaszar was born on November 23, 1966, in Lima, Ohio to Reverend Raymond Rosebrough and Twila Huston Rosebrough. She is survived by her brother, Michael Rosebrough, and her parents.

In her early years, Mrs. Csaszar attended Angelo State University for her Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration, and later became an accomplished paralegal in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. On October 10, 2020, she married the love of her life, John Csaszar.

Through her later work at the Lollipop Learning Center, Mrs. Csaszar was overjoyed to spend time with children, and loved teaching them to read and sing. She also had a passion for playing the piano and rescuing stray animals, once stopping at a parking lot to bring home an abandoned kitten. Moreover, Mrs. Csaszar was an adventurous spirit, and she was never afraid to execute plans on a whim. This spirit was embodied by the road trips through the countryside she would take with John, each with their own Harley-Davidson bikes.

Those who knew her can tell you she truly loved her country, family, and friends. She never met a stranger and was known for her kindness. The Csaszars were regular churchgoers at the Impact Church in Paris, Texas, and loved to open their home to the community. While they are no longer with us, their achievements and generous contributions will be remembered for many years to come.

I have requested the United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Mrs. Csaszar's amazing and joyous life. She will be dearly missed by her friends, family, and all who knew her.

### RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2021 AND 2022 FAIRFAX COUNTY FEDERATION OF CITI- ZENS' ASSOCIATIONS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

#### **HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2023*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2021 and 2022 Fairfax Federation of Citizens' Associations Citizen of the Year Awards.

The Federation is a coalition of civic and homeowners' associations who work together to promote and support initiatives that will benefit all. Each year, the Federation honors indi-

viduals for their extraordinary contributions to our community. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following individuals.

Marco Johnson has been an expert in emergency preparedness for Fairfax County. Marco has worked with County government leaders and citizens across the county leading county teams, multi-county teams and integrated state teams for the Emergency Management Volunteer Corps, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and the American Red Cross in developing and implementing disaster preparedness programs. Mr. Johnson has represented the county public health department, the Fairfax County Citizen Corp Council, and public health leaders at all levels in designing and implementing County emergency awareness programs and projects to respond to emergency vulnerabilities.

John Litzenberger sets an outstanding example of civic participation. John served on the Fairfax County Planning Commission from 2007 to 2015 as the Sully District commissioner, and a member of its Housing Committee and Capital Improvement Committee. He previously served on the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority for four years. John has been active in local land use committees and task forces for over 40 years, going back to the Centreville Core Study in 1982.

Commissioner Peter F. "Pete" Murphy has been an active member of the community for many decades. In 1982, Pete was appointed to the Planning Commission by the Board of Supervisors, serving as its Chairman since 1989. During this time, he played a critical role in transforming the County from a sleepy bedroom community to the economic powerhouse it is today. He has been a leader in land use policy in Fairfax County as we know it from Springfield District cases like Fairfax Corner and Fair Lakes to countywide cases like the Tysons Plan.

Michele Menapace has been serving Fairfax communities for over a dozen years. She has served on the Human Services Council advising the Board of Supervisors on budgetary matters. As well, she helps ensure that federal Community Service Block Grants are efficiently spent on the needs of people living in poverty via her appointment to the Community Action Advisory Board. Over the years, Michele has served on numerous other county boards.

Linda Moore has dedicated years of time to the service of the elderly, emotionally and socially challenged adults, domestic and sexual violence. She has been very involved with the Medical Reserve Corps & Fairfax County Department of transportation events as a volunteer. She also has worked for four years with another group within the Department of Family Services, DSVS, helping them bring attention and awareness to the issues of domestic and sexual violence, stalking, and human trafficking. Linda Moore exemplifies courage in volunteering and serves as a role model for others.

Paula Lettice has been a dedicated volunteer and board member of several organiza-

tions here in Fairfax County for over two decades and is a role model for her community. Since 2020, Paula has served as the President of the Board of Directors for Mount Vernon at Home, a local organization that serves residents aged 55 and over who are choosing to remain in their homes in Mount Vernon as they age and is a part of a national movement of senior Villages. During the pandemic, Ms. Lettice has been a true leader for the organization, helping shift their fundraising efforts to virtual events, while still utilizing local businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these incredible individuals and in congratulating them on being honored by the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations. Civic engagement is the foundation of a healthy community, and Fairfax County residents enjoy an exceptional quality of life due in part to the efforts of these individuals.

### HONORING CINDY PAWCYN

#### **HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cindy Pawlcyn and the 40th anniversary of her landmark wine-country restaurant, Mustards Grill. Her success as a restauranteur in wine country has brought great pride to Napa Valley and California's 4th Congressional District.

Ms. Pawlcyn was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota to an accomplished culinary family, where she fostered an interest in the culinary field from a young age. At 13 years old, she was helping in her mother's kitchen and working at a local cooking and equipment store. She went on to run a catering business throughout high school, and later obtained her degree in hotel and restaurant management from the University of Wisconsin-Stout. She then augmented her formal training with courses at Le Cordon Bleu and La Varenne in Paris. After her time in Paris, she worked at multiple esteemed restaurants in Chicago and Minneapolis, including Chicago's great restaurant the Pump Room.

After entering Napa Valley's culinary community as the opening chef at Meadowood in St. Helena, California, Ms. Pawlcyn launched her legendary restaurant Mustards Grill in 1983. Named after the mustard flowers that bloom in Napa's vineyards, Mustards Grill is a community favorite for unique dishes and world-class wine. Ms. Pawlcyn installed an organic garden at the restaurant which not only inspires a seasonal menu but also provides 20 percent of the restaurant's produce year-round.

Since opening Mustards Grill, Ms. Pawlcyn has been involved in the creation of many heralded restaurants in the greater San Francisco Bay Area including Fog City Diner, Bix, Roti, Betelnut, Buckeye Roadhouse, Cindy's

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

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

Backstreet Kitchen, Go Fish, Cindy's Waterfront at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, and Mustards Grill-SFO. She is a three-time finalist for the James Beard Foundation's Outstanding Restaurateur Award. Ms. Pawlyn is also the author of five cookbooks, including Mustards Grill Napa Valley Cookbook, which won the James Beard Foundation Award for Best American Cookbook. Moreover, she is a recipient of the Robert Mondavi Award for Culinary Excellence and the Fine Beverage & Food Federation's Career Achievement Award.

Despite a near fatal car accident and a fire that destroyed her home, Ms. Pawlyn's list of achievements reflects her tenacity, perseverance, and passion for the culinary industry. She shares her success with managing partner Sean Knight, who has brilliant business skills and a love for hospitality, and Executive Chef Michael Forster who works incredibly hard to surpass the expectations of Mustards Grill's guests.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that Cindy Pawlyn and Mustards Grill have made incredible contributions to Napa County's food culture over the past 40 years. It is therefore fitting that we honor them here today.

**HONORING THE SERVICE OF COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR CHRISTOPHER J. KITCHENS**

**HON. MARK E. GREEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Command Sergeant Major Christopher J. Kitchens for his exceptional military service, commitment to our country, and remarkable achievements. He is an exemplary leader, a distinguished soldier, and a true patriot. It is my privilege to cement his legacy into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and to celebrate his well-deserved retirement.

CSM Kitchens' story is a testimony of resolve and selfless service. Enlisting in the Army in 1999, he completed Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Benning and graduated as an 11C Infantry Mortarman. He was assigned to the 2/327th Infantry Regiment at Fort Campbell, serving as an assistant gunner, gunner, and Team Leader. He first deployed to Kosovo and served admirably in support of Operation Joint Guardian.

In April 2002, he reclassified his MOS and attended Advanced Individual Training at Fort Eustis. As a 67U Helicopter Repairer, he was stationed at Camp Humphries, Republic of Korea, where he served in the 47 Maintenance Platoon until September 2003. The following December, CSM Kitchens joined the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (SOAR) (Airborne) after completing Green Platoon. He was assigned to the 2-160th SOAR (ABN) 47 Maintenance Platoon, servicing one of the most elite and fastest deployable nighttime aviation forces in the world. As a Night Stalker, he led MH-47E Phase Inspections and, for his exceptional service, attention to detail, and leadership abilities, he was promoted to Squad Leader and deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Going above and beyond the call of duty, CSM Kitchens volunteered to start up the 4th

Battalion of the 160th SOAR (ABN) as a Technical Inspector at Fort Lewis. His work quickly distinguished himself, leading to his promotion to the Quality Control NCOIC in January 2008, as MH-47 Maintenance Platoon Sergeant in July 2009 for three years, and Battalion Maintenance Manager for nearly two years. In March 2014, he was laterally promoted to Charlie Company 4th Battalion First Sergeant, and one year later was selected as the Delta Company 2nd Battalion First Sergeant. His relentless pursuit of excellence led to his selection to attend the Joint Special Operations Forces Senior Enlisted Academy in 2018 while serving as the USASOAC (ABN) Aviation Maintenance Support Office Sergeant Major.

In all his work, CSM Kitchens was a strong leader, a determined worker, and a trusted soldier. In June 2019, in recognition of his faithful and outstanding service, he became the 2nd Battalion, 160th SOAR (ABN) Command Sergeant Major, responsible for over 950 soldiers. As the Command Sergeant Major, CSM Kitchens completed the Joint Special Operations University Nominative Leader's SUMMIT Course, further honing his leadership skills. Two years after assuming command, he became the 16th Command Sergeant Major of the 160th SOAR (ABN). Like many Night Stalkers before him, he fulfilled the Night Stalker Creed's mission to safeguard the honor and prestige of the United States.

Beyond his military duties, CSM Kitchens is also a devoted husband to his wife, Laura, and loving father to their two children, Jacob and John Roy. He also served as a trusted mentor, advisor, and advocate for many soldiers, providing guidance and support. He truly understands what serving means, and he does it well.

CSM Kitchens' career of service is an exemplary model for all service members, veterans, and American citizens. Time and again, CSM Kitchens has proven faithful and diligent in his duties, earning greater and greater responsibilities. He stewarded these responsibilities with excellence, integrity, and consistency, and I am proud to represent him and his family in Congress. On behalf of the United States Congress, and as a fellow Night Stalker, I thank CSM Kitchens for his faithful and distinguished career to our great Nation and congratulate him on his retirement. Night Stalkers Don't Quit.

**RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE**

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) and to congratulate the recipients of its Annual Awards of Excellence. Founded in 1989, the mission of GOPIO is battling human rights violations committed against persons of Indian origin. Today, while that mission continues, GOPIO has also broadened its mission to include bringing together persons of Indian origin for the benefit of not only themselves and their Indian home-

land, but also the communities in which they currently reside.

Indian-Americans have made countless contributions to the United States in the fields of business, education, medicine, science, technology, and public service while preserving and sharing their culture in a manner that promotes tolerance and mutual understanding.

Many of our awardees tonight have been at the forefront of those efforts. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the following individuals:

Education—Dr. Michael Rao, President of Virginia Commonwealth University.

Medicine—Dr. Siva Subramaniam, Emeritus Professor George Washington University and Hospital.

Philanthropy & Community Service—Mayur Shah.

Journalism—Dr. Rajeev Bhambri, Chief Executive Officer of New India Abroad Newspaper Journalism.

Public Service—Dr. Rahul Gupta, Director of National Drug Control Policy and leader of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

Arts & Culture—Vatsala Mehra, Vocal artist.

Arts & Culture—Navin K KC, Choreographer.

Social Services—Mayur Mody.

Science & Technology—Sant Gupta.

Northern Virginia, which I am proud to represent in Congress, is blessed by its diversity. We are home to more than 40,000 people of Indian descent as well as many Indian-American owned small businesses. This diversity enriches our entire community and contributes to our region being considered one of the best places in the country in which to live, work, raise a family, and start a business.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of the GOPIO Awards of Excellence on their accomplishments. I commend them for their service to their communities and to our Nation, and I wish them success in all their future endeavors.

**CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF JOE WARD, SR.**

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th birthday of Mr. Joe Ward, Sr. of Iowa Park, Texas. Mr. Ward was born on May 2, 1933, in Douglass, Texas, to Richard Ward and Liddie Ward, and is one of five children.

In his early years, Mr. Ward lived in Rusk, Texas, and attended Rusk High School while working part time in a local radio shop. At the age of 17, Mr. Ward joined the Texas National Guard and continued to study and train until his graduation in 1951. Mr. Ward later transferred to the Louisiana National Guard and graduated in 1955 from Shreveport Trade School with a focus in Electronics.

Mr. Ward worked for the Shreveport Fire Department and simultaneously became an amateur radio operator. He was the youngest driver in the fire department and was quickly promoted due to his expertise. On December 24, 1958, Mr. Ward married Evelyn Douglas,

while continuing to serve in the National Guard.

Mr. Ward later worked as an electronics technician for the Federal Aviation Administration and relocated to Iowa Park, Texas, where he taught Sunday school and served on the board of Camp Chaparral, a nonprofit that organizes youth retreats. Additionally, Mr. Ward was elected to the Iowa Park City Council in 1996 and became mayor of Iowa Park in 2008 until his retirement in 2012. During his tenure as an elected official, he helped seniors alleviate hardships by delivering meals-on-wheels and hosting community events.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Mr. Ward's amazing life and service to our Nation. May God bless Joe on 90 years of life and joy.

#### TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

##### HON. MARIA ELVIRA SALAZAR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Ms. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, Teacher Appreciation Week is an annual celebration of educators and the remarkable contributions they make in the lives of students, parents, schools, and entire communities. Today, I want to recognize the extraordinary teachers of Miami-Dade County, the state of Florida, and across the United States.

Teachers play a crucial role in the lives of their students. In addition to their role as an educator, they may also be a coach, counselor, tutor, or simply someone a student can confide in. The presence of teachers in these roles help foster a culture of trust and comfort with their students. Despite the challenging circumstances many face, teachers continue to show up each day inspiring, empowering, and motivating their students. Whether in or outside the classroom, teachers have remained committed to the success of their students, especially in my own state of Florida. I would like to recognize the accomplishments of Franquiana Williams, who was named 2023 Rookie Teacher of the Year by Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

A proud product of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Franquiana juggles many hats. In addition to being a young mother, she is a devoted teacher who encourages students to be authentic while bringing reading lessons to life using trendy dance moves, real-world examples, and hand gestures. She also doesn't hesitate to put her Spanish-speaking skills to the test if it means helping ESL students better comprehend a lesson. She strives to inspire her students to thrive not just academically but also socially and emotionally. Williams' "Calm Corner" allows students to learn how to reflect on their feelings and brainstorm healthy ways to express frustrations or disagreements that can interrupt learning. She is a shining example of why our teachers are so important.

As I said before, Teacher Appreciation Week is a time to celebrate the contributions of educators. The exceptional leadership they bring to the teaching profession is vital toward ensuring the success of our students. So, on this occasion of Teacher Appreciation Week, I thank the teachers of Florida for leading with

ingenuity, resilience, and passion each and every day in their classrooms, and for their commitment to Florida's students.

#### RECOGNIZING FIBROMYALGIA AWARENESS MONTH

##### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring greater awareness of fibromyalgia: a complex chronic illness that causes fatigue, cognitive problems, and debilitating pain for people across demographics, but mainly in women. There is no known cure.

Over 6 million people in the United States—two to four percent of our population—and millions worldwide have been diagnosed with fibromyalgia. Some are still waiting to be diagnosed. It can take an average of three to five years to receive a diagnosis. Those who are diagnosed with fibromyalgia may experience a lack of social acceptance and disbelief.

First coined in the 1950s from a set of difficult to explain regional and widespread musculoskeletal pain issues mixed with symptoms of psychosocial distress. While the diagnostic criteria changed in 2010, and is by some seen as a primary pain disorder with a neurobiological basis, we lack consensus in the medical community. In 2017, fibromyalgia flashed in the mainstream news when popular music artist Lady Gaga revealed how severe pain from a fibromyalgia flare-up caused her to cancel part of her concert tour.

Chronic or persistent pain, a primary symptom of fibromyalgia, is pain that carries on for longer than 12 weeks despite medication or treatment. Chronic pain correlates with complications, including severe depression and suicidal attempts and ideation. 20 percent of our population have chronic pain, and 10 percent have pain with work limitations.

It is my hope we can work together to support a better future for research, treatment, diagnosis, and education on fibromyalgia and chronic pain in order to greatly improve lives and bolster the overall success of our Nation.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 2023 FAIRFAX COUNTY VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

##### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Volunteer Fairfax and express my sincere appreciation to recipients of the 2023 Annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards.

Established more than 45 years ago, Volunteer Fairfax matches the skills and interests of thousands of volunteers with the needs of local non-profit organizations. The success of this model and its impact on delivery of needed services is beyond question; Volunteer Fairfax has been rated as one of the most effective community service organizations in the Nation.

Last year alone, over 9,500 individuals contributed more than 20,865 volunteer hours to

taling \$642,642 in value-added service to the greater community. These staggering numbers are a testament to the strong ethos of public service and of volunteerism that exists in Fairfax County and is one of the many reasons why this community is such a wonderful place to live.

Each year, Volunteer Fairfax selects a few exceptional individuals, groups, or organizations to receive special recognition. It is my great pleasure to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2023 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards honorees:

Ellicia Seard-McCormick—VF Amplify Award

Tanja Majca—Chairman's Champion

Mark E. Tonkovic—Mason District Champion

Charlotte Hannagan—Braddock District Champion

Elaine Tholen—Dranesville Community Champion

Carl Sell—Franconia District Champion

William G. Bouie—Hunter Mill District Champion

Machand Family—Mount Vernon District Champion

Cathy Jaquette—Providence District Champion

Sal Spezzale—Springfield District Champion

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park Friends—Sully District Champion

Wayne Vick—Fairfax County Champion, Individual

Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)—Fairfax County Champion, Group

In addition, Benchmark Honors will be awarded in four different categories to commend those who have contributed 100, 250, 500, or 1,000 hours of volunteer time to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commanding Volunteer Fairfax for its decades of outstanding community service. I congratulate the recipients of the 2023 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards and thank them and the thousands of other local volunteers for their incredible contributions to our community. Their selfless dedication is worthy of our highest praise and is one of the main reasons that our community is often ranked as one of the best places in the country to live, work, and raise a family.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF OFFICER ARÉANAH PRESTON: A BEACON OF HOPE

##### HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the heartbreaking tragedy of a young and courageous public servant, Chicago Police Officer Aréanah Preston, who was senselessly killed near her Avalon Park home this past weekend.

Officer Preston, just 24 years old, had already devoted three years to protecting the citizens of Chicago, working tirelessly in West Roseland. She was also an exemplary student, on the cusp of graduating from Loyola University Chicago with a Master of Jurisprudence. Aréanah's life was marked by her kindness, intellect, and unwavering commitment to service.

Her mother, Dionne Mhoon, affectionately described Aréanah as a “firecracker” and a goal-setter, noting that her daughter wrote down everything she wanted to achieve and accomplished all of it.

Aréanah’s father, Allen Preston, described her as a “beautiful soul” who “always saw the best in people” and had long wanted to be a police officer. He said, “she was trying to make a change on this earth.” He recalled that she followed “half” her family into the public safety profession.

Her aunt, Sonia Rawsk, described her niece as a “wonderful” person with a bright future and “a definite role model with a career path that just didn’t stop.” Loyola University Chicago echoed these sentiments, expressing shock and sadness at her tragic passing, and remembering her for her kindness, intellect, and commitment to service.

Aréanah’s dedication to her community extended beyond her work as a police officer. She earned a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and law enforcement administration from Illinois State University, where she met professor Charles Bell. He described her as a “very engaged, very vocal student, very respectful of others’ opinion, and just very passionate about making a difference and showing young people that policing is a profession that can make a difference in the community.” He added that she was “very aware of a lot of the problems, that in her opinion, had manifested in the Chicago community.” Professor Bell said that Aréanah was still working in patrol but “was looking forward to moving up in the ranks.” He referred to her as a “reformer” who saw a problem and was dedicated to making a difference.

Following a class trip to Holocaust sites in Germany and Poland in 2019, Aréanah stated in an article published on her school’s website that she was determined to enter the police academy to help build trust between underrepresented communities and law enforcement. “I know a big thing for our trip was finding voices for those who didn’t have a voice,” Preston said. “When I got back, I wanted to be an officer. I felt like I could be a person to fight for justice.”

Aréanah was a beacon of hope and held all the promise in the world to reform public safety. Her determination to make a difference and build bridges between our communities and law enforcement was truly inspiring. It is a travesty that we have lost someone who had the potential to be a catalyst for change in the way we approach public safety. We must stand together in condemning unjust acts against public servants and work collectively to ensure the safety of those who put their lives on the line for us.

I would like to share the words of Aréanah’s mother: “If you guys believe in the power of prayer, if you guys believe in God, keep us in your prayers. Don’t stop praying for us, even when all of this is gone, don’t stop praying for us.” She said that at the end of the day, she knows her family will be all right, because “God is good and joy comes in the morning.”

I ask my colleagues in Congress to hear her call, to keep the Preston family in our thoughts and prayers, and to work together to ensure that the sacrifices made by public servants like Aréanah Preston are not in vain. Let us honor her life, legacy, and dedication to protecting and serving the entire City of Chicago, and strive to build a safer, more just society for all.

HONORING SERGEANT JOSEPH ZYGAROWSKI

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. BILLIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of my constituent, Sergeant Joseph Zygarski. Joseph was a mechanic assigned to the 10th Transportation Battalion, 7th Transportation Brigade (Expeditionary) at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. Enlisting in the United States Army in 2018, he began his training at Fort Jackson in South Carolina before additional training at Fort Lee Virginia. His Commanders described Joseph as an exceptional soldier and model leader.

Throughout his military career he was awarded several accolades including the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal with an oak leaf cluster, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terror Ribbon, and the Army Service Ribbon. He will be posthumously awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

Joseph Zygarski will be remembered for his life of service to his community and country. I extend my deepest condolences to his family. May his memory be eternal.

RECOGNIZING MR. JEFFREY W. DONAHUE AS HE CELEBRATES HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jeffrey “Jeff” W. Donahue, a resident of Virginia’s 11th Congressional District, as he celebrates his 100th birthday on May 14th of this year.

I had the honor of meeting Mr. Donahue in 2019 at a Memorial Day Ceremony in the town of Vienna, Virginia. A veteran of World War II, Mr. Donahue was a naval aviator flying an F4F in combat missions in the Pacific Theater while serving aboard the USS *Salamaua*. His remarks at the ceremony focused on his service to his country and the sacrifices made by many members of his generation who lost their lives in the war. He was 96 at the time, yet he spoke with clarity as though he were talking about events he had just experienced. Following World War II, he continued his military service in the reserves, when he was called once more to serve as a flight instructor in Pensacola, Florida during the Korean war.

Like so many military veterans, Mr. Donahue took advantage of the G.I. Bill to earn a bachelor’s degree from the University of Connecticut. He then pursued a career in the insurance industry with Fireman’s Fund Insurance, which took him and his growing family on a journey to many cities on the east coast until their final move to Fairfax County in 1970.

Service to his country and community defines Mr. Donahue’s life. For years, he has been an active member of his church and volunteered as a tutor for elementary school children into his mid-90s.

There is an adage that age is just a number, which certainly holds true for Mr. Donahue and his wife, Barbara. Over their 72 years together they have raised 6 children, 5 of whom graduated from James Madison High School. As their family tree grows, they now have 13 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren who affectionately call them Pop and Gram.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Jeff’s 100th birthday, I want to extend my best wishes for a joyful gathering of family and friends. I also extend my appreciation for his service to our country. Happy 100th birthday, Jeff.

HONORING TAHREEM ALAM

**HON. ILHAN OMAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Tahreem Alam, a fellow in my Washington, D.C. office for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of Minnesota.

Daughter of Bangladesh immigrants, Tahreem along with her older sister and younger brother grew up in Blacksburg, Virginia. She is a graduate of Virginia Tech, where she earned her bachelor’s degree in Multimedia Journalism, International Relations, and Arabic with minors in Women’s and Gender Studies and Middle East Studies. She earned her Master of Arts degree in Middle East Studies at the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University.

I got to know Tahreem, after she was selected to serve as a legislative intern in my congressional office from a pool of highly qualified applicants in the spring of 2022 and she later returned that fall for a nine-month fellowship. During the last year and half, Tahreem has proven to be a talented and brilliant young woman, always ready to learn something new. She has demonstrated a high-level of professionalism, dedication, and confidence in all her assigned tasks. It has been my pleasure to get to know Tahreem and see her flourish.

Every Member of Congress works with many exceptional staff, from the staff in their own personal offices, to committee staff, and floor staff. It has often been said that without staff this institution would not run, and I agree. Without the many fine staff with whom I have had the good fortune to work with, I and other Members of Congress would not be able to do the kind of work we do for our constituents every day.

Tahreem should be proud of the service she has provided to our District and country. She has assisted my office in multiple areas, including communications, appropriations, and constituent engagement and advocacy. She has been an exemplary public servant during her time with the office. Tahreem is deeply committed to her studies, our community, and to ensuring that she is an active participant in making our country a better place. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Tahreem for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

On behalf of Minnesota’s 5th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and thanking Tahreem for her service.

## HONORING MOMS ORANGE COUNTY

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2023*

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor MOMS Orange County, one of Orange County's largest nonprofits dedicated to newborn and pregnancy health.

For more than three decades, MOMS OC has supported the needs of over 2,500 underserved pregnant and parenting families each year. This important resource provides low-income women and their families with free prenatal care, health and infant development screenings, mental health services, and resource referrals. They also offer parenting and health classes for mothers, fathers, and other caregivers in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

MOMS OC is committed to increasing women's access to quality prenatal and postnatal care, regardless of their race, sexuality, creed, class, or family composition, by helping to dismantle barriers to equitable health care.

The services MOMS OC provides lead to real positive outcomes for the families they support. Despite coming from low-income backgrounds, the children supported by MOMS OC are at health and developmental levels that exceed those of the general population. After graduating from MOMS OC's care 99 percent of children served have medical homes, 98 percent of children are up-to-date with appropriate immunizations, and 99 percent of children are on track for their developmental milestones.

Since its founding in 1992, MOMS OC has uplifted more than 100,000 families, including babies that have grown up to become healthy and successful Orange County parents. Through health coordination, education, and access to community resources, MOMS OC provides low-income parents with the tools and support to ensure their babies have the healthiest possible start to life.

I thank MOMS OC for their work empowering and supporting Orange County families.

## RECOGNIZING MICHAEL O'REILLY AS THE ROTARY CLUB OF HERNDON-RESTON'S CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2023*

Mr. CONNOLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Michael O'Reilly as the Rotary Club of Herndon-Reston's Citizen of the Year. Mr. O'Reilly is the 54th recipient of this highest honor, presented annually by the club.

Mike was selected for his many years of tireless service to the town. A former Herndon Mayor and Town Council member, he was committed to using his position as an elected official to better the lives of the people of Herndon. During his term he was able to maintain a high level of service while also accomplishing such things as opening a new Police Station, opening a well-regulated day labor site, and opening a new Senior Center.

After he left elected office, Mr. O'Reilly continued his service to the community. He

served five years as a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA). At the time he joined the MWAA Board, Dulles was undergoing major renovations and upgrades, spending roughly two million dollars a day, building a new runway, building an underground rail system, expanding the main terminal, and reconfiguring the entrance and approach roadways to accommodate expected growth.

During his time with MWAA, he was involved in the negotiations for the design, financing, and construction of Phase 1 of the Silver Line Metrorail Project and the procurement and contract award for Phase 2 of that project. The opening of the Herndon Station and the Innovation Station would not have been possible without his tenacity and commitment to his vision of extending rail to Dulles.

In his professional life, Mike is the owner of the O'Reilly Law Firm in Herndon and serves on the Board of Directors of the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce. As a leader in the Chamber, he chairs the Herndon Committee, which engages and supports Herndon businesses.

Among his many contributions to the greater community, Mike has worked to prevent and end homelessness in his position as Chairman of the Governing Board of the Fairfax Falls Church Partnership. Under his leadership, Fairfax County was able to reduce the homeless population by 46 percent through collaboration between faith-based groups, service providers, and community volunteers.

Mr. O'Reilly now serves as the Chairman of the Board for Arts Herndon. In this role, he is working to bring a new Art Center to downtown Herndon, aided by a 1.2-million-dollar Fairfax County construction grant that he, in conjunction with the Mayor and Town representatives, worked to obtain.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Michael O'Reilly on this award and thanking him for his committed and selfless service to our community.

## CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING OF DELCO TRAILERS

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the grand opening of Delco Trailers' new 550,000 square foot manufacturing facility in Brookston, Texas. Delco Trailers specializes in the production of a wide range of trailers to accommodate all kinds of livestock, cargo, vehicle, and equipment needs.

Founded in 2006 by Chief Executive Officer John Dyck, Delco Trailers rose from humble beginnings to become one of the most respected names in the industry. With its \$29 million venture into Lamar County, Delco Trailers will boost economic growth, create 300 new well-paying jobs, and construct new fleets of trailer equipment to serve North Texas' transportation needs.

Moreover, Delco Trailers has pledged to finance workforce development initiatives and give back to the community through future expansions. This will create additional job opportunities and strengthen the economic success of Lamar County. I'm proud to represent such distinguished business owners in my district.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize this historic investment for the people of District 4. Congratulations to Delco Trailers on their new launch, and I wish them the best.

## HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES T. STOVALL, III

**HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN**

RADEWAGEN

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2023*

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of James T. Stovall, III who passed away unexpectedly on April 27, 2023. An accomplished lawyer, Mr. Stovall was a trusted advisor to decades of Micronesian leaders and provided the government of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) with more than 50 years of legal counsel.

Born in Montgomery, Alabama in 1937, Mr. Stovall earned his Juris Doctor (J.D.) from the University of Alabama. He served in the U.S. military in Korea and Germany as member of the Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG).

His work on behalf of Micronesia began in the early 70s with the Micronesian Committee on Future Political Status and Transition (CFPST). After his service with the JAG Corps, he was designated by the Washington, D.C. law firm of Clifford & Warnke to provide legal advice to the Micronesian Status Negotiations. He worked on negotiations for the original Compact of Free Association (COFA) and this work carried through as an advisor to the Joint Committee on Compact Review and Planning in their current negotiations between the COFA states and the U.S. Mr. Stovall also served as trusted adviser to all nine FSM Presidents, from first FSM President Tosiwo Nakayama in 1979 through current President David Panuelo, and he was instrumental in securing the FSM's membership in the United Nations in 1991.

Mr. Stovall is survived by his wife of 60 years, LouAnn, along with 2 daughters and 3 grandchildren.

Mr. Stovall mentored several generations of Micronesian lawyers and government officials during his service and continued to do so right up until his unexpected illness. His passing is not just a loss for the FSM, but for the Pacific region at large. He will be missed.

## HONORING THE NORTHWEST INDIANA BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2023

**HON. FRANK J. MRVAN**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2023*

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise to commend several exceptional leaders from Indiana who will be honored as the Northwest Indiana Business and Industry Hall of Fame Class of 2023. This year's inductees include Jeff Good, Richard Pellar, Jeanne Robbins, and Rick Urschel. Karen Lauerman will also be honored posthumously for her truly significant impact on our community. In addition, Chester, Inc. will

be presented with the Enterprise of the Year Award. For their outstanding contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, these honorees will be recognized at an induction ceremony taking place on Monday, May 15, 2023, at Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana. The Honorable Eric Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, will serve as the keynote speaker for this special event.

Jeff Good is the founder and owner of Good Hospitality Services. Jeff founded the company in the 1990s, building basic budget motels in numerous Indiana towns. Under Mr. Good's steadfast direction, the company continued to expand throughout the years, eventually refining its building procedures. Today, Good Hospitality Services builds mostly Hilton and Marriott hotels throughout Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Florida. In the future, the successful company plans to develop in the Carolinas, Georgia, Tennessee, and Texas and will continue to remain active in Northwest Indiana and throughout the Midwest.

Richard Pellar is the Chief Executive Officer of Crown Corr, a building-enclosure contractor based in Gary, Indiana. Crown Corr has assisted in the building of numerous structures throughout the country, including sports stadiums, airports, hospitals, and skyscrapers. Some notable projects include SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles, Hard Rock Stadium in Miami, O'Hare International Airport, Los Angeles International Airport, and the Museum of Pop Culture in Seattle, to name a few. Crown Corr is currently working on a new hospital at Ohio State University and an Indiana University hospital in Indianapolis. Under Mr. Pellar's outstanding leadership, Crown Corr thrived due to the relationships it has with the labor unions and its strong emphasis on investing in its employees.

Jeanne Robbins is the President of Munster Steel Co., Inc., a fabricator of structured and miscellaneous steel that is known for its bascule bridges. Based out of Hammond, Indiana, Munster Steel works on steel framing for schools, hospitals, highrises, train station platforms, and industrial facilities. Some remarkable projects include the skyboxes at Wrigley Field and the former Comiskey Park in Chicago, the Wells Street drawbridge, the Washington Wabash CTA station, the McCormick Place pedestrian bridge, and the Ravinia Pavilion, to name a few. An incredibly successful leader, Ms. Robbins strives to provide quality products while maintaining a safe and productive work environment for its valued team.

Rick Urschel is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Urschel Laboratories, a global leader in industrial food-cutting technology, located in Chesterton with a research and development team located in Valparaiso, Indiana. Under Rick's direction, Urschel Laboratories continues to flourish in its industry due to its innovative ideas and willingness to try new things. In addition, Mr. Urschel gives much of his time and efforts to charitable endeavors, serving on numerous boards and capital campaigns throughout the community of Valparaiso and beyond.

Karen Lauerman, Lake County Indiana Economic Alliance President, is being honored posthumously by the Northwest Indiana Business and Industry Hall of Fame. Throughout her successful career, Karen brought countless employment opportunities, numerous economic development projects, and multi-million-dollar investments to the region. For her tire-

less support and commitment to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, Karen Lauerman served as an inspiration to us all and is worthy of the highest praise.

The recipient of the Enterprise of the Year Award is Chester, Inc., a diversified agricultural services company based in Valparaiso, Indiana. Chester, Inc. started out as a popcorn business that changed the way popcorn was sold. Throughout the years, the company diversified and shifted its focus and attention. Today, Chester, Inc. provides farmers with irrigation systems and grain bins and is expanding into commercial construction projects throughout the region. Chester, Inc. recently celebrated its 75th Anniversary last year, and its great success is attributed to the business relationships it has been able to develop and maintain over many years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commanding these dedicated leaders and organizations upon their induction into the Northwest Indiana Business and Industry Hall of Fame. For their influence, innovation, and dedication to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, the inductees are worthy of the highest praise.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, severe storms delayed my flight on May 9, 2023, and I missed that evening's suspensions.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 203, and YEA on Roll Call No. 204.

#### RECOGNIZING VIETNAM WAR HERO SERGEANT EARL "BUTCHIE" SCHUSTER

##### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today we recognize a hero in our community, Sergeant Earl "Butchie" Schuster, who valiantly served our country in Vietnam. Here at the pregame ceremony at Sahlen Field in Buffalo, thousands of Western New Yorkers will learn of Sergeant Schuster's fortitude and gain an appreciation of his commitment and service.

Born and raised in South Buffalo, Sergeant Schuster was born in 1948 and graduated from South Park High School. Butchie was drafted into the United States Army where he completed basic training. He then joined the 5th Infantry during the Vietnam War.

While serving in Vietnam, Butchie was involved in several battles, served as a "Tunnel Rat," and was ultimately wounded by the enemy in April of 1969. He received medical treatment before returning to combat with his fellow soldiers. He received the Bronze Star Medal for his bravery and heroic service and the Purple Heart for the injuries he sustained in battle. He was also awarded the Army

Commendation Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Air Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze service stars, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device.

Butchie was honorably discharged from active duty in 1970 and returned home where he began his 42-year career as a Local 6 Union Ironworker in Buffalo. Fittingly, in the mid-1980s, Butchie was one of the first ironworkers to begin construction on Sahlen Field—the location at which we honor him today.

Please join me in thanking Sergeant Schuster for his outstanding service to our country. He joined our military at a time of heightened tension in our nation, and as so many of his family and loved ones here today know, this type of appreciation is long overdue. I know his children, Brian and Wendy are watching today with love in their hearts. Butchie represents the very best of our Vietnam veterans, and it is my distinct honor to join our entire community in thanking him for his devotion to duty.

#### RECOGNIZING MATTHEW CEJA FOR HIS PUBLIC SERVICE ON BEHALF OF THE 39TH DISTRICT OF CALI- FORNIA

##### HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my longtime staffers, Matthew Ceja. Matt's career in my office spanned over five and a half years, a time in which I have had the honor of watching him grow into each new role.

A proud, born-and-raised Inland Empire native, Matt joined my office at the very beginning of his career on the Hill as an intern. From there he grew into every role from staff assistant to legislative assistant, tackling each new position with great aptitude and enthusiasm.

As a staffer, Matt has been unfailingly dependable. His work on energy and environmental issues for the office addressed some of my constituency's most immediate concerns, and his passion for the Inland Empire is always at the core of his work. Matt's commitment to progressive values inflected his approach to each of his portfolio issues, and I am grateful for his depth and breadth when working with me to craft policy.

What makes Matt truly a standout as both a staffer and a coworker is that he possesses qualities that are impossible to teach: his kindness, his generosity, and natural inclination towards mentorship. To every younger staffer that has come to my office after him, Matt has been a source of advice and encouragement. He is everyone's first friend and biggest cheerleader, and he has played a major role in creating the kind of warm, welcoming, and inclusive environment in my office that any Member of Congress would be lucky to have.

Although he will be leaving my office, I am glad that he will not yet be departing the Hill and wish him the best of luck in his new role. The Inland Empire is lucky to have an advocate like him in our corner.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS MEDICAID EQUIVALENCE ACT

## HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. SABLÁN. Mr. Speaker, Medicaid funding for the Marianas was \$6.5 million when I first came to Congress in 2009. This year, the Medicaid block grant is \$66 million. We have made significant progress.

But the Marianas is like the runner who begins the race 400 yards back from everyone else's starting line.

In 1983, when limited Medicaid block grants for the territories were established in law, the Marianas lacked congressional representation. The impact was evident: our grant was the smallest.

In subsequent years, though the grant increased with the percentage of inflation or congressional action, that built-in disparity between the Marianas and other territories was perpetuated.

The result is today American Samoa receives \$24 million more in Medicaid funding than the Marianas despite having the same population and income. And American Samoa is able to offer more healthcare services to more low-income residents as a result. In 2021, the American Samoa Medicaid program served nearly 38,000 residents whereas the Marianas Medicaid program served 17,000.

The time has come to level up and provide funding for the Marianas equivalent to a territory with virtually the same population and incomes.

The legislation I am introducing today does just that. It provides for a Marianas Medicaid grant that matches what American Samoa receives and corrects a historical disparity in Medicaid funding that began when the Marianas had no voice in Congress.

This legislation is not simply an action to rationalize the funding for Medicaid. The legislation also is a response to the very real shortfall in Medicaid funding for the Marianas that our Governor Arnold I. Palacios reported to me in April. I am including his letter in the RECORD.

Funding for fiscal 2023 has already been allotted. So, today's legislation will not aid this year's shortfall. But today's legislation will help ensure that in future years, low-income residents in the Marianas and American Samoa have equivalent access to federally funded healthcare.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,

Saipan, MP, April 4, 2023.

Re Financial Shortfall.

Hon. ARNOLD I. PALACIOS & Lt. Governor DAVID M. APATANG,  
Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Saipan, MP.

DEAR GOVERNOR PALACIOS & LT. GOVERNOR APATANG: In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and through temporary authorities provided during the National Public Health Emergency (PHE), the Commonwealth Medicaid Agency (CMA) expanded coverage for

up to 30,000 additional CNMI residents, providing vital healthcare access to over 45,000 individuals today. The PHE concludes on May 11, 2023, and although Medicaid expenses will gradually decrease, we still anticipate a financial shortfall by the end of fiscal year 2023 due to the impact of the PHE.

The CNMI's federal Medicaid funding is capped annually by statute, in section 1108 of the Social Security Act. The CNMI Government bears the responsibility for services to Medicaid beneficiaries when federal funds are exhausted. Despite permanent increases to CNMI's Medicaid cap through the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020, our current funding of \$65,870,000 for fiscal year 2023 is insufficient given the expenditure trends observed in fiscal year 2022 and as of March 30, 2023.

Medicaid expended approximately \$18 million of ARPA funds appropriated by the CNMI Government in addition to the \$63 million of the 1108 Funding for Fiscal Year 2022. As a result of the additional appropriations, CNMI Medicaid did not experience a shortfall. As of March 30, 2023, Medicaid has expended 61% of its Fiscal Year 2023 section 1108 allotment. No other funding sources are available today to supplement the shortfall.

The CNMI Medicaid's Section 1108 funding is expected to be depleted before the current fiscal year's end, which threatens our ability to continue providing essential healthcare services to Medicaid beneficiaries. Additional funding is crucial to prevent provider closures, suspension of services and loss of healthcare access for beneficiaries, and increased burden on the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC), which will become the sole provider available to Medicaid beneficiaries when federal funds run out. Moreover, the CNMI's existing shortage of specialty care services will be exacerbated, compromising current and future patients' access to off-island treatments.

We initially projected a \$10 million shortfall in Section 1108 funding; this projection has since been revised to \$4.8 million as of March 30, 2023, following the announcement of a date certain for the PHE's conclusion and additional guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). However, this figure may change due to monthly uncertainties in services rendered and accounts receivables. It may also change if monthly payments made to CHCC are adjusted based on any revisions made to the Certified Public Expenditure methodology post-PHE.

While the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 has permanently secured CNMI's Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) at 83%, the 6.2% increase provided by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act will be phased out, resulting in higher local shares for CNMI. Additionally, as we have learned from your FY 2023 revised budget message transmitted to the Legislature on March 8, 2023, Community Disaster Loan funds are no longer available to support the CNMI's local match requirement for Medicaid. Insufficient local matching funds jeopardizes our ability to utilize federal funds.

To avoid the fast-approaching fiscal cliff and the healthcare crisis that will follow, the Commonwealth's Medicaid program is in urgent need of two critical interventions in the current fiscal year:

1) a waiver of the local match requirement; and

2) additional federal funding of at least \$4.8 million, based on current projections.

These measures are essential to address our outstanding and anticipated obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year and will

ensure the continued provision of vital healthcare services to our constituents.

Please feel free to contact me for further discussion.

Sincerely,

VICENTA BORJA,  
Acting Medicaid Director.

## RECOGNIZING HEREDITARY ANGIOEDEMA AWARENESS DAY

## HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May 16th as Hereditary Angioedema Awareness Day and to call attention to challenges and opportunities faced by this patient community. Angioedema (HAE) is a rare, severe, and potentially life-threatening genetic condition in about 1 in 10,000 to 1 in 50,000 people. HAE symptoms include painful and disabling episodes of edema, or swelling, in all body parts including the abdomen. Throat swelling can close the airway and cause death by asphyxiation. While minor trauma or stress may trigger an attack, swelling often occurs without a known trigger. Symptoms of hereditary angioedema typically begin in childhood and worsen during puberty. Untreated individuals may have an attack every 1 to 2 weeks with most episodes lasting 3 to 4 days.

HAE used to be associated with an incredibly high mortality rate, but recent breakthroughs in medical science have taken the condition from a death sentence to a manageable chronic illness. With the advent of innovative therapies, HAE patients no longer experience disability and dependency, but rather live full, productive, and largely suffering-free lives. HAE affected individuals require near constant access to life-saving care and medication and additional research advancements are needed to sustain progress toward an elusive cure.

Loss of productivity at work and school is one of the many side effects of those suffering from HAE, particularly when it is not managed correctly and comprehensively. In an earlier survey conducted by the U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association, 57 percent of patients reported as not having equal advancement in career pathways and 48 percent stated they did not achieve the educational level that they wanted.

With significant improvements in care and outcomes, HAE patients now sometimes face arbitrary barriers to accessing care and therapies. Some of these barriers are related to a lack of information and awareness about rare disease experiences in general. Other barriers are related to problematic coverage policies, such as fail first protocols, access to copayment and charitable assistance, and prior authorization requirements. I look forward to working with my colleagues to continue to improve coverage and access and lowering out-of-pocket costs for patients with rare and chronic illnesses.

I call on my colleagues to continue to support efforts to advance medical research, improve coverage and access, enhance patient care, and join me in recognizing May 16th as Hereditary Angioedema Awareness Day.

HONORING HILTON ETIENNE

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Hilton Etienne, my intern who has completed his Spring 2023 semester serving the people of Florida's 24th Congressional District. Hilton has proven to be a very articulate young man and shows great promise for his future endeavors. Hilton has assisted my office in various areas, such as education policy, constituent outreach, and research. He has demonstrated an excellent drive and a continuous willingness to learn.

Hilton Etienne is a proud first generation Haitian American from Pompano Beach, FL. He is a current student at the University of Florida majoring in Economics. While at the University of Florida, he has orchestrated college prep workshops for underrepresented high school students to obtain access to higher education through the Bridges Multicultural Outreach Program and has spent the last year serving as the elected secretary of the Black Student Union. His experience in Student Government and the Black Student Union has empowered him to pursue a career around helping students achieve their dreams.

Upon transitioning from his internship, Hilton will start a fellowship with the PPJA Junior Summer Institute at Princeton University. While there, he will spend 6 weeks taking graduate level coursework in Economics, Public Policy, and Foreign Relations to be well equipped to pursue a master's in public policy upon obtaining his bachelor's.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Hilton Etienne for his present and future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT C. FREEMAN, ESQ.

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize and congratulate Robert Freeman on receiving the 30 Under 30 award presented by Forbes to individuals who have impactful careers and accomplishments in their industry.

Mr. Freeman started his education at the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, and continued his education there earning a Juris Doctor from the University at Buffalo's School of Law. During his time at the University at Buffalo, Mr. Freeman was a member of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, and a recipient of the Milton Plesur History Honor Award.

Mr. Freeman is a partner at Nesper, Ferber, DiGiacomo, Johnson & Grimm, LLP, where he has been since Oct. 2019. There, he focuses his practice on commercial and residential real estate law. Some of his previous work experi-

ence includes internships with the New York State Supreme Court, 8th Judicial District, and the Erie County District Attorney's Office.

Outside of work, Mr. Freeman is actively involved with Saints Peter and Paul's Chapter of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul and is an on-ice volunteer with the SABAH program. Also, he is a member of the UB Law Alumni Association and sits on the Town of Amherst's Employee Suggestion Merit Award Board. He is a proud recipient of the Father Nelson Baker Service Award and is an Eagle Scout.

Today, I ask that we recognize and give thanks to leaders in the Western New York Community, such as Robert Freeman for his continued dedication and selfless service to his community.

CONGRATULATING THE DEPOSITORY TRUST & CLEARING CORPORATION ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (DTCC), the world's leading post-trade market infrastructure for the global financial services industry, on its 50th anniversary. DTCC is a trusted employer in the Tampa Bay area and across the globe. An accomplishment that few firms ever achieve, this is a truly significant milestone not just for DTCC, but the industry as a whole.

Originally founded in 1973 as The Depository Trust Company (DTC), this firm was established to address a multitude of issues which had been plaguing the global financial services throughout the late 1960s and early 1970s. During this time, Wall Street dealt with countless amounts of paper every day—so much so that at one point, the U.S. markets actually stopped trading one day a week so that firms could catch up on their paperwork. This led to systems being slow, inefficient and dated, and runners having to carry paper checks and physical securities between firms.

To address this paperwork crisis, Congress charged the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) with the task of investigating and addressing the underlying causes of the issue. The laws and solutions that resulted from this action have profoundly shaped the clearance and settlement process we use today and ultimately led to the creation of DTC as an industry utility. A true pioneer in the industry, DTC streamlined back-office operations, introduced a computerized book entry accounting system and used technology to eliminate reliance on paper stock certificates. Through its creation of the first electronic security, DTC effectively launched the modern financial services marketplace.

DTCC has had incredible growth since its foundation in 1973. Operating across 21 global locations, DTCC automates, centralizes and standardizes the processing of financial transactions. In addition to DTC, the firm has two subsidiaries, The National Securities Clearing Corporation (NSCC) and The Fixed Income

Clearing Corporation. Designated as Systemically Important Financial Market Utilities (SIFMU) by the U.S. Treasury Department's Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC), these three clearing agency subsidiaries play a critical role in protecting the safety and stability of the global financial system.

DTCC's accomplishments include introducing multi-lateral netting, which significantly streamlined settlement and reduced risk; automating clearing and settling trades in U.S. Treasuries and mortgage-backed securities in the world's largest fixed income market; delivering greater efficiency, cost savings and risk mitigation to institutional trading and investors; and improving the data reporting landscape for the DTC derivatives business.

I commend and am particularly grateful to DTCC for the critical role it has played in providing stability and certainty for the global financial markets in times of crisis, including the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, the 2008 Financial Crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. In spite of these systemic shocks, DTCC ensured that the markets continued to operate seamlessly.

Over the past 50 years, DTCC has earned its reputation as a trusted steward by driving innovation, embracing technology and creating new products and services to protecting the safety and stability of the financial markets. Today, the firm continues to drive positive change by leading large-scale, industry-wide initiatives to strengthen market structure.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my neighbors in Tampa Bay and the citizens of Florida, I congratulate The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation on this remarkable achievement that is its 50th anniversary and wish it many more years of success in protecting the investing public.

RECOGNIZING EAST TEXAS NURSES

**HON. NATHANIEL MORAN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of National Nurses Week, I'm proud to rise today and honor the East Texas nurses—both those who have retired and those who are still practicing, who have dutifully served our community.

For centuries, nurses have played a vital role in health care by dedicating countless hours of service to their patients and their patients' families—from providing quality care to their unparalleled sense of compassion for those in need.

During the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, these heroes selflessly put themselves at the frontline of patient care, risking their own health while battling burnout and exhaustion.

Nurses across East Texas have banded together to organize National Retired Nurses Day, in commemoration of their service and sacrifice. I am proud to support these nurses in their efforts.

On behalf of Texas's First Congressional District, I would like to thank our nurses for their relentless commitment to serving their community and dedication to helping those in need.

## HONORING NAPA VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

## HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Napa Valley Education Foundation as it celebrates its 40th Anniversary of providing educational opportunities to support Napa County's students.

With the mission of inspiring students to broaden their horizons and deepen their knowledge, the Napa Valley Education Foundation serves all 18,000 students and 1,000 educators in Napa County's public school system. For the past 40 years, the Foundation has championed music education, career readiness, youth mental health, classroom innovation, academic growth, and social development of students.

The Napa Valley Education Foundation's Music Connection program ensures equitable access to music education in the Napa Valley, providing thousands of musical instruments, music instruction support, camps, and clinics to more than 6,000 students per year.

Additionally, the Foundation promotes the well-being of students by providing support, funding, coordination, and advocacy to ensure all students have access to on-campus behavioral health services. Their work has helped build local capacity and coordination of services for students and families.

Since the creation of Napa Valley Education Foundation in 1983, teachers, students, and the community have benefitted from their mission to foster and support innovation within public schools. Their work with career readiness, teacher classroom grants, project-based learning, and STEM initiatives have led to improved educational outcomes for students.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that the Napa County Education Foundation has contributed to Napa County's educational system over the past 40 years. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor it here today.

## HONORING THE NASHVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S RESCUE TASK FORCE

## HON. MARK E. GREEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Nashville Fire Department's Rescue Task Force (RTF) for its quick and effective response during the Covenant School shooting. The RTF demonstrated bravery, selflessness, and poise during a senseless and violent tragedy.

This specialized force is composed of Nashville Fire Department Paramedics, Advanced EMTs, and Firefighters who are trained to work in tandem with law enforcement to enter a newly secured area to provide triage, emergent care, and to carry out patient extraction. These brave men and women expedited the medical care and transport for the individuals who were injured during the shooting. Where there was gunfire, these individuals ran towards the danger instead of away from it. Without a doubt, their bravery saved lives.

I continue to carry a heavy and grieving heart for my home state of Tennessee. No one should ever have to endure what The Covenant School and the Nashville community have gone through. As our home and the rest of the country come together to mourn this senseless loss of life, we remember the victims of this horrible attack.

Yet, even as we mourn the tragic losses of life—every one of them precious—we also praise the heroic efforts of our first responders. I am proud to commend all the first responders who were on the scene, and the medical professionals who treated the victims at Vanderbilt Medical Center. Tennesseans are strong and they take care of each other.

It is fitting that we honor these brave men and women by name: Paramedic Trevor Skiera and AEMT Chad Miller served on RTF-Medical; Captain Scott Burgess, Engineer Timothy Flowers, Firefighter Samuel Smith, and Firefighter Chad Malone served on RTF-Fire Operations; Engineer Justin Agnew, Firefighter Kayla Toney, Firefighter Garlon Russell, Engineer Cody Pomeroy, Firefighter Matthew Mangrum, Firefighter Joseph Mangrum, Firefighter David Travis, Firefighter Marsenio Rayford, Engineer William Brandt, Firefighter Gabriel King, and Firefighter Brett Yeager served on RTF-Extraction.

Though unspeakable grief still holds Nashville in its grasp, we are all grateful for the work of our first responders. On behalf of the United States Congress and all of Tennessee, I thank the Rescue Task Force for its heroic efforts to save precious lives in the face of evil. May God bless them and keep them safe.

## HONORING THE FAITHFUL LIFE OF SERVICE OF LARRY SILSBY

## HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who lived his entire life in quiet, dedicated service to the community he so loved, and whose loss we now mourn. Larry Silsby of Mason, Michigan, was a consummate public servant, deeply devoted to the principles of family, farming, and faith, and a fierce advocate for the interests of rural communities across our great state.

Larry was born on April 18, 1939, and graduated from Mason High School in 1957. Just a few years later, he married his wife Judith Emens, a love story that would bloom across more than 60 years. Together, they raised 3 children, and would go on to become grandparents of 8, and great grandparents of 2. As his family tree grew, he nourished its many branches through his example of hard work, honesty, and his secret recipe for pancakes. Larry cherished his time with his family, especially at their cottage on Drummond Island, where he loved to hunt for stones and watch the Lake Huron waves roll in.

But make no mistake about it—Mason was home, and most certainly where Larry's heart was. A man of the land, Larry spent more than a quarter century working his dairy farm, then continued to lend his expertise to the agriculture community as a board member for the Michigan Farm Bureau. He also served as a trustee for the Board of Education of his alma

mater, Mason Public Schools, and was active in the local Masonic Lodge. In 1982 he was elected to the Aurelius Township Board, and from 1984 until the time of his death in March of this year, he served as Township Supervisor.

It's remarkable enough to hold the same job for nearly 40 years, but when that job is to serve the public, it's truly amazing. Larry was known for greeting everyone who walked into the township hall as a friend, whether they were there to dispute an assessment or inquire about a cemetery plot. And it should be noted that this was no cushy desk job, at least not for Larry, who was so devoted to his beloved community that he was often spotted mowing the grass and pulling weeds at the township parks in the mornings, and making sure the gates were pulled closed each evening. Perhaps his proudest accomplishment was overseeing the creation and opening of a new park, which will now live on as a testament to the goodwill he planted everywhere he went.

Larry was one of the first township supervisors I met when I took office in 2019, and someone whose advice I often sought on rural issues and perspectives. He dedicated his life to the betterment of the Mason area, and served, with no fanfare or spotlight, as the essential link connecting people to the services they needed to improve their lives. Today we mourn his loss, but we also celebrate the difference he made. On behalf of a grateful community, state, and Nation, I honor Larry for his faithful public service.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. JAKE AUCHINCLOSS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent from votes on May 10, 2023.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 205, NAY on Roll Call No. 206, and NAY on Roll Call No. 207.

## HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. KENNETH WILLIAMS

## HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Kenneth Williams, an outstanding Mississippian, an influential businessman, a well-known philanthropist, and a beloved community member.

Mr. Williams, a native of Corinth, Mississippi, first began contributing to his home state by working for his family's multigenerational business, Corinth Coca-Cola Bottling Works Inc., in 1957. The business, known today as Corinth Coca-Cola Bottling Group, was started by his grandfather in 1907. Mr. Williams currently serves as the company's CEO and chairman of the board, which has, with the help of his brother, Sandy, been expanded across parts of Mississippi, Arkansas, and Tennessee, serving over one million people.

Mr. Williams has served on various local, state, and national boards related to the soft drink industry and economic development. He served in leadership roles in Rotary and founded the Coke 10K Classic, one of the largest 10K races in Mississippi. He has served on the Mississippi Soft Drink Association board and the National Automatic Association and Trustmark Corporation in Jackson, Mississippi. He is also a past chairman of the Mississippi Economic Council.

The value that Mr. Williams has added to his community is evidenced by his awards. In 2020, Mr. Williams was awarded the Red Raspberry Humanitarian Award. In 2009, Mr. Williams and his brother, Sandy, were joint recipients of CREATE's George McLean Award for Philanthropy along with their spouses.

Mr. Williams represents one of four generations to attend the University of Mississippi. In honor of that legacy, his family sponsors the Corinth Coca-Cola Business Scholarship Endowment and formalized the Refreshments Inc. Partners in Business Scholarship Fund, which offers support to University of Mississippi's School of Business Administration students.

Over 80 years old, Mr. Williams has completed over 75 marathons on the 3 continents, including 22 consecutive Boston Marathons. At one point, he ranked fifth in the world in the 80+ age division of marathon runners. Mr. Williams has added cycling, swimming, skydiving, and bungee jumping to his list of hobbies to try.

Mr. Williams and his late wife, Nancy Ann Kincade Williams, were married for over 55 years. The couple has 4 children: Nan Williams Green (Stuart), Sara Williams Berry (Mont), Ken Williams (Edi), and Martin Williams (Adriene), most of whom reside in the Great State of Mississippi. His sons, Ken and Martin, are now part of the family business.

I commend Mr. Williams for a life that is so well lived and is such an example to others.

**RECOGNIZING PASTOR AMELIO HOWARD FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE TO GRACE TEMPLE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

**HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Pastor Amelio P. Howard of Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Pastor Howard received his calling to the ministry in March 1989 and has served as Pastor of Grace Temple Missionary Baptist Church since being installed as Pastor on May 2, 1993.

Answering the spiritual call to service leads so many people to a rewarding and prosperous life, and that can certainly be said for Pastor Howard. He has upheld his Christian duty to his God, to his family, and to his church of believers for 30 years. That long and steady leadership has certainly changed countless lives for the better, and the Pine Bluff community can be proud of Pastor Howard's commitment to them and to his faith.

Grace Temple Church's motto is, "We Are The Friendly Church That Loves People." That motto is lived by Pastor Howard daily. He has created a church community that embraces,

with love and grace, everyone who is guided by God. We can all learn from the Church's motto and from Pastor Howard's faithfulness. As a cornerstone of the Pine Bluff community, I know that I am joined by many in saying to Pastor Howard, "well done, good and faithful servant." He has earned the respect of his community, and I am proud to share his example with the people of the United States of America today.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Pastor Howard for his 30 years of service to his church and his community in Pine Bluff.

**REMEMBERING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RENE KEMPER**

**HON. HARRIET M. HAGEMAN**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, serving the community can take on many different forms, whether picking up trash in one's neighborhood or assisting individuals in need. However, Renè Suzette Kemper is someone who decided to dedicate her entire life to the service of others. Renè was born and raised on a ranch just outside Cheyenne. At a young age, Renè enjoyed spending time outdoors with the various animals that frequented her family's ranch, including her lifelong favorites, the family's cats. Growing up, her love for writing and limitless imagination would later inspire her to attend the University of Wyoming and graduate with a teaching degree in English studies. Shortly after graduation, Renè moved to Douglas where she pursued her passion for service by working and later serving as director for Youth Development Services in Douglas, Wyoming. Renè later had the privilege to serve as mayor of the community she so dearly loved. During her tenure, she touched the hearts of everyone around her. Renè tragically passed away after a long, courageous battle with cancer on March 2, 2023. Though she is not physically with us anymore, her work, compassion, humor, and tireless service remain steadfast in both the town of Douglas and the hearts and minds of everyone who knew her. It is my hope that we all look to Renè's story for inspiration and leadership so that we may carry on her legacy by positively impacting all our communities.

**HONORING THE 21ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS 2023 SERVICE ACADEMY APPOINTEES**

**HON. CHIP ROY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, today we congratulate the 2023 Service Academy appointees from the 21st Congressional District of Texas.

The following individuals have accepted Academy Appointments:

Sophia M. Akers, Health Careers High School, San Antonio, United States Military Academy. James C. Cowden III, Greystone Preparatory School at the University of Ozarks, Regents High School, Austin, United States Naval Academy. William S. Crone,

Central Catholic High School, San Antonio, United States Merchant Marine Academy. Lukas C. Decker, United World College East Africa, Arusha, Tanzania, Comfort, United States Air Force Academy. Clay A. Dillinger, Huntsville High School, Alabama, Spring Branch, United States Air Force Academy. William H. French, Boerne High School, Boerne, United States Military Academy. James A. Garcia-Gallegos, Northwestern Preparatory School, Douglas MacArthur High School, San Antonio, United States Naval Academy. Houston K. Hendrix, Boerne High School, Boerne, United States Air Force Academy. Pierce D. Patterson, Deerfield Academy, Austin, United States Military Academy. Trieste A. Perciavalle, Smithson Valley High School, Spring Branch, United States Military Academy. Joshua A. Torres, Ronald Reagan High School, San Antonio, United States Military Academy. Joseph W. White, Alamo Heights High School, San Antonio, United States Air Force Academy. Gavin S. Woods, Smithson Valley High School, Spring Branch, United States Naval Academy. Josephine C. Zink, Ronald Reagan High School, San Antonio, United States Naval Academy.

These outstanding students have much to contribute to their chosen Academy and to our country. We appreciate their talents and their patriotism.

I hope my colleagues in the House of Representatives will join me in congratulating these truly heroic young men and young women.

**RECOGNIZING MRS. LAURA LEE KIRKLEY**

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Laura Lee Kirkley for her 40 years of service to the Di Giorgio School Board and the Central Valley community. Mrs. Kirkley has been a Valley resident her whole life—growing up in Tehachapi before eventually moving to Arvin in 1974. In 1976, she married James Kirkley and started a family. As her sons started attending school in the Di Giorgio School District, Mrs. Kirkley knew she wanted to become more involved. This led her to join the school board in 1983—a position she has held ever since.

Mrs. Kirkley attended Bakersfield College and would graduate from California State University, Bakersfield in 1994. One year after her graduation, she was hired by the Arvin Union School District as a 7th and 8th grade math teacher at Haven Drive Middle School. As a teacher, Mrs. Kirkley regularly demonstrated her commitment to her students by helping to lead math competitions for the school. Her students were involved in the County Math Field Day competitions and won many awards—including winning first place in the Arvin High Math Field Day 11 straight years.

Mrs. Kirkley was incredibly involved in the Arvin community throughout her sons' childhood. She attended many Little League, Babe Ruth games, and other extracurricular activities. When they attended Arvin High School, she enjoyed going to their baseball, football, and band performances. Throughout her entire

adult life, Mrs. Kirkley has been a staple in the Central Valley community, supporting not only her own children but the hundreds of students she interacted with during her time in the Di Giorgio School District.

Mrs. Kirkley exemplifies the type of leadership that makes the Central Valley such a wonderful place to call home. Her work on behalf of students living in rural communities is remarkable, and I'm proud to recognize her service. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mrs. Kirkley's 40 years of service on the Di Giorgio School Board and the Central Valley community.

RECOGNIZING THE YPSILANTI COMMUNITY CHOIR'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ypsilanti Community Choir on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of their founding. The contributions they have made to the culture of the city of Ypsilanti is worthy of commendation.

The Ypsilanti Community Choir was founded in 1983 by Denise Rae Zellner, who originally needed a small choral group for her acting group, the Ypsilanti Players. The Choir quickly outgrew that supporting roll, and by March of 1984 nearly 60 musicians stood on the stage at Holy Trinity Chapel for their first official performance.

For the last 40 years, the Ypsilanti Community Choir has participated in special events in and around the city, like the Harvest Festival and sidewalk caroling during the holiday sea-

son. Residents of the local Senior Living Communities have been blessed with countless performances, drastically improving their quality of life. The Choir also sings the national anthem at basketball games for Eastern Michigan University, as well as Memorial Day ceremonies at the local Washtenaw Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

All of these events, large and small, help foster a sense of community in the city of Ypsilanti. Dozens of different voices, working together for a singular purpose, and the end result being more beautiful than any one of them could accomplish alone. The Choir is an excellent example of what we need to do on the local, state, and national level, and what we can accomplish if we work together with a common goal.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the founding of the Ypsilanti Community Choir. For 40 years, they have been making the city of Ypsilanti a more vibrant and welcoming place for all residents. We thank them for their contributions to this great city, and I cannot wait till the next time I get to hear those voices ring.

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

#### *Routine Proceedings, pages S1609–S1633*

**Measures Introduced:** Forty-one bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1550–1590, S.J. Res. 26–27, and S. Res. 207–212.

Pages S1623–25

#### **Measures Reported:**

S. 243, to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish procedures for conducting maintenance projects at ports of entry at which the Office of Field Operations conducts certain enforcement and facilitation activities. (S. Rept. No. 118–23)

S. 310, to establish an advisory group to encourage and foster collaborative efforts among individuals and entities engaged in disaster recovery relating to debris removal. (S. Rept. No. 118–24)

S. 679, to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to require Federal agencies to submit to the Comptroller General of the United States a report on rules that are revoked, suspended, replaced, amended, or otherwise made ineffective. (S. Rept. No. 118–25)

S. 717, to improve plain writing and public experience. (S. Rept. No. 118–26)

S. 794, to require a pilot program on the participation of non-asset-based third-party logistics providers in the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism. (S. Rept. No. 118–27) Page S1622

#### **Measures Passed:**

**Critical Habitat Congressional Review Act:** By 51 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 122), Senate passed S.J. Res. 23, 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”. Pages S1609–14

**Northern Long-Eared Bat Congressional Review Act:** By 51 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 123), Senate passed S.J. Res. 24, 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”.

Pages S1609–14

**King Kamehameha Day Lei Draping Ceremony:** Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 35, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate a King Kamehameha Day Lei Draping Ceremony. Page S1632

**24th Annual National Charter Schools Week:** Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 195, congratulating the students, parents, teachers, and leaders of charter schools across the United States for making ongoing contributions to education, and supporting the ideals and goals of the 24th annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 7 through May 13, 2023, and the resolution was then agreed to. Pages S1632–33

**Congratulating the Louisiana State University Fighting Tigers Women’s Basketball Team:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 210, congratulating the Louisiana State University Fighting Tigers women’s basketball team for winning the 2023 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women’s Basketball National Championship. Page S1633

**Public Service Recognition Week:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 211, expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the United States during Public Service Recognition Week. Page S1633

**Commemorating Women Naval Aviators:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 212, commemorating 50 years of women serving as naval aviators in the United States. Page S1633

**Message from the President:** Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012, with respect to Yemen; which was referred

to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-12) **Page S1622**

**Garcia Nomination—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Bradley N. Garcia, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit. **Pages S1614–20**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 124), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S1614–20**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, May 15, 2023; and that all post-cloture time be considered expired at 5:30 p.m. **Page S1633**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Routine lists in the Coast Guard. **Page S1633**

**Executive Communications:** **Page S1622**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Pages S1622–23**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1625–26**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S1626–32**

**Additional Statements:** **Page S1622**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S1632**

**Record Votes:** Three record votes were taken today. (Total—124) **Pages S1613–14**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:49 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, May 15, 2023. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S1633.)

## Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

**Committee on Appropriations:** Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Defense, after receiving testimony from Lloyd J. Austin III, Secretary, and General Mark A. Milley, USA, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, both of the Department of Defense.

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**Committee on Appropriations:** Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine pro-

posed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Education, after receiving testimony from Miguel Cardona, Secretary of Education.

### BUSINESS MEETING

**Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:** Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Jared Bernstein, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Ron Borzekowski, of Maryland, to be Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, and Solomon Jeffrey Greene, of the District of Columbia, and David Uejio, of California, both to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

### CANNABIS BANKING

**Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:** Committee concluded a hearing to examine cannabis banking challenges of small businesses and workers, including S. 1323, to create protections for financial institutions that provide financial services to State-sanctioned marijuana businesses and service providers for such businesses, after receiving testimony from Senators Merkley and Daines; Ademola Oyefeso, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, Washington, D.C.; Michelle Sullivan, Dama Financial, San Francisco, California; Kevin A. Sabet, Smart Approaches to Marijuana, New Haven, Connecticut; and Cat Packer, Cannabis Regulators of Color Coalition, Denver, Colorado, on behalf of the Drug Policy Alliance.

### UNIVERSAL SERVICE

**Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:** Subcommittee on Communications, Media, and Broadband concluded a hearing to examine the state of universal service, after receiving testimony from Timothy Chavez, Cuba Independent School District, Cuba, New Mexico; Angie Kronenberg, INCOMPAS, Silver Spring, Maryland; Daniel A. Lyons, Boston College Law School, Newton, Massachusetts, on behalf of the American Enterprise Institute; Denny Law, Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., Wall, South Dakota; and Greg Guice, Public Knowledge, Arlington, Virginia.

### PERMITTING PROCESS REFORM

**Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:** Committee concluded a hearing to examine opportunities for Congress to reform the permitting process for energy and mineral projects, after receiving testimony from Jason Grumet, American Clean Power Association, Rich Nolan, National Mining Association, and Elizabeth H. Shuler, AFL-CIO, all of Washington, D.C.; and Paul Ulrich, Jonah Energy LLC, Pinedale, on behalf of the Wyoming Energy Authority.

## CROSS-BORDER PRESCRIPTIONS

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine cross-border prescriptions, focusing on pharmaceutical manufacturers and United States international tax policy, after receiving testimony from Brad W. Setser, Council on Foreign Relations, Daniel Bunn, Tax Foundation, and William H. Morris, PwC, all of Washington, D.C.; and Diane M. Ring, Boston College Law School, Boston, Massachusetts.

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1067, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to citizen petitions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1114, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the 180-day exclusivity period, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1214, to set forth limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of drugs designated for rare diseases or conditions; and

S. 1339, to provide for increased oversight of entities that provide pharmacy benefit management services on behalf of group health plans and health insurance coverage, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1199, to combat the sexual exploitation of children by supporting victims and promoting accountability and transparency by the tech industry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 412, to provide that it is unlawful to knowingly distribute private intimate visual depictions with reckless disregard for the individual's lack of consent to the distribution, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1170, to reauthorize and update the Project Safe Childhood program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Charnelle Bjelkengren, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington, S. Kato Crews, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, Jeremy C. Daniel, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, Marian F. Gaston, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, Brendan Abell Hurson, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, and Darrel James Papillion, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

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# House of Representatives

## *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 77 public bills, H.R. 3202–3278; and 13 resolutions, H.J. Res. 61–64; H. Con. Res. 42; and H. Res. 389–396, were introduced.

**Pages H2306–11**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages H2314–15**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 498, to amend title V of the Public Health Service Act to secure the suicide prevention lifeline from cybersecurity incidents, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–52); and

H.R. 801, to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to provide for suspension of entries and imports from designated countries to prevent the spread of communicable diseases and import into the United States of certain controlled substances (H. Rept. 118–53).

**Page H2306**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative C. Scott Franklin (FL) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

**Page H2249**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened at 11 a.m.

**Page H2256**

**Secure the Border Act of 2023:** The House passed H.R. 2, to secure the borders of the United States, by a yea-and-nay vote of 219 yeas to 213 nays, Roll No. 209. Consideration began yesterday, May 10th.

**Pages H2258–81, H2293–94**

Rejected the Garcia (TX) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary, by a yea-and-nay vote of 211 yeas to 221 nays, Roll No. 208.

**Pages H2293–94**

H. Res. 383, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 2) and (H.R. 1163) was agreed to yesterday, May 10th.

**Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act:** The House passed H.R. 1163, to provide incentives for States to recover fraudulently paid Federal and State unemployment compensation, by a recorded vote of 230 ayes to 200 noes, Roll No. 211.

Pages H2281–93, H2294–95

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in H. Rept. 118–51, shall be considered as adopted.

Page H2281

Rejected the Sykes motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means, by a yea-and-nay vote of 210 yeas to 221 nays, Roll No. 210.

Pages H2294–95

H. Res. 383, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 2) and (H.R. 1163) was agreed to yesterday, May 10th.

**Suspension—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Tuesday, May 9th.

**Testing, Rapid Analysis, and Narcotic Quality Research Act:** H.R. 1734, amended, to require co-ordinated National Institute of Standards and Technology science and research activities regarding illicit drugs containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other substances of concern, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 425 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 212.

Pages H2295–96

**Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Representative Ryan

Page H2300

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 p.m. on Monday, May 15th for Morning Hour debate.

Page H2300

**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13611 with respect to the Yemen is to continue in effect beyond May 16, 2023—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 118–40).

Page H2300

**Quorum Calls Votes:** Four yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2293, H2293–94, H2294–95, H2295, and H2295–96.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

**Committee on Agriculture:** Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 662, the “Block Grant Assistance Act of 2023”; H.R. 1450, the “Treating Tribes and Counties as Good Neighbors Act”; H.R. 1713, the “DOE and USDA Interagency Research Act”; H.R. 1480, the “Beagle Brigade Act of 2023”; and H.R. 1697, the “Promoting Precision Agriculture Act of 2023”. H.R. 662, H.R. 1450, and H.R. 1697 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 1713, and H.R. 1480 were ordered reported, as amended.

### STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES ON AGRICULTURAL TRADE

**Committee on Agriculture:** Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture held a hearing entitled “Stakeholder Perspectives on Agricultural Trade”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### EXPOSING THE WOKE, WASTEFUL, AND BLOATED BUREAUCRACY

**Committee on the Budget:** Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Exposing the Woke, Wasteful, and Bloated Bureaucracy”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### EXAMINING AMERICA’S WORKFORCE CHALLENGES: LOOKING FOR WAYS TO IMPROVE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

**Committee on Education and Workforce:** Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development held a hearing entitled “Examining America’s Workforce Challenges: Looking for Ways to Improve Skills Development”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### PREPARING FOR AND RESPONDING TO FUTURE PUBLIC HEALTH SECURITY THREATS

**Committee on Energy and Commerce:** Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Preparing for and Responding to Future Public Health Security Threats”. Testimony was heard from Dawn O’Connell, Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response, Department of Health and Human Services; Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., Director, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Administrator, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Department of Health and Human Services; Robert M. Califf, M.D., Commissioner, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Mary Denigan-Macauley, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

## EXAMINING THE ROOT CAUSES OF DRUG SHORTAGES: CHALLENGES IN PHARMACEUTICAL DRUG SUPPLY CHAINS

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining the Root Causes of Drug Shortages: Challenges in Pharmaceutical Drug Supply Chains”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## FISCAL YEAR 2024 DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BUDGET REQUEST

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security held a hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2024 Department of Energy Budget Request”. Testimony was heard from Jennifer Granholm, Secretary, Department of Energy.

## OVERSIGHT OF SILICON VALLEY BANK AND SIGNATURE BANK: GAO’S PRELIMINARY REVIEW

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Oversight of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank: GAO’s Preliminary Review”. Testimony was heard from Michael Clements, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office.

## REVIEWING THE BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY, PART I: U.S. EXPORT CONTROLS IN AN ERA OF STRATEGIC COMPETITION

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Accountability held a hearing entitled “Reviewing the Bureau of Industry and Security, Part I: U.S. Export Controls in an Era of Strategic Competition”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## CENSORSHIP LAUNDERING: HOW THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ENABLES THE SILENCING OF DISSENT

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Accountability held a hearing entitled “Censorship Laundering: How the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Enables the Silencing of Dissent”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## AMERICAN CONFIDENCE IN ELECTIONS: PROTECTING POLITICAL SPEECH

*Committee on House Administration:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “American Confidence in Elections: Protecting Political Speech”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on H. Con. Res. 34, 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; and legislation on the Superior National Forest Restoration Act. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## EXAMINING THE PRESIDENT’S FY 2024 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held a hearing entitled “Examining the President’s FY 2024 Budget Request for the Indian Health Service”. Testimony was heard from Roselyn Tso, Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.

## THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION’S EXECUTIVE OVERREACH AND ITS IMPACT ON AMERICAN ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “The Biden Administration’s Executive Overreach and its Impact on American Energy Independence”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## INVESTIGATING PANDEMIC IMMUNITY: ACQUIRED, THERAPEUTIC OR BOTH

*Committee on Oversight and Accountability:* Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic held a hearing entitled “Investigating Pandemic Immunity: Acquired, Therapeutic or Both”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## STRENGTHENING THE FLEET: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS IN NAVAL SURFACE SHIP CONSTRUCTION

*Committee on Oversight and Accountability:* Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs held a hearing entitled “Strengthening the Fleet: Challenges and Solutions in Naval Surface Ship Construction”. Testimony was heard from Rear Admiral Thomas J. Anderson, Program Executive Officer for Ships, U.S. Navy; and Rear Admiral Casey Moton, Program Executive Officer for Unmanned and Small Combatants, U.S. Navy.

## FDA OVERSIGHT PART II: RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INFANT FORMULA SHORTAGE

*Committee on Oversight and Accountability:* Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services

held a hearing entitled “FDA Oversight Part II: Responsibility for the Infant Formula Shortage”. Testimony was heard from Susan T. Mayne, Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services.

### **AN OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “An Overview of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year 2024”. Testimony was heard from Richard W. Spinrad, Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.

### **REAUTHORIZING THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION AND FIRE GRANT PROGRAMS: EVALUATING EFFECTIVENESS AND PREPAREDNESS FOR MODERN CHALLENGES**

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Research and Technology held a hearing entitled “Reauthorizing the U.S. Fire Administration and Fire Grant Programs: Evaluating Effectiveness and Preparedness for Modern Challenges”. Testimony was heard from Lori Moore-Merrell, U.S. Fire Administrator, U.S. Fire Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Kevin Reardon, State Fire Marshall, Ohio; and public witnesses.

### **LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD: THE STATE OF SMALL BUSINESS CONTRACTING**

*Committee on Small Business:* Subcommittee on Contracting and Innovation held a hearing entitled “Leveling the Playing Field: The State of Small Business Contracting”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **ASSESSING THE SHORTAGE OF UNITED STATES MARINERS AND RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transpor-

tation held a hearing entitled “Assessing the Shortage of United States Mariners and Recruitment and Retention in the United States Coast Guard”. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral Paul Thomas, Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, U.S. Coast Guard; Rear Admiral Ann Phillips, U.S. Navy (Ret.), Administrator, U.S. Maritime Administration; Heather MacLeod, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; and a public witness.

### **GETTING BACK ON TRACK: EXPLORING RAIL SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE AND CHALLENGES**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled “Getting Back on Track: Exploring Rail Supply Chain Resilience and Challenges”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### **SEXUAL ASSAULT**

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Subcommittee on Central Intelligence Agency held a hearing entitled “Sexual Assault”. This hearing was closed.

## **Joint Meetings**

No joint committee meetings were held.

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### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### **Senate**

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

#### **House**

*Committee on Rules*, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 2494, the “POLICE Act of 2023”; and H.R. 3091, the “Federal Law Enforcement Officer Service Weapon Purchase Act”, 5 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

3 p.m., Monday, May 15

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

12 noon, Monday, May 15

**Senate Chamber**

**Program for Monday:** Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Bradley N. Garcia, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, post-closure, and vote on confirmation thereon at 5:30 p.m.

**House Chamber**

**Program for Monday:** To be announced.

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