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## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Our Father in Heaven, You soar on the wings of the wind. You are our strength, our rock, and our fortress. Without You, we do not know from whence we have come, why we are here, and where we are going. Without You, life is a narrow valley between the cold and barren peaks of two eternities. With You, life becomes an open gate into eternity.

Merciful God, be a shield of protection for our lawmakers, our Nation, and our world. Place Your arms of love around us all, for You are our hope for the years to come.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, January 11, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,  
President pro tempore.

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

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Erika L. McEntarfer, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, for a term of four years.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

#### GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as the Senate begins its work for the year, the most immediate need on the calendar is avoiding a government shutdown and fully funding the government for fiscal year 2024.

A shutdown is looming over us starting on January 19, about a week away. For the most part, both parties—Demo-

crats and Republicans—agree we don't want a shutdown. Instead, we want to work together to pass the 12 appropriations bills based off top-line funding levels that Congressional leadership agreed to last Sunday.

Chair MURRAY, Vice Chair COLLINS, Chair GRANGER, and Ranking Member DELAURO are all committed to working as quickly as possible to make that happen. Unfortunately, it has become crystal clear that it will take more than a week to finish the appropriations process.

So, today, I am taking the first procedural step for the Senate to pass a temporary extension of government funding, so the government does not shutdown on January 19. What I am doing today is filing cloture on a shell bill we can act on next week. Members should be ready to take the first procedural vote on this vehicle upon our return after the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday. I am taking this step because even a temporary extension of government funding takes about a week to pass through the Senate. So we want to act with enough time before the January 19 deadline.

I urge my Republican colleagues in the Senate to work with us to keep this process moving quickly on the floor. Leader MCCONNELL and I are in discussions about this very issue. The vast majority of us are all on the same page that a government shutdown would be a recipe for chaos.

Now, there are those on the hard right, over in the House, who think they can bully their colleagues and the House and the country into a shutdown. Amazingly, this band of hard-right extremists actually say a shutdown would be a good thing.

But to those 30 or so hard-right extremists, how on earth would it be good for the country to freeze, for example, nutrition programs that benefit 7 million women, infants, and children—many of those women pregnant? How would it be good for the country

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



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to close regional VA offices and keep our veterans who served us—many of whom risked their lives for us—waiting in line to get the benefits they are entitled to? How would it be good for the country to furlough food inspectors to ensure that the groceries we buy don't make us sick, or delay new applicants for military retirement benefits?

These are just a few of the things that will happen if we shut down next week. When the hard right says they want a shutdown, they are saying they want these things—VA closures, no food inspections, delayed military benefits, and so much more. This shows you that the hard right is not serious about governing. The only tactic in their playbook is to try and bully the rest of Congress and the country to bend to their extremist views.

But here is the incontrovertible truth. The White House is controlled by a Democrat. The Senate has a Democratic majority. And the Republican majority in the House is about as narrow as it can get. So it takes compromise to get anything done in these conditions of divided government. The top-line agreement we reached last week has borne that out. And I am hopeful that reasonable Members, on both sides of the aisle, in both Chambers, are ready to work together to ensure a government shutdown is avoided.

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. President, now, on artificial intelligence, as we begin the new year, one of the Senate's top priorities will be to legislate on artificial intelligence.

Mr. President, 2023 was a year to remember in the world of AI, with the popularization of technologies like generative AI. It is impossible to predict what 2024 will bring. So we must act and act quickly to ensure that the United States keeps leading the way.

Thankfully, thanks to our bipartisan AI Insight Forums and the leadership of our committees, the Senate has come very far in understanding how AI works and what we should do. We have listened to experts in tech, labor, business, academia, civil rights, and more.

We have discussed everything, from AI's impacts on democracy, on our workforce, on national security, and the thorny but important technical issues like transparency, explainability, bias, and more.

AI, for sure, will be one of the most difficult issues that the Senate has ever faced. But if there has been any consensus so far in these forums, it is that Congress must intervene to promote safe AI innovation.

So AI is going to be a big focus for many Senators this year. My colleagues in the bipartisan AI gang—Senators BROWN and YOUNG and HEINRICH—agree that the Senate will work in tandem with the regular order committee process, using findings and insights that our AI Insight Forums have uncovered. Our committees have already done great work, and I thank all the

chairs and ranking members for their continued leadership.

And I want to emphasize, underline, underscore that our work on AI remains wholly bipartisan. Both sides recognize the need to get something done on AI. So I thank my colleagues on both sides for their work on AI, and I look forward to making more progress on this very difficult issue in the months to come.

#### NEW YORK

Mr. President, now, on bad weather, across my home State of New York, thousands of our friends and neighbors are just having their power restored after enduring the first major storm of 2024. We have seen heavy rain, coastal flooding, and hurricane force winds across much of Upstate New York.

While communities are just beginning on the road to recovery, we must remain vigilant. Weather reports already show more snow and wind storms are expected this upcoming weekend that could hit communities just as they are starting to recover and rebuild. Senator GILLIBRAND and I have sent a "stand ready" letter to FEMA, urging them to stand ready to provide New York the support it needs if requested.

I will continue to work with the Governor and local officials to ensure New York communities have the tools they need to recover from this storm.

#### MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY

Mr. President, finally, on M.L.K. Day, this Monday, America will celebrate a national holiday in honor of the great Martin Luther King, Jr. It is a great holiday, and I was proud as a Congressman to be one of those leaders in helping to pass this legislation. And you would be surprised at some of the bigotry we heard when we tried to do it.

But just one point today, when you think about it, this is the only Federal holiday named for one person. We have Mother's Day for the mothers and Father's Day for the fathers and Veterans Day for the veterans and Independence Day for our Founding Fathers and Mothers, but only one day for one man. And the reason for that is simple: Dr. King was unique.

And, I like to say, he hoisted a giant mirror on his shoulders, and with his eloquence, with his brilliance, and with his faith, he forced America to look into that mirror, and America didn't like what it saw. And that began our slow march to racial equality, on which we are still trodding and still have a long way to go.

But I think every American should be saluting one of the greatest Americans who ever lived, Martin Luther King, Jr., and I look forward to joining with many of my friends in New York to celebrate and commemorate this holiday.

I yield the floor.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

#### NATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, as I noted earlier this week, the Senate's first major business of the year is addressing a historic array of national security challenges. For the first time since 1945, there is a land war in Europe. A Russian imperialist is deploying North Korean and Iranian weapons in his assault on Ukraine, with additional support from the People's Republic of China.

After the deadliest day for Jews since the Holocaust, there is a land war in the Middle East. Iran, the world's most active state sponsor of terror, is living up to its title, underwriting multiprong aggression against Israel, brazen attacks on U.S. personnel in Iraq and Syria, and a growing war on the global commerce in the Red Sea.

And just today—just today—Iran itself has reportedly hijacked an international oil shipment on the high seas, a further reminder that the Biden administration's failure to impose serious costs and restore credible deterrence is emboldening Tehran.

Our single greatest strategic adversary is supporting this worldwide challenge to the West, interfering more aggressively with peaceful neighbors and investing relentlessly in the capabilities to outcompete us.

Meanwhile, record-setting illegal arrivals have rendered America's own southwest border functionally nonexistent.

This is the most serious crisis of America's credibility in decades, and I don't use the word "crisis" lightly. It implies that a situation requires urgent action.

Of course, that is exactly why the Biden administration spent years twisting itself in knots to avoid acknowledging the record-shattering humanitarian and security crisis that unfolded on their watch and because of their policies at the southern border. Remember how the White House engaged in damage control back in 2021 when the President himself slipped up and called the situation facing CBP and ICE a crisis. It was a big deal because a crisis is something that requires action.

Well, right now, the Senate is very close to an opportunity to finally do something meaningful to address the Biden administration's border crisis. Thanks to our colleague Senator LANKFORD, we are inching closer to a chance to restore sanity, commonsense enforcement mechanisms, and the rule of law. Our colleague's efforts are the foundation of supplemental legislation to address each of the glaring national security challenges that we face: securing America's sovereign borders, investing heavily in American leadership and strength, and equipping America's military with critical capabilities and expanding our defense industrial capacity to deter threats from major adversaries like China. These requirements go hand in hand, and the world is watching to see whether we are willing to meet them.

With an arsenal stocked by North Korea and Iran, Russia, literally, mocks Western hesitation. With brazen terrorist aggression, Iran defies American strength. With intense focus, China bets against America's resolve.

So none of the challenges we face from our southern border to the Red Sea get any easier the longer we wait to address them. Unfortunately, our own allies and adversaries alike have every reason to doubt us. Three years of this administration's hesitation, self-deterrence, and half measures have exacted a steep price. So our work this month is the clearest possible test of America's credibility as a global superpower, as the leader of allies, and as the nation capable of upholding our own sovereignty. The Senate simply must not fail this test.

#### CRIME

Mr. President, on a different subject, residents of blue cities across America likely began the new year with the simple wish for the Democrats charged with keeping them safe, that this year would be the year they finally get serious about addressing violent crime. Unfortunately, if our Nation's Capital is any indication, 2024 is already off to a bleak—a bleak—start. Just 3 days into the year, the city has recorded 53 car thefts; one week in, there have been at least 125 carjackings and 44 robberies; and one of the year's first homicide cases involved a body found in a trash can within sight of the Capitol Building.

Unsurprisingly, violent crime in the new year is already following familiar patterns. To the surprise of absolutely no one involved, the perpetrator of a drug store robbery last week was the same man who had attempted to rob a single establishment six times—six times—last year. A six-time offender was still on the streets to try again.

Washington's radical local government has lost the plot. The city's leaders aren't just failing to get rampant crime under control, they are actively making matters worse. Less than 4 years ago in a fit of woke righteousness, the city cut police funding by \$15 million. Two years ago, prosecutors decided to prosecute two-thirds of the criminals officers brought in.

And if catch-and-release wasn't enough, MPD officers are still subject to bizarre do-not-pursue orders that prevent them from doing their jobs. No wonder the department is suffering a recruiting crisis—and at the exact time that law enforcement is needed the most.

So I am sorry to say that the list of local disgraces doesn't end there. Late last year, the city's Mayor announced a program to fight the epidemic of carjackings in Washington by distributing free tracking devices for residents' valuables. Apparently, even if you can't expect the police to hunt them down, at least residents of our Nation's Capital can watch them—watch them—as they escape.

The American people deserve to walk the streets of their Capital City with-

out fear. They deserve leaders who care more about safety than about keeping up with the far left's new soft-on-crime orthodoxies.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### CONGRATULATING THE SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY JACK-RABBITS ON WINNING THE 2024 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUB-DIVISION TITLE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, winter in South Dakota can be tough going, but no matter how low the temperatures go or how high the snowbanks rise, you can count on South Dakota sports fans coming out to support local athletes. After all, there are games, tournaments, and trophies on the line this time of the year. For sports fans like me, there is no better place to be than on the sidelines cheering for South Dakota's athletes.

This year, we have not been disappointed. On Sunday, the South Dakota State University football team won its second consecutive national title. That is right—the Jackrabbits are back-to-back FCS champions.

This Jacks team has a lot of talent and an awful lot to be proud of. Sunday's win closed out SDSU's first undefeated season as a Division I program. They now boast a 29-game winning streak—the third longest in FCS history.

Their defense was impenetrable this season, allowing an average of just 9.27 points per game and allowing just 15 points to be scored against them in four postseason games. I want you to think about that. When you get into the postseason, these are the playoffs. These are the best teams. In the four postseason games that they played, including the national title game, they gave up a total—total—of just 15 points.

I think that record of accomplishment this year was perhaps best personified in the title game, when Montana was driving the ball in the first quarter down in SDSU territory, and they had a fourth and goal at the 1-yard line, and the SDSU defense made a stand. In an iconic play, linebacker Adam Bock stopped the Montana ball carrier at the 1-yard line, stood him up, and took him down before the ball could cross the end zone and give them a touchdown. The Jacks got the ball back, and from then, it was on to a 23-to-3 victory.

Jacks quarterback Mark Gronowski won the Walter Payton Award for out-

standing offensive player—the first SDSU player to win this award—and I don't believe there was a close second. He was richly deserving of it. Gus Miller, center, from Brookings, SD, won the Rimington Award for best FCS center—also incredibly well-deserved.

As one reporter put it, "This team is just dynamite." I couldn't agree more. Their hard work and commitment to each other and to the team has brought them success this year, and Jacks nation is incredibly proud of them.

I want to congratulate the Jackrabbits players, coaches, and staff on this incredible championship season. There is much to celebrate now, but I am sure Coach Rogers will soon have the team working hard again to keep that winning streak going.

Mr. President, at this point, I want to recognize the South Dakota State University Jackrabbits football team by entering a resolution into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I would ask, as in legislative session, unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 519, which is at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 519) congratulating the South Dakota State University Jackrabbits on winning the 2024 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THUNE. 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 with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

##### SOUTH DAKOTA

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, as I said, it is not just football championships keeping South Dakota sports fans busy this time of the year. There is just as much excitement—sometimes even more—at a Friday night basketball game in towns across our State.

Over the holidays, I was able to get around South Dakota for some of those games. I caught up with Coach Phillips and the Northern State University basketball team last week. I brought my grandkids to see the Sioux Falls Jefferson girls take on the O'Gorman Knights girls for some Friday night hoops. I went to a girls hoops matchup between the Faulkton Trojans and Highmore-Harold Pirates. I got to see some of the Hoop City Classic at the Corn Palace in Mitchell, SD, and Saturday was able to see a cross-State matchup between the boys teams from

Rapid City Central and Sioux Falls Roosevelt.

As I travel around the State, I take every opportunity I can to stop in to a local game or a sporting event. I can count on catching a good matchup wherever I go. It is a chance to connect with people across South Dakota and to support South Dakota's athletes.

This weekend, I am looking forward to being back in my hometown of Murdo for the Jones County Invitational Basketball Tournament. For 3 days in January, the gym at Jones County High School is the center of the universe for the eight teams that are competing for the tournament title. For West River basketball fans, the Jones County Invitational is just in our DNA, and it certainly has a special place in my heart.

The 1969 inaugural tournament was organized by my high school basketball coach, Jerry Applebee; and my dad Harold Thune, who was our school's athletic director; plus Murdo Superintendent Maurice Haugland. When they organized that first tournament, they weren't sure how long it would last. But each year, the entire community would come together to make it a success. And now it is the longest running tournament of its kind in South Dakota, which is a fitting tribute to the impact that my dad and Coach Applebee had in our community and on countless young athletes, myself included.

I can remember sitting in the stands as a kid, dreaming about the opportunity to play in the big tournament one day. I remember the rush of adrenaline that I got coming out of the locker room to a packed house for those games. Nothing could compare to the thrill of winning the whole thing with my teammates, which is something that we were able to do a couple of times when I was in high school.

The Jones County Invitational was also how I got introduced to an important influence in my life, and that was, at that time, Congressman Jim Abdnor.

In the Friday night semifinal game in my freshman year, I had six attempts at the free-throw line, and I made five of them. The next day, we had to play again, the Saturday night game. I was at the Main Street department store in my hometown at the checkout counter, getting ready to buy something, and somebody in the line behind me tapped me on the shoulder. I turned around, and he says: I noticed you missed one last night.

I am like: Who is this smart aleck? I made five out of six. I am a freshman, right? Give me a break.

Well, he introduced himself as then-Congressman Jim Abdnor.

Jim would go on to be a great friend and mentor, and I would eventually have the opportunity to work for him when he served in the U.S. Senate and as head of the Small Business Administration under President Reagan. But the Jones County Invitational is how I

got introduced to him, and that chance meeting is what first opened the door that would lead me to public service.

Sports are a part of the fabric of South Dakota's way of life. They are one of the places we come together and connect as a community and, as I said, particularly on these cold winter evenings.

For many of us, sporting events bring back good memories of our days competing for our school and remind us of the important lessons that we learn from competitive sports—lessons that have often had an impact far beyond the field or the court.

So I am looking forward to being in the bleachers once again this season and watching South Dakota's athletes keep our great heritage going.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

DONALD TRUMP

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I get it. I understand that people are tired of hearing about whatever insane thing Donald Trump just said or did. I get that it is emotionally exhausting; it is intellectually exhausting; it is certainly politically exhausting to be panicked and outraged all the time. And, frankly, it is not possible.

We have now been living in this reality of Trump's unending lies and chaos for almost a decade, and people understandably just want to live their lives. They want to go to school. They want to drop their kids off at school. They want to make dinner. They want to maybe get some exercise or read a book or watch a show. They want their life to continue. And so you can't wake up every morning and be one of those people, one of those people who says: Did you see what Trump said? Did you see how crazy it was? Aren't you worried? You can't live life like that. I totally understand.

But Trump's lawyers said something this week in a courtroom just a few blocks from here that is impossible to ignore, and it must cause alarm because it was the clearest indication that Trump and his team believe that he can commit any crime in the book—crimes as clear as day—and get away with it without any consequences whatsoever.

When asked by a Federal judge if a President could be criminally prosecuted for ordering SEAL Team Six to assassinate a political rival, Trump's lawyer responded, "He would have to be, and would speedily be, impeached and convicted before the criminal prosecution could proceed."

What does that mean as a practical matter? It means that the President could commit any crime—it means

that the President could commit any crime—up to and including ordering the U.S. military to murder a political rival, and there would be no way to hold him accountable as long as 34 U.S. Senators stood ready to vote to acquit.

Do you think 34 U.S. Senators stand ready to vote to acquit? I don't know, honestly. I don't know. But I can tell you that way more than 34 U.S. Senators voted to acquit former President Trump, who was impeached and then tried by the U.S. Senate twice.

So I guess what we are saying is, this time, the Senate would stand up because that crime would be more egregious than the other ones.

Let's back up for a second because during the impeachment trial 3 years ago, Trump's legal team and a majority of Senate Republicans argued that it was the job of the criminal justice system to deal with statutory crimes—crimes that are in the law books, right—not the Senate. They said the question before Congress was whether or not Trump's actions rose to the level of crimes against the country, which are different from statutory crimes—a novel argument. And it worked, right? It doesn't have to be a good argument. It doesn't have to be a compelling argument. It just has to work in this body because we have 100 jurors, all politicians, and however the chips fall is however the chips fall.

But their argument was explicit, which is: This is not the venue. And now Trump's lawyers are arguing in the other venue—I am sorry. What I meant was this is the venue. So what they are really saying is: Our guy gets to commit crimes. Our guy gets to commit crimes.

I want everybody who is right of center—far right of center, center right, right in the center, I don't care. I want everyone to think about the consequences of accepting this argument: Any President can commit any crime.

Not only that, by the way, it is not a matter of just committing a crime, it is a matter of commanding the U.S. military; it is a matter of being the most powerful individual on the planet.

It is a matter of being the Commander in Chief and using those resources to assassinate a political rival. And you can't even get a Trump lawyer to say: Yeah, that would probably be illegal and cause him to go to jail.

Their question is: Well, that would depend on how the votes fell in the Congress.

I am alarmed. Trump's team is in court arguing that it is up to Congress; that the political system, not the justice system, should render judgment even on statutory crimes.

I say this as a Senator and someone who believes deeply in the awesome responsibility of this institution. "If the Senate says so" is not a serious legal argument. "If the Senate says so" is not a legal argument.

What is being contemplated here—the ordering of a murder—is a crime. It is a violation of the criminal code, and

every other person in the land would be arrested and tried for it. But, apparently, the official view of Donald Trump's lawyers is that he, and he alone, should be exempt from the law.

In the authoritarian future that he is clamoring for, he gets to do anything he wants, wielding unparalleled power in the Presidency and zero repercussions. That is not a President; that is a dictator. That is not equal justice under the law; that is one law for Trump and another for everybody else.

Think about what they are saying and ask yourselves: Are you comfortable with that? Are you comfortable with a democratic President with those kinds of authorities? Is that the kind of country that you want to live in?

To be clear, this can't be dismissed as, like, "I don't read the tweets" or "Oh, that guy is crazy; he just says stuff" or, "What a showman." Right? That was always the kind of hand waving away of whatever Trump said or did.

But now there are two differences. First, we now have 4 years of the Trump Presidency, two impeachments, and many—both statutory and constitutional—crimes to look straight at. The other thing is, again, this is not a tweet. This is not a comment in a townhall, right? What this is is the official position of the lawyers for the former President of the United States.

Authoritarianism is no longer just a remote problem in foreign lands. I just joined the Foreign Relations Committee a couple of years ago, and one of the things that we do as members of the Foreign Relations Committee is we go to other countries and encourage them to adopt democratic reforms. We encourage them to adopt democratic reforms. And, now, when we have our meetings, they are encouraging us to maintain our democracy.

And make no mistake, this is not some nebulous movement that is difficult to decipher. This is because Donald J. Trump was President and does not believe in American-style democracy. He doesn't. He doesn't believe he should be accountable. He believes he should be immune. And he believes that when and if he becomes President again, he will exact revenge, that he will be a dictator from day one, and that if he is held accountable for his crimes, there will be bedlam.

Now, does that sound like a rhetorical flourish? It sure does, doesn't it, except that I am quoting him.

So, again, I want everybody to be able to live a life. I don't want everybody to wake up every morning freaked out about whatever Donald Trump says. But, today, this week, it is worth marking what his lawyers said because it is an official position of a Presidential candidate, and it is a position that is antithetical to everything that we all believe in.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

#### GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, well, just like a bad movie, Congress finds itself within days of a government shutdown threat. Of course, this isn't an accident. This is a choice made by the majority leader in particular because, rather than take up the appropriations bills, which is the most basic responsibility of the government—to try to keep the lights on and keep the functions of government operating—the majority leader has decided not to process bipartisan appropriations bills across the Senate floor.

And so here we are—portions of the Federal Government scheduled for a shutdown a week from tomorrow. This is not the first nor the second time we have found ourselves scrambling to avoid a shutdown in the past few months.

You know, I wonder what the American people, when they watch this, must be thinking. They must be thinking: These folks can't run a two-car funeral. This is the very picture of incompetence.

But the truth is, like I said, this is a choice. This marks the third time since the end of September that we have just been days away from the funding deadline without a plan in place. I personally find this embarrassing. And it is unnecessary drama because funding the government, as I said, is one of the most basic functions of the Congress. Congress has all year to prepare for the end of the fiscal year, which was the end of September. But here we are, 3½ months past the funding deadline, and not a single regular appropriations bill has been signed into law.

This is a sad state of affairs, but it is not a reflection on the work of our Senate Appropriations Committee. Under the leadership of Senator MURRAY and Senator COLLINS, the committee has passed all 12 bipartisan appropriations bills in June and July. That was last summer. Each bill received strong bipartisan support, and more than half of them passed unanimously.

Well, you might wonder, if the leading Democrat, the leading Republican, and the Appropriations Committee—composed of Republicans and Democrats—passed bipartisan bills last summer, why do we find ourselves days away from a potential government shutdown? The Appropriations Committee handed the majority leader, who manages the floor—he is the only one who can schedule bills for a vote—12 bipartisan funding bills on a silver platter. They put the Senate in the strongest possible position to return to regular order and pass, on time, bipartisan appropriations bills, but that is not what happened.

And you might wonder why—why in the world would the majority leader ignore the bipartisan work of the Appropriations Committee and put us in this posture? Well, there is an answer for that, and that is because this is about power. The majority leader wants the

power to be able to shape these appropriations bills to deny rank-and-file Members an opportunity to participate in the process on the Appropriations Committee and on the floor and then present us with a fait accompli, saying: Vote for this; it is up or down. Either you shut down the government or you vote for this ominous appropriations bill—not an omnibus but an ominous appropriations bill.

Well, by the end of September, it was clear that there wasn't enough time to pass all 12 appropriations bills before the deadline. So we had to go to a stop-gap bill. That set a new deadline of November 17. When that deadline came and went, Congress had to punt one more time, this time setting up two funding deadlines: one January 19, just about a week from today; and February 2, which is, perhaps ironically, Groundhog Day. That brings us to today, 8 days from the first deadline, and no closer to passing regular appropriations bills.

Well, more than 100 days have passed since the start of the new fiscal year, and the Senate has been in session 39 days. Let me say that again. Over 100 days have passed since the start of the current fiscal year, and, out of 100 days, the Senate has been in session 39 days. That amounts to working an average of 2½ days a week.

Again, the majority leader, Senator SCHUMER, the Senator from New York, is the only one who can schedule the Senate. Rank-and-file Members have no power to do that.

But, frankly, I don't know any business in America where people can work roughly a third of the time and expect to receive a paycheck. And it is no surprise that, if you are only working a third of the time, you are not going to be able to get your work done.

How have we spent that time? Well, we know that the world is on fire, between Ukraine, Israel, the Indo-Pacific, the border. The President has requested more than \$100 billion in an emergency supplemental appropriation bill in order to fund those causes, those issues—it is very important—but the Senate hasn't even acted on that Presidential request, even though the House passed an Israel aid bill on November 2. It hasn't moved in the Senate. The majority leader hasn't made it a priority. As a matter of fact, he is waiting to bundle that, making our job a lot more complicated, to be honest. And so that remains undone.

We haven't passed a long-term reauthorization of a very important law called section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. I think this is probably the most important law that nobody has heard of because it authorizes our intelligence community to collect necessary intelligence in order to keep our country safe.

We haven't reauthorized the Federal Aviation Administration. The news today is full of news of near misses and accidents occurring on airlines, and we haven't even taken up to debate or

vote on the Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization.

And, as I said, we haven't taken action to address the border crisis, the fentanyl epidemic that killed 71,000 Americans last year alone, or other issues that are urgent issues.

Instead, the majority leader has focused almost all of the Senate's time, such as it is, on nominations. Well, to be clear, considering nominees is important work, but there is no world in which nominees should take priority over funding the government.

This entire saga could have been avoided if the majority leader had prioritized the appropriations process. It could have allowed this Chamber to start voting on individual funding bills over the summer as soon as they were approved by the Appropriations Committee. Instead, here we are, a week away from a partial government shutdown and 3 weeks away from a potential full government shutdown.

As he said, I can't imagine any line of work in any business, large or small, across America where you work 2½ days a week, you blow through your deadlines, and you ignore your most important work. This is insanity and no way to run a railroad, much less the U.S. Senate.

The majority leader had ample time and countless opportunities to move funding bills through regular order. Our colleagues on the Appropriations Committee, on a bipartisan basis, gave him a long runway to land thoughtful and on-time appropriations. But, regrettably, he has prioritized virtually everything but that most basic responsibility, putting us in the embarrassing and unenviable position we find ourselves in today. I should say that I find this embarrassing, and I bet other colleagues do as well. I guess the majority leader doesn't find it embarrassing.

Again, this is purposeful because it maximizes his power to force through an end-of-the-year appropriations bill on an emergency basis that he basically gets to write. And, of course, it turns the rest of the Members of the Senate into virtual potted plants—spectators in the process rather than full participants.

Well, it looks like another continuing resolution is in the future. We have run out of time because of this intentional planning by the majority leader. And so we don't really have much alternative but a government shutdown, other than to pass another continuing resolution—basically, kicking the can down the road.

Of course, the Senate is only half of the equation here. Our colleagues in the House are still weighing various options, and I am eager to see the route they choose.

The House has its own challenges, to be sure, but we ought to be leading by example. We ought to be passing bipartisan appropriations bills and sending them to the House. Then we can work out in a conference committee a compromise and send them to the Presi-

dent to keep the lights on, to keep the Border Patrol paid, to keep our commitments to our veterans, to pay our Active-Duty military and their families. That is what is at risk here, and it is completely avoidable.

Stopgap funding bills should not be the norm. They fail to provide government Agencies with the certainty they need to plan for the future. The Pentagon—the Defense Department—is the single largest discretionary appropriation that Congress passes every year. They can't plan for how to deal with the crisis in the Middle East or in the Indo-Pacific or in Ukraine or even at the border. If you are on a continuing resolution, they can't plan because they don't know what the future holds.

Well, the consequences of a continuing resolution or these stopgap, kick-the-can pieces of legislation are especially dire when it comes to our national defense and military readiness.

Despite the drawbacks of a stopgap funding bill, though, it is obviously better than a shutdown. I am not a fan of shutdowns. Nobody wins in a government shutdown because when you reopen the government, you are still staring in the face the same problems that caused you to shut down the government in the first place. Shutdowns penalize innocent people and hurt our economy. When the government shuts down, critical programs are paralyzed. Government services are put on hold, and millions of Federal workers are left without pay. Given the challenges we face, a shutdown would be a terrible mistake.

Mr. President, as is probably painfully obvious, I am extremely disappointed we find ourselves where we are today. Again, this is not an accident. This is not even negligent. This is intentional on the part of the majority leader. I think he bears responsibility for where we are today. I hope we can make some progress in the near future. But this is no way to run a railroad, much less the U.S. Congress or the business of the American people.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill 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. 375, Erika L. McEntarfer, of the District of Columbia,

to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, for a term of four years.

Charles E. Schumer, Bernard Sanders, Christopher Murphy, Richard J. Durbin, Tammy Baldwin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tina Smith, Alex Padilla, Gary C. Peters, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Mazie Hirono, John W. Hickenlooper, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Blumenthal, Elizabeth Warren, Jeanne Shaheen, Peter Welch.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Erika L. McEntarfer, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, for a term of four years, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 88, nays 8, as follows:

#### [Rollcall Vote No. 6 Ex.]

#### YEAS—88

Baldwin	Grassley	Ricketts
Barrasso	Hagerty	Romney
Bennet	Hassan	Rosen
Blackburn	Heinrich	Rounds
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rubio
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Boozman	Hoeben	Schatz
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Britt	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Brown	Kaine	Shaheen
Budd	Kelly	Sinema
Butler	King	Smith
Capito	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cardin	Lankford	Sullivan
Carper	Lujan	Tester
Casey	Lummis	Thune
Cassidy	Manchin	Tillis
Collins	Markey	Tuberville
Coons	Marshall	Van Hollen
Cornyn	McConnell	Vance
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Warner
Cotton	Merkley	Warnock
Daines	Murkowski	Warren
Duckworth	Murphy	Welch
Durbin	Murray	Whitehouse
Ernst	Ossoff	Wicker
Fetterman	Padilla	Wyden
Fischer	Paul	Young
Gillibrand	Peters	
Graham	Reed	

#### NAYS—8

Crapo	Kennedy	Schmitt
Cruz	Lee	Scott (FL)
Hawley	Risch	

#### NOT VOTING—4

Cantwell	Moran
Cramer	Mullin

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). On this vote, the yeas are 88, the nays are 8.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from North Carolina.

#### REMEMBERING HAROLD LEE FRANK

Mr. BUDD. Mr. President, I rise today to remember the life of Harold

Lee Frank and to recognize his dedication to family, freedom, and service.

Born in 1924 in Davidson County, NC, Harold Frank came of age during the Great Depression. When his country needed him, he answered the call to serve during the Second World War. Assigned to the U.S. Army's 90th Infantry Division, he landed on Utah Beach, Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944: D-day.

After receiving a gunshot wound to his shoulder, he was captured by German troops on July 8, 1944, and held as a prisoner of war by the Nazis. As a prisoner, his wound was treated for infection by a fellow American medic POW, and the bullet was eventually removed on October 13, 1944. PFC Frank was actually allowed to keep the German bullet that was extracted from his shoulder.

On July 5, 1945, he was released from prison and was found by an American Army unit.

After the war, PFC Frank was awarded the Purple Heart and a Bronze Star. He was also knighted by the French Ambassador to the United States and awarded the French Medal of Honor for his courage and for his valor.

Once home, he married the love of his life: Reba Mae McDaniel Frank. They were married for 68 years, until her passing in 2016.

Harold continued to give back to his community as a county commissioner and a special deputy sheriff. He also assisted in organizing the Cornatzer-Dulin Volunteer Fire Department.

Throughout his life, Harold maintained a desire to serve, and he traveled as a motivational speaker at numerous military and veteran events.

Friend, travel companion, and fellow U.S. Army veteran Mark Hager wrote a book about Harold titled "The Last of the 357th Infantry." He would later produce a documentary titled "From BAR to POW," highlighting his experiences as a POW.

Harold returned to Normandy for the 75th anniversary of D-day in 2019. He visited the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, on an Honor Flight and was recognized by the Gary Sinise Foundation's Soaring Valor flight to visit the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, LA.

Later in life, Harold would often be seen around his home in Davie County, my home—in Davie County, NC, visiting with friends at the Davie County Senior Center, Miller's Restaurant, or the Forks of the Yadkin and Davie County Museum.

He was a fixture at area veterans events right up to his passing on New Year's Eve, December 31, 2023.

Mr. President, please join me in a moment of silence for Mr. Harold Lee Frank, a man who embodied the "greatest generation," and in recognition of a life well lived.

(Moment of silence.)

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). The Senator from Connecticut.

#### UKRAINE

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, the weapons that we send to Ukraine aren't used in military parades. They don't sit in warehouses. They are used by the Ukrainians to fend off the brutal Russian invasion of that country. They are used by Ukraine to maintain that country's sovereignty and independence.

At the height of the summer offensive, Russia was firing 10,000 artillery rounds per day at Ukraine. In response, Ukraine was firing back 7,000 rounds per day. But by the end of last year, just a few weeks ago, Ukraine's stocks were so low that they were firing just 2,000 rounds per day. Russia is still firing 10,000 rounds per day.

I want my colleagues to step back for a moment and imagine you are in a duel with an opponent where, in each round, your opponent has five bullets for every one that you have. You are not going to survive that fight. That is not a fair fight. Soon, you won't even have one bullet. How long do you think that fight continues for you?

Right now, ammunition levels are so low that a Ukrainian artillery brigade that used to fire 50 to 90 shells per day is now forced to ration its supplies down to 10 to 20 shells per day. That is barely enough for them to just defend themselves, let alone push forward or reclaim any additional territory.

And it is not just ammunition that Ukraine desperately needs right now. It is supplies for their air defense system as well.

For 2 years now, Russia has not had air superiority, except once, in the city of Mariupol, and there Russian bombs flattened the city. In 2 months, 95 percent of the city was destroyed, and 25,000 people were killed. But, elsewhere in Ukraine, the casualties are much more limited because Russian planes were being shot down.

So, perhaps, it is no coincidence that, just a few days ago, Russia launched a major missile barrage at Kyiv in what was the single largest attack since the start of the war.

Why do I say that perhaps it wasn't a coincidence? Well, maybe it is because Russia is pushing all its chips in on a bet that Ukraine is not only going to run out of ammunition, but it is going to run out of air defense missiles.

And with no American funding to replenish those systems, Russia would then be able to destroy the missile defense batteries themselves, finally giving them a free hand to completely decimate every single Ukrainian city. They will apply the Mariupol tactics—the Mariupol playbook—to Odessa, to Kharkiv, and to Kyiv. And millions will die, and Kyiv will become a Russian city.

While this body hesitates to resupply Ukraine, Russia is putting one-third of its entire budget for 2024 toward its war effort. Russia is receiving new ballistic missiles, artillery rounds, military equipment, and attack drones from its allies—North Korea, China, and Iran.

And yet we are still deciding whether we, as Ukraine's primary ally, are going to support them in the fight to come.

I just want to remind my colleagues what is at stake in this fight. We are making a decision, as we speak, right now, as to whether Ukraine is an independent, sovereign nation, or whether Ukraine, once again, is a Russian state, a Russian vassal, a Russian province; whether Kyiv is an independent city or whether Kyiv is a Russian city.

Never before in our lifetime has a large, nuclear-armed nation like Russia invaded a neighboring country with the sole purpose of destruction, annihilation, and annexation. If they succeed, if Kyiv does become a Russian city, the post-World War II order is over. It is over, and no one here is really prepared to deal and live with those consequences.

The rules that have governed the past 70 years and that have provided us with relative global stability, the rules that have protected our country and our economy, which relies on a stable global system—they will all be permanently broken. Consider the Pandora's box open.

I wish it were hyperbole to say that the fate of the free world is at stake, and I wish we weren't in a position where my Republican colleagues, who say that they support Ukraine, weren't making funding for Ukraine dependent on solving one of the most vexing, most difficult political issues in American politics: the issue of immigration and border policy. But that is where we are.

My Republican colleagues say they will let Vladimir Putin destroy and occupy Ukraine if we can't come to a conclusion on immigration policy and border policy. I wish we weren't here, but we are. And so Democrats are at the table trying to find a compromise that helps the Biden administration and future administrations better manage the situation at the border while also living up to our fundamental American values.

I wish we weren't here. I wish we could just all say that we believe it is in the interest of the United States of America to support Ukraine, to make sure that they have what they need to defend themselves, and we are going to get that job done. And we are going to sit down and try to work together on the crisis of a broken immigration system. Tying the two together in this way threatens to become the biggest gift America has ever given Vladimir Putin.

#### IMMIGRATION

And so, Mr. President, I want to focus the remaining part of my remarks today on what I think we can do to help the administration manage the border, but I also want to tell you what I think we cannot and should not do—the changes to immigration law that would fundamentally compromise our Nation's values and our moral underpinnings as a nation built by immigrants.

I think it is easy for us here in Washington to forget, when we are talking about asylum, that we are often talking about a life-and-death choice for people. We are talking about men, women, and children who are not safe in their home countries, who will die if they stay, who don't want to leave their family, their neighbors, everything that they know. But they are so desperate that they feel they have no choice but to make the often life-threatening journey to the United States of America.

We are talking about people like Sandra Gutierrez. She lived in Honduras, and, like any parent, Sandra wanted to make sure that her kids were safe at the school they attended every day, but they weren't. They were under regular threat from armed gangs.

So she joined together with her local parents board in her Honduran town and started working with other moms to try to get the violent gangs that were a constant presence at her kids' school away from the campus.

But guess what happened to Sandra. That work made Sandra a target. These armed gangs stalked her. They hunted her. They threatened to kill her and her children if she didn't stop and if she didn't meet their demands. And so she did what any of us would do, what any parent would do. She protected her children. She left Honduras, where she would be hunted by these gangs, and she came to find asylum in the United States of America.

It is people like Aliyah, a journalist in Cameroon, who wrote powerful stories exposing discrimination by the Cameroonian Government and sexual assaults committed by powerful people in her country. She reported the truth, and that made her a target. She was attacked, beaten, detained, and imprisoned, not by gangs but by her own government.

After she escaped and fled her country—the place where she had lived her entire life, where she had built a reputation, a career—she found asylum here in the United States of America.

It is true that many people who come to the United States seeking asylum do not have a story like Sandra or Aliyah. It is true that many immigrants seeking asylum are actually here as economic migrants. And so I agree that we should come together and do what we can to provide a fully funded and much more effective and efficient asylum system to determine which people showing up at our border are like Sandra and Aliyah, with legitimate asylum cases, where the United States of America is a place where they can have their life saved, versus people who are just trying to use the asylum system to find work.

So I support building a better system, but I don't support proposals that completely shut off the ability for people to come to the United States to save their lives. I think it is really important that we understand that, when

you are talking about asylum, you are talking about a system that works for thousands of people who are fleeing terror and torture. It does not work when many people are using it as an end route to come to the United States to work.

But we can solve that problem, we can fix that system, while still allowing people, like those brave women that I talked about, to have the ability to come to the United States to save their lives.

We are also talking about another topic, a topic that a lot of Republicans are discussing in the hallways these days, and that is parole. It is one of the most important tools that the administration has at its disposal to respond to humanitarian crises all around the world and to manage the flow of individuals at the border.

Immigration parole authority has been used by every single President for the last 70 years to provide relief for individuals who are fleeing danger and persecution. Republican and Democratic Presidents have used this authority to protect Soviet Jews fleeing persecution, Cubans during the Cold War, and, most recently, Ukrainians and Afghans fleeing violence and unrest.

Despite what some Republicans will have you believe, the Biden administration's use of parole has created more, not less, order at the border. The Uniting for Ukraine and Cuba, Nicaragua, Haiti, and Venezuela parole programs have enabled more than a quarter of a million people to come to the United States safely after having passed an extensive vetting and background check process and also obtaining private sponsorship, families here in the United States. They have the ability to work, and they are not forced to take that dangerous journey to the southern border. It denies smugglers and cartels the ability to exploit all of these people. It gives us a chance to vet those individuals before they show up in the United States.

What has happened since these programs have been put into place? A significant drop in unlawful encounters at the southern border from individuals from these countries. Unlawful crossings of Venezuelans are down 50 percent. Unlawful crossings of Cubans, Nicaraguans, and Haitians are down 90 percent. This is stunning but important progress.

In November of last year, for instance, Border Patrol encountered 34,000 Nicaraguans on the border—a year and a half ago. This past November, Border Patrol encountered 4,000. Mr. President, 34,000 before parole; 4,000 after parole.

No other tool at the President's disposal has been so effective in reducing unauthorized crossings as has parole. Limiting this ability will only push more people to cross in between the ports of entry, exacerbating the very problem that Republicans claim they want to solve.

I am not saying that we shouldn't have a conversation about reforming this practice. I am at the table. But to completely deny the President the ability to use parole is to make the situation at the southwest border more unmanageable, not less unmanageable.

I think we all do agree that what is happening at the southwest border today, the number of people who are crossing every day compared to the resources we have, is untenable. Democrats—we do want to give the administration tools to better manage the border, but we are not interested in taking away tools that have a proven track record of success.

This work is not easy. I wish we weren't here. I wish we were passing immigration reform and moving funding for Ukraine, that the two hadn't been tied together. But I accept that this is what has been made necessary by Republicans to get Ukraine the funding it needs.

I am really grateful for the progress we have been able to make. Senator LANKFORD, Senator SINEMA, myself, the White House, and members of leadership have been working together throughout the holiday nonstop, every single day, trying to find a compromise that lets us fund Ukraine, that lets us fund Israel, that gives the President new tools to manage the southwest border but that also respects fundamental American values, that honors our tradition of immigration.

We are not there yet, but we are close. To get to that finish line so that we can all join together in the effort to support Ukraine—that is going to mean that both Democrats and Republicans have to compromise. Neither side is going to get everything they want. I wish Republicans would choose to support Ukraine just because it is the right thing to do, but we are where we are. We have made a lot of progress, and, to me, the stakes are just far too high to give up.

#### NOMINATION OF ERIKA L. MCENTARFER

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I would like to say a few words on the nomination of Erika McEntarfer to be the Commissioner of Labor Statistics at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics at the Department of Labor.

President Biden nominated Ms. McEntarfer to the position on July 12, 2023, and last October, she was reported out of the HELP Committee by a unanimous vote of 21–0. Ms. McEntarfer has had a long career as an economist at the U.S. Census Bureau, currently serving as the lead economist in the labor markets section of the Center for Economic Studies. She has worked at the Census Bureau since July 2002, with the exception of July 2008 through January 2010, when she was an economist at the Treasury Department. She also did a 1-year detail assignment at the Council of Economic Advisers as a senior economist from 2022–2023.

Ms. McEntarfer has written or co-written economic reports that cover a wide range of issues, from the effects of



macroeconomics on older workers and retirements, to job displacement and job mobility. She focuses her own research on U.S. labor market and wage dynamics over the business cycle.

Ms. McEntarfer holds a B.A. from Bard College and a Ph.D. from Virginia Tech.

I have no doubt that her experience and dedication to public service will help her succeed as Commissioner of Labor Statistics, and I urge my colleagues to support her nomination.

Mr. MURPHY. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

VOTE ON MCENTARFER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the McEntarfer nomination?

Ms. HASSAN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN).

The result was announced—yeas 86, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 7 Ex.]

YEAS—86

Baldwin	Graham	Reed
Barrasso	Grassley	Ricketts
Bennet	Hagerty	Romney
Blackburn	Hassan	Rosen
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Rounds
Booker	Hickenlooper	Rubio
Boozman	Hirono	Schatz
Braun	Hoeven	Schumer
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Scott (SC)
Brown	Johnson	Shaheen
Budd	Kaine	Sinema
Butler	Kelly	Smith
Capito	King	Stabenow
Cardin	Klobuchar	Sullivan
Carper	Lankford	Tester
Casey	Lujan	Thune
Cassidy	Lummis	Tillis
Collins	Markey	Tuberville
Coons	Marshall	Van Hollen
Cornyn	McConnell	Vance
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Warner
Cotton	Merkley	Warnock
Daines	Murkowski	Warren
Duckworth	Murphy	Welch
Durbin	Murray	Whitehouse
Ernst	Ossoff	Wicker
Fetterman	Padilla	Wyden
Fischer	Paul	Young
Gillibrand	Peters	

NAYS—8

Crapo	Kennedy	Schmitt
Cruz	Lee	Scott (FL)
Hawley	Risch	

NOT VOTING—6

Cantwell	Manchin	Mullin
Cramer	Moran	Sanders

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUTLER). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

AMENDING THE PERMANENT ELECTRONIC DUCK STAMP ACT OF 2013—Motion to Proceed

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to Calendar No. 243, H.R. 2872.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 243, H.R. 2872, a bill to amend the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 to allow the Secretary of the Interior to issue electronic stamps under such Act, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 243, H.R. 2872, a bill to amend the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 to allow the Secretary of the Interior to issue electronic stamps under such Act, and for other purpose.

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Alex Padilla, Gary C. Peters, Jack Reed, Tina Smith, Sheldon Whitehouse, Margaret Wood Hassan, Jeanne Shaheen, Richard J. Durbin, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Peter Welch, Catherine Cortez Masto, Christopher Murphy, Richard Blumenthal, Mark R. Warner.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motion filed today, January 11, be waived.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate 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.

REMEMBERING HERB KOHL

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, over the holiday recess, the U.S. Senate and the people of Wisconsin experienced a profound loss: the passing of Herb Kohl.

I had the pleasure of serving with Herb in the Senate for 15 years. He was a tremendous Senator and an even better man. Born in Milwaukee to two Jewish immigrant parents, Herb went to school at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and later earned a master's degree from Harvard University. He went on to serve in the Army Reserve.

In many ways, Herb's story is the American dream personified. A Midwestern boy from humble roots who teamed up with his father and brothers to grow a family business into an iconic retail chain, becoming a successful businessman and philanthropist in the process. Herb took what he learned from the world of business—hard work, integrity, and humility—and pivoted to politics. Getting his start in Wisconsin politics in the 1970s, he went on to chair the Wisconsin State Democratic Party. And in 1988, he ran for the U.S. Senate. Unsurprisingly to all of us who knew Herb, he was a beloved candidate, and he faithfully served the people of Wisconsin for four terms.

In his conduct and commitment to his constituents, Herb proved that the Midwest's reputation for kindness and loyalty does not stop at the doors of the Senate. He had a quiet manner about him, with little ego. In many ways, he was an anomaly. He put his head down, and he focused squarely on how he could improve the lives of those who entrusted him to serve.

Even with his success, Herb never forgot his roots and used every position he found himself in to give back to his beloved Wisconsin. In 1970, he was instrumental in bringing a professional baseball team to Milwaukee. When Milwaukee's professional basketball team, the Milwaukee Bucks, threatened to leave town, Herb purchased the team to ensure they remained in his hometown. When he saw educational need in his State, he founded the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation to provide scholarships and fellowships to students, teachers, and schools. When his alma mater found itself in need of a new athletic facility and arena, it was Herb's donation that helped bring it to life.

A fellow Midwesterner, Herb and I worked together on many issues. He was a colleague, a friend, and above all, the resident dairy expert. I can still recall when Herb retired in 2013, I quickly realized I had lost my most trusted adviser on all things dairy. It was important to his constituents, so it was important to him. And no one knew more than Herb.

Notably, we also served together on the Senate Judiciary Committee, where we worked to confirm fair and qualified judges and pass legislation that made this Nation more just and equitable. Specifically, in 2011, he co-sponsored the DREAM Act, legislation that is very close to my heart.

I send my deepest condolences to Herb's family, friends, and constituents. With Herb's passing, we lost one of the very best of us. I am honored to have called Herb a friend, and I will miss him dearly.

#### HONORING THE LEGACY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, in a few short days, our Nation will honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

For many, it will be a day to envision a future in which America, as Dr. King dreamed, is "free at last." For others, it will be a time to remember the ideals Dr. King fought so hard for, namely his dream for everyone in this country to finally receive the fair and equal treatment promised to them under the Constitution.

Today, we should honor Dr. King's legacy by continuing to fight to realize his dreams—and also recognize the brave people who stood alongside Dr. King at the foot of history's doorstep, like Memphis sanitation worker and civil rights activist Elmore Nickelberry.

Mr. Nickelberry was one of the last surviving Memphis sanitation workers who fought for better working conditions in 1968, and he marched with Dr. King during the sanitation workers' strike. He was a man of great integrity and a pillar within his community. When others wanted to give up and stop the strike, he said: "Keep on marching, keep on doing the right thing. If they're doing the right thing, everything will be good. But keep the dream alive."

Because of Mr. Nickelberry's bravery and determination, the Black Memphis sanitation workers received better working conditions and pay and were finally afforded rights equal to those of their White counterparts. Last week, Elmore Nickelberry took his last breath on this earth. But the legacy left behind by Mr. Nickelberry, Dr. King, and the rest of the visionary activists who fought for a freer, fairer, and more just America will stand the test of time.

The impact of Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., on our Nation is, in many ways, immeasurable. Dr. King taught us that no change comes without hard work and determination. He used to say, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

As chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I am committed to continuing the work to which Dr. King

committed his life: the work of advancing justice and equality for all. We are moving toward that goal by continuing our efforts to bring balance to our Federal judiciary. Throughout America's history, our courts have too often been the venue in which justice is denied rather than delivered. If we want to fulfill the promise of equal justice under the law, we need a Federal bench that looks like America. And, under President Biden, we are finally building that bench. We must continue to advance well-qualified judicial nominees who reflect the diversity of America.

Under President Biden's leadership, the Senate has confirmed more Black women to the Federal circuit courts than all prior Presidents combined, including the first-ever Black woman to serve on the Supreme Court: Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson.

We have also confirmed a historic number of Asian American, Latino, and LGBTQ+ judges, and we have confirmed more circuit judges with experience as public defenders than all prior Presidents combined. In the past couple of years, our Nation has made historic progress, both in rectifying the injustices of our past, and building Dr. King's "Beloved Community." And that progress was made possible by my fellow Democratic Members of Congress who have advanced Dr. King's march for justice in every form: racial justice, social justice, and economic justice.

I would like to close by evoking the words of another great American and civil rights activist—my friend, the late John Lewis. A disciple of Dr. King, Congressman Lewis believed in the power of community, justice, and love. He is famously known for his belief that people should "get in good trouble, necessary trouble" to help redeem the soul of America.

Today, as we reflect on how we can honor Dr. King's memory and live by his legacy, I hope we can all commit to getting into the kind of "good trouble" that John Lewis urged, the kind of trouble that challenges our Nation to live up to its lofty ideals, the kind of trouble that is hard, and costly but ultimately brings us closer to realizing Dr. King's dream.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO KATHY WEBB

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize Kathy Webb, who is retiring as chief executive officer at the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance after a tremendous 11 years advocating greater food security for all Arkansans.

Kathy started her work with the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance as a volunteer in 2006 before serving on the board of directors and ultimately leading the nonprofit as CEO since 2012. She has been a champion of anti-hun-

ger efforts, helping many Natural State residents access nutritious food while partnering with State and Federal lawmakers to enact meaningful policy solutions, as well as increasing awareness and mobilizing others to address this issue.

Under Kathy's leadership, the Alliance hosted the first legislative SNAP challenge, created the Arkansas Legislative Hunger Caucus—the first of its kind in the country—and organized new partnerships in sectors previously not engaged in fighting hunger. Her leadership was instrumental in successfully expanding access to healthy food and enhancing State and Federal nutrition policies to help hungry kids. With a common goal of improving child nutrition programs, I was proud to collaborate with Kathy on a landmark measure to ensure children have access to healthy, nutritious meals year-round.

She is a dedicated public servant whose has spent her career striving to make Arkansas better. As city director and vice mayor of Little Rock, a member of the civic advisory board for the Little Rock School District, a former member of the Arkansas House of Representatives, and volunteer at Susan G. Komen for the Cure events, her sustained presence and passion have benefited countless lives.

Kathy exemplifies what it means to give back to her community. I am grateful for all she has contributed locally and beyond to combat hunger over many years with so much important progress achieved. I appreciate our longtime friendship, and I know her impact will continue to be seen for generations to come. I wish her the best of luck in retirement.●

##### TRIBUTE TO MARY ERICKSON

• Mr. DAINES. Madam President, today I have the distinct honor of recognizing Mary Erickson, forest supervisor for the Custer Gallatin National Forest, for her years of service.

Mary has been active in the stewardship of natural resources for nearly 40 years, the last 15 as forest supervisor in Montana. During her tenure, she worked to consolidate the Custer and Gallatin National Forests into one National Forest that Montanans enjoy today. The Custer Gallatin National Forest stretches over 3.1 million acres and covers portions of southern Montana and western South Dakota. It is known for its wildlife, breathtaking scenery, and opportunities for industry and recreation.

Mary graduated from Oregon State University's College of Forestry with a bachelor of science in forest management in 1982 and received a master of science in forest economics in 1986. In her time with the Forest Service, Mary has supported numerous collaborative efforts to better the connection between communities, organizations and the Forest Service and led the Custer and Gallatin Forest through a forest

plan revision process that engaged public users and local communities.

Mary's support of the communities who enjoy and rely on their public lands is exemplary and personifies what it means to be a public servant. With her retirement at the end of December, Montana recognizes her distinguished career and thanks her for her contributions and dedication to our wonderful State, the natural resources we enjoy, and the people who call it home.●

#### RECOGNIZING COLLET'S PUB

● Mr. RISCH. Madam President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today, I am pleased to honor Collet's Pub as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for January 2024.

Collet's opened in 1930 during Prohibition as a pool hall in Firth, ID. Generations of the Collet family owned the smalltown bar before closing for 2 years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In September 2022, Holly and Brian Johnson purchased the business and brought Collet's back to life. Despite much-needed repairs to the building, Holly and Brian's fond memories of eating hamburgers there as children encouraged them to preserve the original look and feel of Collet's, including the iconic teal sign. Customers who have frequented Collet's for 20 or even 30 years still admire the original sketches and engravings etched into the bar by the former owner.

Collet's was the first bar in Idaho to serve Budweiser Beer on tap, and today, the pub is a family-friendly restaurant known for good food, burgers, and karaoke on the weekends. As the only dining establishment in Firth, Holly and Brian have given the community a place to grab lunch, meet up with friends, play cards or pool, and visit.

Congratulations to the Johnsons and all of the employees at Collet's Pub on their selection as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for January 2024. Thank you for serving Idaho as small business owners and entrepreneurs. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United

States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### PRIVILEGED NOMINATIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator RON WYDEN, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Finance: Andrew G. Biggs, of Oregon, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2024.

On request by Senator RON WYDEN, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Finance: Sharon Beth Lewis, of Oregon, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2028.

On request by Senator RON WYDEN, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Finance: Andrew G. Biggs, of Oregon, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2030.

On request by Senator RON WYDEN, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Finance: Kathryn Rose Lang, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Social Security Advisory Board for a term expiring September 30, 2026.

On request by Senator RON WYDEN, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Finance: Corey Anne Tellez, of Illinois, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

#### 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-3203. A communication from the Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Standard for Button Cell or Coin Batteries and Consumer Products Containing Such Batteries" (Docket No. CPSC-2023-0004) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3204. A communication from the Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amending Safety Standard for Button Cell or Coin Batteries and Consumer Products Containing Such Batteries" (Docket No. CPSC-2023-0004) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3205. A communication from the Secretary of the Maritime Administration, De-

partment of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to the Federal Ship Financing Program Regulations; Financial Requirements" (RIN2133-AB98) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3206. A communication from the Attorney for Regulatory Affairs Division, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard for the Flammability of Clothing Textiles" (Docket No. CPSC-2019-0008) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3207. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's nineteenth annual report on ethanol market concentration; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3208. A communication from the Acting Secretary of the Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Carrier Automated Tariffs" (RIN3072-AC86) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 18, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3209. A communication from the Senior Attorney Advisor/Regulations Officer, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Standards for Traffic Control Devices; the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways; Revision" (RIN2125-AF85) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 20, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3210. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2022 Closure for Spiny Lobster in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone Around Puerto Rico" (RIN0648-XC071) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3211. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Historical Captain Permits Conversions" (RIN0648-BI12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3212. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Coral and Coral Reefs of the Gulf of Mexico; Amendment 9" (RIN0648-BI61) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3213. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic;

Snapper-Grouper Fishery Off the Southern Atlantic Region; Regulatory Amendment 29" (RIN0648-BI81) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3214. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Greater Amberjack Management Measures; Correction" (RIN0648-BJ08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3215. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Framework Adjustment 59" (RIN0648-BJ12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3216. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Recreational Management Measures for the Summer Flounder Fishery; Fishing Year 2020" (RIN0648-BJ66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3217. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Framework Amendment 8" (RIN0648-BJ69) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3218. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Halibut Abundance-Based Management of Amendment 80 Prohibited Species Catch Limit" (RIN0648-BL42) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3219. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Monitoring Requirements for Pot Catcher/Processors Participating in Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Fisheries" (RIN0648-BL69) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3220. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Ma-

rine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; Amendment 52" (RIN0648-BM12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3221. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries; 2024 Fishing Quotas for Atlantic Surfclams and Ocean Quahogs; and Suspension of Atlantic Surfclam Minimum Size Limit" (RIN0648-XD380) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3222. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2022 Commercial Hook-and-Line Closure for South Atlantic Golden Tilefish" (RIN0648-XC154) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3223. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Commercial Closure for Atlantic Spanish Mackerel in the Northern Zone" (RIN0648-XC105) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3224. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "International Fisheries; Eastern Pacific Tuna Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Area of Overlap Between the Convention Areas of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission" (RIN0648-BH59) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3225. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "International Fisheries; Eastern Pacific Tuna Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Area of Overlap Between the Convention Areas of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission" (RIN0648-BH59) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3226. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast

States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; 2021-2022 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments" (RIN0648-BL85) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3227. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Vessel Movement, Monitoring, and Declaration Management for the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery" (RIN0648-BI45) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3228. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Permitting and Reporting for Private Recreational Tilefish Vessels" (RIN0648-XH043) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3229. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries; Revised 2020 and Projected 2021 Black Sea Bass and Scup Specifications" (RIN0648-XH043) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3230. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; 2022 Closure of the Northern Gulf of Maine Scallop Management Area to the Limited Access General Category Fishery" (RIN0648-XC033) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3231. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast States; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Rebuilding Chinook Salmon Stocks" (RIN0648-BI04) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3232. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "International Fisheries; Pacific Tuna Fisheries; Procedures for the Active and Inactive Vessel Register" (RIN0648-BI48) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3233. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic;

Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Gray Snapper Management Measures” (RIN0648-BJ20) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3234. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Red Snapper Resources of the Gulf of Mexico; 2024 Red Snapper Private Angling Closure in Federal Waters Off Texas” (RIN0648-XD535) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3235. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico; Partial Holdback of Commercial Quota for Gag in the Gulf of Mexico” (RIN0648-XD523) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3236. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Inclusion of Additional Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) Out Technical Standard Orders; Incorporation by Reference; Direct Final Rule: Confirmation of Effective Date” (RIN2120-AL70) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1836) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3237. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes T-440, T-455, T-457, T-459, and T-476, and Amendment of RNAV Routes T-358, T-416, and T-445; Eastern United States” (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1329) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3238. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal Airway V-16; Northeast United States; Eastern United States” (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2097) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3239. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Renaming of Restricted Areas R-3002A, R-3002B, R-3002C, R-3002D, R-3002E, R-3002F, R-3002G; Fort Benning, GA” (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2041) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3240. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Renaming of Restricted Areas R-2103A and R-2103B; Fort Rucker, AL” (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2042) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3241. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Renaming of Restricted Areas R-5311A, R-5311B, and R-5311C; Fort Bragg, NC” (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-0243) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3242. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Canadian Area Navigation Routes Q-907 and Q-951, and Establishment of United States Area (RNAV) Route T-739; Eastern United States” (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1296) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3243. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace, and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Winston Salem, NC” (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1899) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3244. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4087” (RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31517) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3245. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4088” (RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31518) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3246. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4090” (RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31520) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3247. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums

and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4089” (RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31519) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3248. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airworthiness Criteria: Primary Category Airworthiness Design Criteria for the ICON Aircraft Inc., Model A5-8 Airplane” (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1378) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3249. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes; Amendment 39-22597” (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1722) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3250. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes; Amendment 39-22596” (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1804) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3251. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-22616” (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2228) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3252. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Yabora Industria Aeronautica S.A.; Embraer S.A) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22612” (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2154) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3253. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes; Amendment 39-22607” (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2152) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3254. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG Engines; Amendment 39-22615” (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1888) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3255. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22610” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1409)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3256. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Regional Airplanes; Amendment 39-22582” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1713)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3257. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes; Amendment 39-22600” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1710)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 13, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3258. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4091” ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31521)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3259. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4092” ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31522)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3260. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Renaming of Restricted Areas R-2103A, R-2130B; Fort Rucker, AL” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2042)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3261. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Renaming of Restricted Areas R-5311A, R-5311B, and R-5311C; Fort Bragg, NC” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2043)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3262. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes T-

440, T-455, T-457, T-259, and T-476 and Amendment of RNAV Routes T-358, T-416, and T-445; Eastern United States” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1329)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3263. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Restricted Area R-2512 Holtville, CA” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2220)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3264. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Cedartown, GA” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1186)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3265. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Latrobe, PA” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2256)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3266. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Ozark, AL and Columbus, GA” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1352)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3267. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Wilmington, DE” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2192)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3268. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Mount Pleasant, MI” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1787)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3269. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Roseau, MN” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1786)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3270. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Adminis-

tration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes; Amendment 39-22621” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1719)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3271. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes; Amendment 39-22608” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1721)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3272. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22606” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1815)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3273. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22605” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1723)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3274. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22613” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1645)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3275. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes; Amendment 39-22622” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1505)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3276. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. Airplanes; Amendment 39-22578” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1717)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3277. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; CFM International, S.A. Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39-22614” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1216)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of

the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3278. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD) Helicopters; Amendment 39-22599” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1816)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3279. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Honeywell International Inc. Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39-22620” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1050)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3280. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft, Inc. Airplanes; Amendment 39-22629” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2241)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3281. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22604” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1639)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3282. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Safran Helicopter Engines, S.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Turbomeca, S.A.) Engines; Amendment 39-22626” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1397)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3283. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Helicopteres Guimbal Helicopters; Amendment 39-22627” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2239)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3284. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Deutsche Aircraft GmbH (Type Certificate Previously Held by 328 Support Services GmbH; Avcraft Aerospace GmbH; Fairchild Dornier GmbH; Dornier Luftfahrt GmbH) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22609” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1881)) received

during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3285. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Viking Air Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc. and de Havilland Airplanes; Amendment 39-22601” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1821)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3286. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Diamond Aircraft Industries Inc. Airplanes; Amendment 39-22578” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1812)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3287. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22619” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1496)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3288. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Yabara Industria Aeronautica S.A.; Embraer S.A.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22618” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-1807)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3289. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Canada Limited Partnership (Type Certificate Previously Held by C Series Aircraft Limited Partnership (CSALP); Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22617” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2023-2229)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 26, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### 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. RICKETTS (for himself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 3577. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 300 E. 3rd Street in North Platte, Nebraska, as the “Virginia Smith Federal Building”, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 3578. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit Federal Medicaid funding for the administrative costs of providing health benefits to individuals who are unauthorized immigrants; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 3579. A bill to authorize the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use to award formula grants to the States to address gambling addiction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 3580. A bill to require institutions of higher education participating in Federal student aid programs to share information about title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, including a link to the webpage of the Office for Civil Rights where an individual can submit a complaint regarding discrimination in violation of such title, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 3581. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration to reduce rates for firm electric service customers due to shortfalls in generation from certain Bureau of Reclamation hydroelectric facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 3582. A bill to require annual reporting on the availability of Federal funds to persons and entities of China and activities conducted in collaboration with China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3583. A bill to address patent thickets; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FETTERMAN (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 3584. A bill to require enforcement against misbranded egg alternatives; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 3585. A bill to amend title 9, United States Code, with respect to arbitration of disputes involving human trafficking; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 3586. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish a grant program to recruit, retain, certify, and train bilingual law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. VANCE, and Mr. LEE):

S. 3587. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to immediately initiate removal proceedings for aliens whose visas are revoked on security or related grounds; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself, Mr. VANCE, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. BUDD, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. MULLIN):

S. 3588. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prohibit Federal funds for election administration for States misusing the Fourteenth Amendment for political purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. Res. 519. A resolution congratulating the South Dakota State University Jackrabbits on winning the 2024 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 520. A resolution congratulating the University of Michigan Wolverines football team for winning the 2024 National Collegiate Athletic Association College Football National Championship; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr.

KAINE, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. RICKETTS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BUDD, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. BRITT, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BENNET, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. COTTON):

S. Res. 521. A resolution commending Taiwan for its history of democratic elections, and expressing support of Taiwan's democratic institutions; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 522. A resolution to authorize testimony and representation in United States v. Todd; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUDD, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEE, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS,

Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. VANCE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 523. A resolution honoring the life and legacy of the late Senator Herb Kohl; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHMITT (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. Res. 524. A resolution congratulating the University of Missouri Tigers for winning the 2023 Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 91

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 91, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust.

S. 173

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 173, a bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to require the safe storage of firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 711

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 711, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

S. 1026

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1026, a bill to authorize the appropriation of funds to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for conducting or supporting research on firearms safety or gun violence prevention.

S. 1442

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1442, a bill to amend the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 to adjust for inflation the maximum amount of assistance provided by the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1474

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1474, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to establish a dairy nutrition incentive program, and for other purposes.

S. 1527

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the

Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 1527, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that members of the Armed Forces and their families have access to the contraception they need in order to promote the health and readiness of all members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 1631

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1631, a bill to enhance the authority granted to the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice with respect to unmanned aircraft systems and unmanned aircraft, and for other purposes.

S. 1992

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1992, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the earned income and child tax credits, and for other purposes.

S. 2003

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 2003, a bill to authorize the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign assets of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

S. 2337

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2337, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to promulgate certain limitations with respect to pre-production plastic pellet pollution, and for other purposes.

S. 2458

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2458, a bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to promote crop insurance support for beginning farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes.

S. 3348

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3348, a bill to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to address harmful algal blooms, and for other purposes.

S. 3454

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3454, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to purchase at-home tests for SARS-CoV-2 from certain foreign entities.



S. 3564

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3564, a bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to include Indian Tribes among entities that may receive Federal surplus real property for certain purposes, and for other purposes.

S. 3566

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3566, a bill to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 3571

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3571, a bill to protect the right of parents to direct the upbringing of their children as a fundamental right.

S. 3576

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3576, a bill to authorize certain States to take certain actions on certain Federal land to secure an international border of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 333

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 333, a resolution designating 2024 as the Year of Democracy as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of Government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

S. RES. 515

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 515, a resolution condemning attacks by Iranian military proxies on the armed forces of the United States in Iraq and Syria and emphasizing the urgency of responding to and deterring such attacks.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 519—CONGRATULATING THE SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY JACKRABBITS ON WINNING THE 2024 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION TITLE

Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 519

Whereas, on January 7, 2024, the South Dakota State University (referred to in this preamble as “SDSU”) Jackrabbits defeated the University of Montana Grizzlies by a score of 23-3 in the 2024 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the “NCAA”) Division I Football Championship Subdivision (referred to in this preamble as the “FCS”) championship game in Frisco, Texas;

Whereas the SDSU Jackrabbits football program, for the second consecutive year, have won the national championship;

Whereas the SDSU Jackrabbits finished the 2023–2024 season undefeated with an overall record of 15 wins and 0 losses, with 8 wins and 0 losses in the Missouri Valley Football Conference, and earned the #1 seed in the FCS playoffs;

Whereas the SDSU Jackrabbits have qualified for the FCS playoffs in each of the past 12 seasons;

Whereas, during the 2023–2024 season, the SDSU Jackrabbits—

(1) averaged 37.33 points and 449.9 yards per game; and

(2) allowed only 9.27 points and 257.2 yards per game on average;

Whereas the Head Coach Jimmy Rogers was introduced as the 21st head football coach for SDSU on January 20, 2023;

Whereas Coach Rogers was awarded the Stats Perform 2023 Eddie Robinson Award, given to the FCS coach of the year; and

Whereas President Barry Dunn and Athletic Director Justin Sell have cultivated a standard of excellence within SDSU athletics and guided the athletic programs at SDSU to national prominence: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates and honors the South Dakota State University football team on a successful season and for winning the 2024 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title;

(2) recognizes the hard work, dedication, determination, and commitment of the South Dakota State University football players, coaches, and staff; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the President of South Dakota State University, Barry Dunn;

(B) the Athletic Director of South Dakota State University, Justin Sell; and

(C) the Head Coach of the South Dakota State University Jackrabbits football team, Jimmy Rogers.

SENATE RESOLUTION 520—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WOLVERINES FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2024 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION COLLEGE FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 520

Whereas, on January 8, 2024, the University of Michigan Wolverines football team (referred to in this preamble as the “Michigan Wolverines”) won the 2024 National Collegiate Athletic Association College Football National Championship, defeating the University of Washington Huskies by a score of 34–13;

Whereas this victory follows a thrilling and historic Rose Bowl playoff victory and the team’s 3rd consecutive Big Ten Conference Championship Game victory;

Whereas the Michigan Wolverines played an undefeated season, becoming the first football team in school history to achieve a perfect 15–0 record in a single season;

Whereas, this season, the Michigan Wolverines became the first college football program in history to win 1,000 games;

Whereas 46 players on this championship-winning team are also Fall 2023 Academic All-Big Ten honorees;

Whereas this national championship victory marks the 12th time in program history the Michigan Wolverines have won the prestigious title of national champions;

Whereas this victory is a testament to the dedication, perseverance, and hard work ethic of the players, coaches, and staff of the Michigan Wolverines football program; and

Whereas this remarkable team has made the entire State of Michigan deeply proud: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the University of Michigan Wolverines football team for an incredible season and for winning the 2024 National Collegiate Athletic Association Football National Championship;

(2) recognizes the achievements of all players, coaches, and staff who contributed to the team’s success; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the President of the University of Michigan, Santa Ono;

(B) the Athletic Director of the University of Michigan, Warde Manuel; and

(C) the Head Coach of the University of Michigan Wolverines football team, Jim Harbaugh.

SENATE RESOLUTION 521—COMMENDING TAIWAN FOR ITS HISTORY OF DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF TAIWAN’S DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. RICKETTS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BUDD, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. BRITT, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BENNET, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. COTTON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 521

Whereas Taiwan, the government of which officially calls itself the Republic of China (ROC), began transitioning to a liberal democracy in the late 1980s, lifting martial law in 1987 and holding the first direct legislative election in 1992 and the first direct presidential election in 1996;

Whereas Taiwan has now held 7 presidential, 9 legislative, and many local elections since the democratic transition, all of which were free, fair, and representative of the will of the people of Taiwan;

Whereas Taiwan has peacefully transferred presidential power between political parties 3 times and peacefully transferred parliamentary power between political parties 3 times;

Whereas the peaceful transfer of power is a bedrock of a free, stable, and representative political system;

Whereas the democratic institutions of Taiwan codify the freedoms of speech, press, assembly, and religion into law, and the citizens of Taiwan have exercised these freedoms in practice, building a vibrant civil society, strong journalistic and media sector, and an advanced business community;

Whereas the rule of law and vibrant civil society, diverse economy, and stable political system form the basis for the prosperity and freedoms of Taiwan, which rank far above the global average; and

Whereas, on January 13, 2024, Taiwan will hold its eighth presidential election and tenth legislative election since beginning the transition to democracy, after which a new president, vice president, and legislature will take office: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,*

#### SECTION 1. SENSE OF THE SENATE.

The Senate—

(1) commends Taiwan for the example it has set for self-governance, not just for the Pacific region, but for the world;

(2) regards the democracy of Taiwan as a great strategic strength for the free world and an indispensable component of contemporary United States-Taiwan relations;

(3) remains concerned about interference in Taiwan's 2024 elections by the Chinese Communist Party;

(4) is committed to continuing a strong partnership across diplomatic, information, economic, and cultural domains, regardless of the outcome of Taiwan's 2024 elections; and

(5) remains committed to United States policy as established by the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96-8; 22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.), the Three Communiqués, and the Six Assurances towards Taiwan.

#### SEC. 2. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this resolution shall be construed as an authorization for the use of military force.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 522—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY AND REPRESENTATION IN UNITED STATES V. TODD

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 522

Whereas, in the case of *United States v. Todd*, CR. No. 22-166, pending in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the prosecution has requested the production of testimony from Daniel Schwager, a former employee of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent current and former officers and employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for evidence relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Stand-

ing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate; and

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That Daniel Schwager, a former employee of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, is authorized to provide relevant testimony in the case of *United States v. Todd*, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Mr. Schwager, and any current or former officer or employee of the Secretary's office, in connection with the production of evidence authorized in section one of this resolution.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 523—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE LATE SENATOR HERB KOHL

Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUDD, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEE, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. VANCE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 523

Whereas Herb Kohl grew up in the Sherman Park neighborhood of Milwaukee, Wisconsin;

Whereas Herb Kohl earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin, which is now home to the basketball and hockey center that bears his name, as well as the Herb Kohl Public Service Research Competition to advance evidence-based policy and governance research by faculty members and

students, which were supported through his gifts to the University;

Whereas, as president of the Kohl's Corporation, Herb Kohl followed in his father's footsteps and built with his brothers a chain of over 50 Kohl's grocery stores across the Midwest;

Whereas, when the Milwaukee Bucks were put up for sale and in danger of being bought and moved to another city, Herb Kohl stepped forward in 1985 and bought the team with the promise to Bucks fans that the team would never leave—a promise he fulfilled when the time came to sell the team in 2014, donating \$100,000,000 to help build a new arena for the community;

Whereas, in 1990, Herb Kohl started the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation, which has provided more than \$34,000,000 in grants and scholarships to Wisconsin students, teachers, and schools;

Whereas Herb Kohl answered a call to public service in 1988 and ran for the United States Senate with a commitment to being "nobody's Senator but yours" and working across party lines for the people of the State he loved;

Whereas Herb Kohl served Wisconsin in the United States Senate for 24 years, bringing his business experience to his Senate office and treating his more than 5,000,000 Wisconsin constituents as his customers;

Whereas Herb Kohl championed issues important for the people of Wisconsin, fighting every day for dairy farmers, working to protect kids from the threat of gun violence, helping seniors secure and keep high quality health care, and supporting education at all levels, from early childhood through adults attending technical colleges and universities;

Whereas Herb Kohl served on the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and was Chairman of the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate;

Whereas, throughout his Senate tenure and as Chairman of the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate, Herb Kohl championed initiatives to get individuals, families, and communities the health insurance and care they needed, focusing on the most vulnerable—children and seniors—and the most difficult to reach—rural communities;

Whereas Herb Kohl used his position as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate to advance Wisconsin's dairy interests and strengthen nutrition programs for children, including by expanding after-school feeding programs, launching school breakfast start-up grants, expanding summer food service for students, and leading the charge to fund the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (commonly referred to as "WIC"), which provides nutrition assistance to pregnant women, infants, and children;

Whereas, as a member of the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, Herb Kohl worked to provide funding for police departments across Wisconsin, advance legislation for child safety locks on handguns, strengthen efforts in the State to fight drug trafficking, and institute ratings for video games;

Whereas Herb Kohl's office assisted Wisconsinites through individual casework for more than 2 decades, earning a reputation as having one of the best customer service operations in the United States Senate; and

Whereas, on December 27, 2023, at the age of 88, Herb Kohl died, leaving behind a legacy of dedication and service to the people of Wisconsin: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That—

(1) the Senate—

(A) recognizes with profound sorrow and deep regret the death of the Honorable Herb Kohl, former Senator for the State of Wisconsin; and

(B) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate—

(i) communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives; and

(ii) transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of the Honorable Herb Kohl; and

(2) when the Senate adjourns today, it stands adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable Herb Kohl.

SENATE RESOLUTION 524—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI TIGERS FOR WINNING THE 2023 GOODYEAR COTTON BOWL CLASSIC

Mr. SCHMITT (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 524

Whereas, on December 29, 2023, the University of Missouri Tigers football team (referred to in this preamble as the “Tigers”) defeated the nationally ranked Ohio State University Buckeyes, 14 to 3, to win the 2023 Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic (referred to in this preamble as the “Cotton Bowl”);

Whereas the victory in the Cotton Bowl is a testament to the skill, dedication, and hard work of the Tigers;

Whereas the Tigers demonstrated exceptional teamwork and sportsmanship during the Cotton Bowl and throughout the 2023 season;

Whereas, during the 2023 season, the Tigers achieved a record of 11 wins and 2 losses, defeating the Ohio State University Buckeyes, the University of Arkansas Razorbacks, the University of Florida Gators, the University of Tennessee Volunteers, the University of South Carolina Gamecocks, the University of Kentucky Wildcats, the Vanderbilt University Commodores, the University of Memphis Tigers, the Kansas State University Wildcats, the Middle Tennessee State University Blue Raiders, and the University of South Dakota Coyotes;

Whereas the Tigers attained a final ranking of 8th in the 2023 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as “NCAA”) Division I Football Bowl Subdivision (referred to in this preamble as “FBS”) football season;

Whereas the coaching staff, led by the head coach of the Tigers, Eliah Drinkwitz, provided outstanding leadership and strategy, contributing significantly to the victories throughout the season that culminated with the victory in the Cotton Bowl and Eliah Drinkwitz being awarded the 2023 Southeastern Conference (referred to in this preamble as “SEC”) Football Coach of the Year;

Whereas the entire student-athlete roster for the Tigers proved to be instrumental in the victory in the Cotton Bowl, including Brady Cook, Sam Horn, Jake Garcia, Cody Schrader, Nathaniel Peat, Jamal Roberts, Tavorus Jones, Theo Wease Jr., Marquis Johnson, Ja’Marion Wayne, Mookie Cooper, Joshua Manning, Mekhi Miller, Tyler Stephens, Brett Norfleet, Jordan Harris, Javon Foster, Marcellus Johnson, Xavier Delgado, Logan Reichert, Connor Tollison, Bence Polgar, Drake Heismeyer, Cam’Ron Johnson, Tristan Wilson, Armand Membou, Mitchell Walters, Darius Robinson, Nyles Gaddy, Aus-

tin Firestone, Jayden Jernigan, Josh Landry, Marquis Gracial, Realus George Jr., Kristian Williams, Johnny Walker Jr., Joe Moore, DJ Wesolak, Chuck Hicks, Dameon Wilson, Ty’Ron Hopper, Triston Newson, Daylan Carnell, Sidney Williams, Kris Abrams-Draine, Marcus Clarke, Joseph Charleston, Tre’Vez Johnson, Phillip Roche, Jaylon Carlies, Marvin Burks Jr., Ennis Rakestraw Jr., Dreyden Norwood, Shamar McNeil, Luke Bauer, Riley Williams, Harrison Mevis, Blake Craig, Brett Le Blanc, Trey Flint, Luther Burden III, Daniel Blood, Andrew Serrano, Nick Quadrini, Jalen Marshall, Sam Williams, Ky Montgomery, Ryan Hoerstkamp, Logan Muckey, Jack Meyer, Shawn Hendershot, Brandon Solis, Curtis Peagler, Jack McGarry, Xavier Machado, Ma’Yi Lee, Jack Kautz, Nate Norris, Tommy Reese, Jahkai Lang, Tyson Ellison, Ben Straatmann, Isaac Thompson, Carmycah Glass, Caimin Hayes, Christopher Kreh, Tucker Miller, Devyn Butler, Michael Cox, Boyton Cheney, Ricardo Merriweather, Bryce Jackson, Serigne Tounkara, Nasir Pogue, Anthony Favrow, Noah Flaskamp, Micah Manning, Nicholas Deloach Jr., Will Norris, Dylan Laible, Brayshawn Littlejohn, Tommy Look, Brett Brown, Demariyon “Peanut” Houston, and Chad Bailey;

Whereas Brady Cook, named the Offensive Most Valuable Player for the Cotton Bowl, and Johnny Walker Jr., named the Defensive Most Valuable Player for the Cotton Bowl, were acknowledged for their outstanding performances during the Cotton Bowl;

Whereas several players on the Tigers received recognition during the 2023 season, including—

(1) 7 players earning 1st or 2nd Team All-SEC honors;

(2) 2 players earning Walter Camp All-America honors; and

(3) 4 players earning Associated Press All-America honors;

Whereas Cody Schrader, who finished the season with an impressive 1,627 rushing yards and 14 touchdowns, was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the success of the Tigers, receiving the 2023 Burlsworth Trophy, which is awarded annually to the most outstanding college football player at the FBS level who began their college career as a walk-on; and

Whereas fans of the Tigers demonstrated true passion and dedication in supporting their team throughout the 2023 NCAA Division I FBS football season: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends the University of Missouri Tigers football team (referred to in this resolution as the “Tigers”) on winning the 2023 Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic;

(2) recognizes the achievements, contributions, and dedication of the players, coaches, management, and support staff of the Tigers;

(3) congratulates the alumni, students, and faculty of the University of Missouri;

(4) recognizes the hard work and commitment of the staff of Faurot Field and AT&T Stadium; and

(5) respectfully directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the chancellor of the University of Missouri, Mun Choi;

(B) the director of athletics of the University of Missouri, Desiree Reed-Francois; and

(C) the head coach of the Tigers, Eliah Drinkwitz.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have two 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, January 11, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a 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, January 11, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

AUTHORIZING TESTIMONY AND REPRESENTATION IN UNITED STATES V. TODD

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 522 submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 522) to authorize testimony and representation in United States v. Todd.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, in this criminal case pending in Federal district court in the District of Columbia and arising out of the events of January 6, 2021, the prosecution has requested testimony from a Senate witness.

In this case, brought against John George Todd III, trial is expected to commence on January 22, 2024, and the prosecution has requested testimony from Daniel Schwager, formerly counsel to the Secretary of the Senate, concerning his knowledge and observations of the process and constitutional and legal bases for Congress’s counting of the Electoral College votes. Senate Secretary Berry would like to cooperate with this request by providing relevant testimony in this trial from Mr. Schwager.

In keeping with the rules and practices of the Senate, this resolution would authorize the production of relevant testimony from Mr. Schwager, with representation by the Senate legal counsel.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions 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.

The resolution (S. Res. 522) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE LATE SENATOR HERB KOHL

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 523, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 523) honoring the life and legacy of the late Senator Herb Kohl.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions 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.

The resolution (S. Res. 523) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. SCHUMER. And let me just say, speaking on behalf of so many of us in the Senate, we dearly miss Herb Kohl. He was just a fine man, a fine Senator, and a gentle voice—something we very much miss in the Senate.

#### WORKING DOG HEALTH AND WELFARE ACT OF 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 281, S. 2414.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2414) to require agencies with working dog programs to implement the recommendations of the Government Accountability Office relating to the health and welfare of working dogs, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Working Dog Health and Welfare Act of 2023".*

##### SEC. 2. IMPLEMENTATION OF WORKING DOG RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AGENCY.—The term "agency" has the meaning given the term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) WORKING DOG.—The term "working dog" means a dog that has received specialized training in order to perform a particular productive function.

(3) WORKING DOG PROGRAM.—The term "working dog program" means a program, the operations of which include the employment of working dogs.

(4) WORKING DOG RECOMMENDATIONS.—The term "working dog recommendations" means the recommendations included in the report of the Government Accountability Office entitled "Working Dogs: Federal Agencies Need to Better Address Health and Welfare", as published in October 2022.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the head of each agency that manages a working dog program shall implement the working dog recommendations.

(2) CONTRACTORS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a contractor that manages a working dog program on behalf of an agency shall implement the working dog recommendations.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the head of an agency or a contractor that manages a working dog program on behalf of an agency implements the working dog recommendations under this subsection, the head of the agency shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives a report on the explicit steps the agency or contractor has taken to complete the implementation.

(c) FOREIGN PARTNERS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall take appropriate steps to ensure that donations of working dogs provided to foreign partners by the Department of State are executed and monitored according to the working dog recommendations.

(d) NEW WORKING DOG PROGRAMS.—With respect to an agency that establishes a working dog program, or enters into a contract for the establishment of a working dog program, after the date of enactment of this Act, the head of the agency shall ensure that the working dog program implements the working dog recommendations.

(e) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this Act.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2414), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2024, THROUGH TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned under the provisions of S. Res. 523 to convene for a pro forma session only, with no business being conducted, at 8:45 a.m. on Friday, January 12; that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, it stand ad-

joined until 3 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16; that on Tuesday, following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 243, H.R. 2872, and that the cloture motion with respect to the motion to proceed ripen at 5:45 p.m.; further, that if a motion to discharge the Committee on Foreign Relations from further consideration of S. Res. 504 is made during Tuesday's session, that the Senate vote in relation to the motion to discharge at 5:30 p.m.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. So for the information of all Senators, we expect Senator SANDERS to move to discharge his resolution on Tuesday. Senator SANDERS' resolution is privileged so Senators should expect a vote in relation to the resolution on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., followed by a vote on cloture on the motion to proceed to the legislative vehicle for the CR.

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senators SULLIVAN and KAINE.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

#### COMMENDING TAIWAN FOR ITS HISTORY OF DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF TAIWAN'S DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I am honored to be on the floor with my colleague, Senator KAINE from Virginia, and we are getting ready to pass in the U.S. Senate, unanimously, a resolution commending Taiwan for its history of democratic elections and expressing support of Taiwan's democratic institutions and its upcoming elections this Saturday.

This resolution we have has half the U.S. Senate as cosponsors, and we are going to pass it here in a few minutes. That means every Senator in the U.S. Senate is supporting this.

So why are we doing this? Well, it is very important. Taiwan has a Presidential election this Saturday. And, of course, the Chinese Communist Party and Xi Jinping are doing everything they can to coerce the Taiwanese people to interfere in the election, and that is something that we are not supportive of at all.

This resolution goes through the history of Taiwan's democracy. It mentions that on Saturday, January 13,

Taiwan will hold its 8th Presidential election and 10th legislative election since it began its transition to democracy.

It then moves to the sense of the U.S. Senate, where we are commending Taiwan for the example it has set for self-governance—not just in the Indo-Pacific region, but throughout the whole world where the Senate regards the democracy of Taiwan as a great strategic strength for the free world and an indispensable component of contemporary United States-Taiwan relations, and a sense of the Senate in this resolution that we all—all 100 of us—remain concerned about the Chinese Communist Party's aggressive interference that is happening right now.

We have had two very good articles recently in our American press. Here is one from the Wall Street Journal.

(Mr. BOOKER assumed the Chair.)

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Wall Street Journal article entitled “China Isn't Backing Off Taiwan: President Xi Jinping is using military pressure and propaganda to sway the island's presidential election in January” be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Wall Street Journal, Nov. 24, 2023]

CHINA ISN'T BACKING OFF TAIWAN

(By the Editorial Board)

President Biden's recent meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in San Francisco has been portrayed by both sides as a step forward in relations. But for all the good vibrations, Mr. Xi isn't giving up his ambition to retake Taiwan, not least by meddling in the island's January presidential election.

Mr. Xi warned Mr. Biden in California to stop arming Taiwan and not to interfere in the election in favor of the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) that China dislikes. Mr. Biden said he told Mr. Xi that he “didn't expect any interference, any at all,” in Taiwan's campaign.

But that's not how Beijing sees it. China deploys propaganda and military intimidation to nudge Taiwanese toward the Kuomintang, the party friendlier to Beijing. Beijing works hard to infiltrate Taiwan's civil society—from media to the business community.

One popular Chinese theme is to promote suspicion of the U.S. and its intentions. A recent report by the Information Operations Research Group in Taiwan found 84 examples over three years of Chinese government and media suggesting that Washington will abandon Taiwan, and that the elite of the U.S. and Taiwan are colluding to exploit Taiwan, among other propaganda.

The Communist Party is also ratcheting up its military harassment. Chinese military aircraft violate the island's air defense zone “on an almost daily basis,” as the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission said in a November report to Congress.

The People's Liberation Army (PLA) ran 1,737 such sorties in 2022, according to the report, up from a mere 20 sorties in 2019. Jets flew over the Taiwan Strait's dividing line in 2019 for the first time since 1999—and now those median incursions are routine.

Beijing is running increasingly sophisticated military exercises—joint operations to seize “control of the sea, air, and information domains around Taiwan,” as the report

to Congress notes. These dress rehearsals are making the PLA more capable. Next year could be rough if the Taiwanese dare to elect the DPP's Lai Ching-te on Jan. 13.

The U.S. will hold its own election next year, and Mr. Xi might see an opening to strike while Americans are consumed with internal divisions. Mr. Xi has told his military to be ready to fight for Taiwan by 2027, but his economy is struggling and neighbors such as Japan are building up their defenses. He could perceive that his window of opportunity is closing.

A D-Day-style amphibious assault is not the only scenario the U.S. and Taiwan might face. Mr. Xi could provoke a crisis by seizing an outlying island. Taiwan this year accused Chinese-flagged vessels of “deliberately cutting the two undersea internet cables” to Taiwan's Matsu Island, as the report to Congress details.

Beijing could also try to choke off Taiwan in a blockade, either on its own or as a prelude to an assault. Would America send the U.S. Navy to escort ships and risk a shooting war? Or watch as the island's economy runs out of food and fuel?

The U.S. will wish it had deterred the crisis when faced with these grim choices. Far better to avoid this conflict than to fight it in any form. Call it an early new year's resolution for President Biden: Arm Taiwan at a faster clip, and show U.S. national will by building up America's Pacific defenses so Mr. Xi believes that taking Taiwan isn't worth the cost.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Washington Post article entitled “4 ways China is trying to interfere in Taiwan's presidential election” be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 11, 2024]

4 WAYS CHINA IS TRYING TO INTERFERE IN TAIWAN'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

(By Lily Kuo, Pei-Lin Wu, Vic Chiang and Joseph Menn)

TAIPEI, TAIWAN—Floating high-altitude balloons over the island, funding pro-Beijing social media influencers, and hosting local officials on lavish trips to China: These are among the tactics Beijing is accused of deploying to influence Taiwan's presidential election to be held on Saturday.

For years, Taiwan—which Beijing claims is an “inalienable” part of China—has been the target of Chinese influence campaigns aimed at convincing citizens that coming under Chinese Communist Party rule is their best option. Those efforts have come to the fore ahead of what is expected to be the closest presidential and legislative race for the island democracy in decades.

Taiwanese authorities are investigating 102 cases of foreign interference related to this year's election, according to the Supreme Prosecutors Office—the highest number since Taiwan enacted an anti-infiltration law in 2019. Many of them are related to China, which has an interest in unseating the ruling Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), which it sees as promoting formal independence, and seeing a more Beijing-friendly president in office.

How these attempts fare matter beyond Taiwan. The next Taiwanese president's stance toward Beijing will be a factor in whether China initiates conflict in the Taiwan Strait, one that could draw in the United States and neighboring countries, disrupting global shipping lanes and supplies of critical technology.

What's more, influence tactics that prove useful in Taiwan could be replicated else-

where. Taiwanese Foreign Minister Joseph Wu warned on Tuesday: “In 2024, there are more than 40 important democratic elections in the world. If China succeeds in Taiwan, China will use that experience to interfere in the elections of other countries.”

But measuring the impact or even the presence of Chinese influence efforts is becoming more difficult. Aware that overly blunt tactics could push voters away from China's preferred party—the Kuomintang (KMT)—and toward the DPP, which is leading in polls, China appears wary of overdoing it.

“There's a real potential for it to backfire,” said Alexander Dukalskis, an associate professor at University College Dublin and the author of “Making the World Safe for Dictatorship.” “People don't want to be bullied and intimidated into being told how to vote.”

The Biden administration has warned China against interfering, while Beijing has accused the DPP of “hyping up” the military threat from China for votes.

“The Chinese have been hammering away at them with so many different kinds of mechanisms, and it looks at least right now that their least favorite candidate is going to win,” said a senior U.S. administration official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the matter's sensitivity. “So that is an indication that the system is more resilient.”

Whether or not these measures affect the election, they can still further China's aims in Taiwan steadily and gradually. “If I can influence 3 to 5 percent of the people, then I can influence the election result,” said Chang Chun-Hao, a professor of political science at Tunghai University in Taiwan. “And even if you don't affect the election results, you have still furthered the unification campaign.”

These are the four main ways Beijing has been accused of trying to interfere in Taiwan's presidential election this year:

#### 1. SOWING INFORMATION CHAOS

Chinese misinformation in Taiwan used to be easier to catch, with news articles or social media posts clunkily written with vocabulary used mainly in China or in simplified Chinese text instead of the traditional script used in Taiwan. Now, that campaign has been localized, and Chinese propagandists have been encouraged to amplify authentic local disputes and divisions, said Tim Niven, head of research at Taiwan's Doublethink Lab. “It's putting Taiwanese polarization on steroids,” he said.

In the past year, Taiwan has been awash with rumors, including that Taiwanese officials, under orders from Washington, were collecting blood samples from citizens to engineer genetic weapons against China, or that the United States pushed Taiwanese chipmaker TSMC to set up a factory in Arizona so it could abandon Taiwan and its chip supply chains.

For months, the idea that the United States is not a reliable partner, a concept known as yimeilun, or “America skepticism,” has gained traction thanks to consistent amplification by Chinese media.

Beijing's influence campaign has also tapped networks of local Beijing-friendly content creators. Taiwanese authorities are investigating a digital media company that runs more than 20 Facebook pages with large followings and regularly criticizes the DPP.

The group's owner was offered content and financial support by a Chinese state media journalist, according to screenshots of the conversations shared with The Washington Post by a security officer involved in the case.

The officer, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to share details of an ongoing investigation, said Chinese propagandists often

pay Taiwanese influencers to spread narratives that undermine Taiwan's democratic process. Sometimes the goal isn't necessarily to support a particular candidate, but rather to disrupt the election and "make it chaotic," he said.

## 2. CO-OPTING LOCAL OFFICIALS

Over the past year, China has taken hundreds of local-level Taiwanese officials to Chinese cities. There, sway efforts have been as blatant as handing out vouchers for the streaming platform iQiyi and instructing the visitors to vote for pro-unification candidates, according to Taiwan's prosecutors office.

These exchanges, in which Taiwanese officials are hosted in China on heavily subsidized trips, have long been seen as an avenue for grass-roots influence operations, with the expectation that they will return with a pro-China message. Taiwanese authorities are investigating 40 people in relation to these visits and potential election interference.

In other cases, the message was more subtle. Chinese officials told their Taiwanese guests to remember that the two sides of the Taiwan Strait are "one family," according to officials who went on these exchanges. In some, the Chinese hosts were careful not to say anything about the election for risk of jeopardizing these visits.

"They would say that the mainland very much hopes the two sides of the Taiwan Strait can be united and that everyone can sit down and talk," said one village chief from the Taipei area who went on two trips to China last year. He spoke on the condition of anonymity because he is among those being investigated.

"They all want to push unification, or to infiltrate your thinking. It's just some use more subtle methods and others use more crude methods," he said.

## 3. WIELDING ECONOMIC STICKS AND CARROTS

Starting Jan. 1, China canceled preferential tariffs on 12 chemical compounds from Taiwan. On Tuesday, China's Commerce Ministry said it was studying the possibility of canceling other tariff concessions for agriculture, fish, machinery, auto parts and textiles, measures that Chinese officials said would continue if the DPP maintains its "pro-independence position."

At the same time, Beijing is dangling carrots to others that show some fealty to China. In June, Chinese authorities resumed previously banned imports of sugar apples from some companies after the mayor of Taitung, where the fruit is grown, visited China along with the KMT's vice chairman.

In December, China said it would resume some imports of grouper after banning it in June. But only imports from six individuals and one company, whose chairman visited China the month before, will be allowed.

"The goal is telling those voters who have economic ties with China that they better vote for the candidate [Beijing] prefers," said Chiou Yi-Hung, an associate professor of international relations at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University.

## 4. RAMPING UP 'GRAY ZONE' MILITARY INTIMIDATION

China's military, the People's Liberation Army, has increased military incursions near Taiwan over the past year to remind citizens of Beijing's promise to "reunite" with Taiwan by force if necessary.

Ahead of the election, China appears to be using new forms of "gray zone" tactics, aggressive measures that stop short of open conflict and are meant to intimidate. Since December, China has sent at least 31 high-altitude balloons—similar to the one discovered and shot down over the United States

last year—into Taiwan's airspace. Taiwan's Defense Ministry described the balloons as "cognitive warfare" intended to demoralize Taiwan's 23 million people.

On Tuesday, days before polls were to open, China launched a satellite that unexpectedly crossed over southern Taiwan before entering space, according to Taiwan's Defense Ministry. The launch prompted a rare nationwide emergency alert, whose English version mistakenly described the object in question as "a missile flyover," alarming residents.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, we are almost certainly facing a volatile and maybe even dangerous period in the Taiwan Strait because of the Chinese Communist Party. The election is January 13. The inauguration won't take place until May. So what we need to do as a country is to provide steady, unwavering resolve and support of Taiwan's democracy, and, of course, we need to continue to critically enhance cross-strait deterrence.

I will end with one final thing before my colleague from Virginia, I know, wants to say a few words on this important resolution. But this is also a vulnerability for the Chinese Communist Party and Xi Jinping himself. Think about it. This undermines—this election—all of these elections in Taiwan—undermine the central premise of the Chinese Communist Party's rule that one dictator knows what is best for 1.4 billion people, in perpetuity, for as long as he is alive.

What I guarantee you the dictators in Beijing are worried about is that people in China are going to look across the Taiwan Strait and go: Wait a minute. How come we can't do that? Chinese democracy, how come we can't do that?

What we are doing right now is showing commitment and resolve for Taiwanese democracy.

I am proud to say, many, many years ago, on the eve of Taiwan's first election, the Chinese Communist Party moved its military up. They shot missiles over Taiwan. This is now referred to as the "Third Taiwan Strait Crisis." It was a huge crisis in 1995, 1996. And President Clinton, to his credit, sent two carrier strike groups and a Marine amphibious ready group to show American commitment and resolve.

I was a young infantry officer on one of those Navy ships during that time in the Taiwan Strait, showing American commitment and resolve, and that is what we are doing with this resolution on now their eighth Presidential election in Taiwan, and I am honored to be here with Senator KAINE to pass this unanimous Senate resolution in support of Taiwan democracy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I rise with my colleague from Alaska, Senator SULLIVAN. He and I are good colleagues. We work together on the Armed Services Committee. I work closely with him. I learn a lot from him. And, usually, on Thursday afternoons, I am learning about an Alaskan

of the week from Senator SULLIVAN. But here it is on a Thursday afternoon, and we are standing to offer a unanimous consent resolution in support of Taiwanese democracy.

I want to drill that just a little bit more of what a good news story Taiwanese democracy is. As many of you know, Taiwan was a single-party nation under martial law through much of its history through the end of the 1980s. In the late 1980s, Taiwan made a decision. It made a fundamental decision to move toward democracy.

It had its first legislative elections in the early 1990s and its first Presidential election in 1996. And since that election, as my colleague mentioned, it has had numerous Presidential elections, numerous legislative elections; and, often, those elections have led to transfer in power—transfer of the Presidency from one party to another, transfer of legislative majority from one party to another.

But Taiwan has built a democracy that is stable enough to withstand that, and its respect for human rights, freedom of religion, free press, and its successful economy has borne proof to the notion that allowing all Taiwanese to participate in democracy has been wonderful for Taiwanese society.

I think Taiwan is a great example. Often in this Chamber, we are grappling with really tough issues around the world. We wonder: Will Cuba ever be a human rights respecting democracy? Look at Taiwan. What about Venezuela? Look at Taiwan. What about the People's Republic of China? Look at Taiwan. What about Russia? Look at Taiwan.

It is important that we shine a spotlight on nations that have made the transition from authoritarian to democracy and succeeded socially, politically, culturally, economically in that transition.

As my colleague said, that is a good-news sign, but it is also a sign that makes dictators very, very worried.

The purpose for this resolution is to stand and support Taiwanese democracy. As my colleague mentioned, China has been very engaged in dis- and misinformation campaigns surrounding this election.

The election is this weekend. The inauguration will not be until May. We could even foresee some potential challenge between the election and the inauguration, and we need to stand strong and support Taiwanese democracy to do so.

Last thing I will say is this: I led a delegation from the Senate about exactly a month ago to Guatemala under some similar circumstances, and the President who was in the chair just a few minutes before you, Senator BUTLER, came along with me, along with some other Senate and House colleagues.

There was a Presidential election in Guatemala and President-elect Bernardo Arevalo was swept into office

on an anti-corruption campaign, promising Guatemalan citizens a real democracy that they have deserved for a very long time.

The outgoing government was trying to disrupt the prospect of a peaceful transfer of power, and so we took a bicameral delegation down to talk tough to the outgoing government and to speak up for the incoming government and try to preserve democracy in Guatemala.

Why do I bring that up now? I bring it up because Guatemala is one of the few nations in the world that recognizes Taiwan, and there had been a very furious and corrupt effort by China to get the government or Presidential candidates to guarantee they would switch allegiance from Taiwan to the People's Republic of China.

When we were there supporting the will of the Guatemalan people who overwhelmingly elected Bernardo Arevalo to be their next President, he made a commitment to us that they weren't going to change, they weren't going to succumb to Chinese pressure. They were going to continue to stand together with another democracy that is moving forward.

That inauguration will happen on Sunday. The Taiwanese election happens on Saturday. We are standing here together, Senator SULLIVAN and I, to support democracies around the world, whether it be Taiwan in East Asia, Guatemala in Central America; the United States should stand up for those who are embracing a democratic path, and I am proud to support—along with so many of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle—this UC resolution.

And with that, I yield to my colleague from Alaska.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague from Virginia. And right here, I have the resolution. As I mentioned, half the U.S. Senate—Democrats and Republicans—are cosponsors of this important resolution commending Taiwan for its history of democratic elections, expressing concern about the Chinese Communist Party's interference in this upcoming election, and expressing our support for Taiwan's democratic institutions.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 521, submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 521) commending Taiwan for its history of democratic elections, and expressing support of Taiwan's democratic institutions.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to,

and that the motions 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.

The resolution (S. Res. 521) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, for those watching all over the world, this Senate resolution, with 50 Democratic and Republican Senate cosponsors, has now passed the U.S. Senate as an official resolution commending the people of Taiwan for their democratic elections and expressing our support for the upcoming election this Saturday.

I yield the floor.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 8:45 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order and pursuant to S. Res. 523, the Senate stands adjourned until 8:45 a.m. on Friday, January 12, and does so as a further mark of respect to the late Herb Kohl, Senator from Wisconsin.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 3:11 p.m., adjourned until Friday, January 12, 2024, at 8:45 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

##### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

JAMES R. IVES, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, VICE ERIC M. THORSON.

##### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NELSON W. CUNNINGHAM, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A DEPUTY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE (WESTERN HEMISPHERE, EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST, LABOR, AND ENVIRONMENT), WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR, VICE JAYME RAY WHITE.

##### MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

STUART ALAN LEVEY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS, VICE MICHAEL O. JOHANNIS, TERM EXPIRED.

##### INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

LEONARDO MARTINEZ-DIAZ, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS, VICE ADRIANA DEBORA KUGLER, RESIGNED.

##### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JENNIFER M. ADAMS, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF CABO VERDE.

E. BIX ALIU, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO MONTENEGRO.

ARTHUR W. BROWN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR.

ROBERT WILLIAM FORDEN, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA.

DAVID J. KOSTELANCIK, OF ILLINOIS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA.

RICHARD MILLS, JR., OF GEORGIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA.

LISA PETERSON, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI.

RICHARD H. RILEY IV, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA.

ELIZABETH ROOD, OF PENNSYLVANIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO TURKMENISTAN.

MICHAEL SFRAGA, OF ALASKA, TO BE AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FOR ARCTIC AFFAIRS.

STEPHANIE SANDERS SULLIVAN, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE AFRICAN UNION, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

MARGARET L. TAYLOR, OF MARYLAND, TO BE LEGAL ADVISER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, VICE JENNIFER GILLIAN NEWSTEAD, RESIGNED.

MARK TONER, OF PENNSYLVANIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

PAMELA M. TREMONT, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE.

##### CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

STEPHEN H. RAVAS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE, VICE DEBORAH J. JEFFREY, RESIGNED.

##### FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

MOSHE Z. MARVIT, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS EXPIRING AUGUST 30, 2028, VICE ARTHUR R. TRAYNOR III, TERM EXPIRED.

##### THE JUDICIARY

ADRIENNE JENNINGS NOTI, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE FREDERICK HOWARD WEISBERG, RETIRED.

TANYA MONIQUE JONES BOSIER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE GERALD FISHER, RETIRED.

DANNY LAM HOAN NGUYEN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE FERN FLANAGAN SADDLER, RETIRED.

KENECHUKWU ONYEMAECHE OKOCHA, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE WILLIAM WARD NOOTER, RETIRED.

KATHERINE E. OLER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE JOHN M. CAMPBELL, RETIRED.

JUDITH E. PIPE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE MICHAEL L. RANKIN, RETIRED.

CHARLES J. WILLUGHBY, JR., OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, WILLIAM M. JACKSON, RETIRED.

##### FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

ANNE MARIE WAGNER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 1, 2024, VICE ERNEST W. DUBESTER, TERM EXPIRED.

ANNE MARIE WAGNER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS EXPIRING JULY 1, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

##### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GARY D. GRIMES, SR., OF ARKANSAS, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE GREGORY SCOTT TABOR, RESIGNED.

JOSEPH R. ADAMS, OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE J. C. RAFFETY, TERM EXPIRED.

##### UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

JOHN GLEESON, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 31, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

CLARIA HORN BOOM, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 31, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHNNY C. GOGO, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF GUAM AND CONCURRENTLY UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE ALICIA ANNE GARRIDO LIMTIACO, TERM EXPIRED.

JOSHUA S. LEVY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE RACHAEL S. ROLLINS, RESIGNED.

APRIL M. PERRY, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOHN R. LAUSCH, JR., RESIGNED.

REBECCA C. LUTZKO, OF OHIO, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO FOR

THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JUSTIN E. HERDMAN, RESIGNED.

ROY W. MINTER, JR., OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE DAVID L. LYONS, TERM EXPIRED.

MICHAEL PURNELL, OF MISSISSIPPI, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE DANIEL R. MCKITTRICK, TERM EXPIRED.

DALE L. BELL, OF MISSISSIPPI, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE MARK B. SHEPHERD.

DAVID O. BARNETT, JR., OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE SONYA K. CHAVEZ, TERM EXPIRED.

CLINTON J. FUCHS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOHNNY LEWIS HUGHES, TERM EXPIRED.

DAVID L. LEMMON II, OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE MICHAEL T. BAYLOUS, TERM EXPIRED.

## CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate January 11, 2024:

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

ERIKA L. MCENTARFER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF LABOR STATISTICS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS.