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## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

Rabbi Levi Slonim, Chabad of Binghamton, Vestal, New York, offered the following prayer:

Master of the universe, in beseeching You for blessings, we act in kindness and charity. Bless these distinguished Members of Congress, chosen by so many, who fulfill one of the seven Noah high commandments You gave unto humanity; namely, to govern by just laws.

In these unprecedented and challenging times for our Nation, we recall the timeless words of my revered leader, global spiritual leader and teacher, the Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, of righteous memory, whose passing 30 years ago we commemorate earlier this month.

He taught: Difference need not lead to division. On the contrary, true unity comes from a synthesis of different, even opposite, thrusts. Differences between people are overshadowed by what is common to all of us. We are God's creations.

Merciful Father, today we pray for a swift and safe return of the hostages being held in Gaza and an end to all conflict in Israel and throughout the world.

Almighty God, please bless the Congress so that they foster an environment of love and acceptance, a deeper appreciation that within each individual lies untapped potential.

In the words of Maimonides, each person must see themselves as though the entire world were held in balance and with a single deed they can tip the scales, ushering in the era of redemption as proclaimed by Isaiah when nation shall not lift a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

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

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

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Ms. TOKUDA 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.

### WELCOMING RABBI LEVI SLONIM

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, it is truly a high honor to have Rabbi Levi Slonim as our guest chaplain today.

Rabbi Slonim codirects Chabad Downtown in Binghamton, New York, alongside his wife, Hadasa, and is also the director of development at the Rohr Chabad Center for Jewish Student Life at Binghamton University.

His faith journey began as a child in Binghamton when his parents, guided by the Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, established a Chabad presence there in 1985. What started in a modest one-bedroom apartment has grown into a thriving hub that welcomes over 1,500 students each semester.

Rabbi Slonim's work has also taken him across the globe, providing programming in the United States and communities across Europe.

Since returning to Binghamton in 2008, he has initiated impactful pro-

grams like the Binghamton JGC, the Listen Up mental health fellowship, and has led over 800 students on birth-right trips to Israel.

We welcome Rabbi Levi Slonim and thank him for being here today. We thank him for his leadership. We thank him for his strong faith, and we thank him for being a light in a sometimes dark world. His dedication to faith, education, and community service is an inspiration to us all. We thank him for joining us this morning.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FULCHER). The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### CONGRATULATING MAYOR DAVE KLEIS ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, a public servant, a veteran, a small business owner, and my friend, St. Cloud Mayor Dave Kleis is retiring after nearly 30 years in office.

Dave found his passion for politics while serving in the Air Force and working as a congressional liaison at the Pentagon. He then represented the St. Cloud area in the State senate for 10 years, eventually becoming the Senate minority leader.

Dave is a customer service representative. During his 20 years as mayor, he hosted over 1,000 townhalls, including multiple 24-hour marathon townhalls and frequently invited residents to his home for dinner.

Dave has been an incredible partner working with us on hard infrastructure projects in the St. Cloud COP House. I thank Dave for his service to St. Cloud, Stearns County, and the State of Minnesota. Enjoy your retirement.

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

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



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### CONGRATULATING DANIEL HOLT ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank an incredible member of my team, my director of operations, Daniel Holt, who is retiring later this summer after 25 years of public service.

Daniel's title doesn't even begin to reflect all that he does. Daniel is a rock star. He always knows who to call, what to do, and how to get it done. He makes sure that everyone in our district has an open door to my office. He has served this institution, this country, and the people of Massachusetts with incredible integrity and dedication, and, in the process, he has made the world a better place.

On a personal level, Daniel is like family to me and my wife, Lisa, and my kids, Molly and Patrick. I also want to recognize his family: Denise, Eleanor, Isaac, and Ava.

I know Daniel will continue to do great things in the future. On behalf of team McGovern, we are full of gratitude to Daniel, and we will forever be grateful to call him a mentor, colleague, and friend.

### STOP DOJ WEAPONIZATION

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

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, at this moment, Mrs. Paulette Harlow, a 75-year-old Catholic grandmother, is locked in a Federal prison cell. Why? For peacefully and prayerfully blocking access to a third-trimester, late-term abortion mill.

Mrs. Harlow is one of many convicted under the Biden administration for violating the FACE Act, which prohibits any obstruction to abortion clinic entrances. For that offense, this wheelchair-bound grandmother will spend 2 years in jail. Meanwhile, the same prosecutors declined to prosecute 67 percent of all people charged with a crime in Washington, D.C., even violent crimes.

At sentencing, the judge mocked her and her faith, demanding that she "make every effort to stay alive" as part of the "tenets of [her] religion."

Biden's DOJ is politically weaponizing our justice system through selective enforcement, disproportionate sentencing, and bigotry. Congress must stop these political persecutions and help save the lives of unborn babies.

### THOMAS BATTS HONORED AS 2024 NORTH CAROLINA STATE COOP- ERATIVE EXTENSION AGENT OF THE YEAR

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, let me tell you what the buzz is about in Wilson, North Carolina. Thomas Batts, a commercial horticulture agent with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service in Wilson County was honored as the 2024 North Carolina State Cooperative Extension Agent of the Year in recognition of his service to agriculture and beekeepers.

Thomas is known for his hands-on and engaging horticulture programming, which includes beekeeping school and commercial vegetable production workshops. Thomas was instrumental in forming the Wilson County Beekeepers Association, which now has over 125 members.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Thomas on this well-deserved award. His hard work is a testament to his care for eastern North Carolina.

### CONTRAST FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE COULD NOT BE CLEARER

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

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, last week, I couldn't help but notice the stark differences in the plans that Democrats and Republicans laid out for America's future.

During my townhalls, Kansans demanded that we address our national debt and crushing inflation. They are shocked about the millions of illegal immigrants who have and continue to enter the country and the risks that they pose to the integrity of our elections. Our country is going down the wrong path, and we need to fix it, quickly.

During our convention, President Trump and the Republicans laid out our vision to make America wealthy again, safe again, strong again, and to make America great again.

Meanwhile, President Biden withdrew from the race, propping up Vice President HARRIS as the Democratic nominee. Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, Vice President HARRIS is the chief executive officer of President Biden's border crisis and is the mastermind behind his pro-abortion policies. A Harris administration would simply be a more radical continuation of the last 3½ years. Americans deserve better.

The contrast could not be clearer. The Republican Party is the only party that is prepared to get America back on track.

### HONORING BOB PALMOSINA ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. DELUZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of my

friend, Bob Palmosina, who retired last week after more than 8 years as the public works manager for Collier Township.

Before this role, Bob worked for more than 30 years in public works for the city of Pittsburgh and for Allegheny County. Collier is a growing municipality in my congressional district, and Bob led the Public Works Department to take care of a bunch of things: Clearing the roads from snow, road repairs, maintenance of parks and fields and courts, street signs, crosswalks, picking up leaves, and a heck of a lot more.

Public service is not for the weak of heart. The work and the hours can be grueling. Bob always remained focused and committed to his work and the shared prosperity of our community.

Bob continues to serve on the Allegheny County Council, and he is a dedicated coach and mentor to so many youth athletes in our area. I thank him for his service and wish him good luck in his next chapter.

### KOREAN WAR ARMISTICE DAY

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

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, July 27 marks 71 years since the Korean Armistice Agreement.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., reads: "Our nation honors her sons and daughters who answered the call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met."

We will never forget the sacrifices of the American and Korean soldiers who gave everything to defend them and to defend freedom. As a Korean American who grew up in South Korea after the Korean war, I know I am here because of them. I am a proud American serving in Congress, and this is not something I take lightly.

While the war ended 71 years ago, we must remain clear-eyed on the threat that is posed by North Korea. I will do my part as chairwoman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific.

□ 0915

### CALLING FOR TRANS- FORMATIONAL POLICE REFORM

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

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, we should all be outraged by the murder of Sonya Massey, an unarmed 36-year-old mother of two who was killed in her own home, clearly struggling with mental illness.

The police officers did not know how to respond. They threatened to shoot her in the face, and they actually shot her in the face.

Sonya Massey should be alive today. Breonna Taylor should be alive today, and Trayvon Martin, Eric Garner, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many more.

We need transformational police reform now in our country. This officer should have never been on the job.

As a Black man, every time I see another Black person, particularly a Black woman, killed by law enforcement, it takes a piece of my soul.

We have a Black woman running to be President while Black women are being shot and killed in our communities. Enough is enough.

#### CUTTING WASTE FROM FOOD PRODUCTION

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, in the United States, over one-third of all food produced is never consumed, including a significant portion of livestock and animal products.

Think about that for a minute. For the amount that is consumed, half of it is not. That is the equivalent of 143 billion meals, enough to feed every American three times over for a year.

This waste comes at an enormous financial cost. Over \$473 billion worth of food is thrown away annually. Beyond that monetary loss, this waste results in unnecessary consumption of resources, water, and energy.

The production of animal resources demands significant amounts of water and energy. When food is wasted, so too are these critical resources. When meat is discarded, all the water used in its production is wasted as well, which is a high water use.

Energy expended in raising, processing, and transporting these products is lost and wasted, contributing to inefficiencies and waste of resources.

Farmers—I am one—invest countless hours, labor, and resources into growing crops and raising livestock. It drives us crazy to see it wasted.

Transportation also plays a crucial role. We lose that energy.

We must do better so our kids don't go hungry.

#### ABDUCTIONS OF JAPANESE CITIZENS BY DPRK

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the abductions of Japanese citizens by North Korea since the 1970s and call for resolution and closure for affected families who have waited for over four decades for answers.

Japan has officially recognized 17 missing people as victims of North Korean abductions. Most of them were in their twenties, but Megumi Yokota was just 13.

While North Korea admitted to these abductions and released five victims in

the early 2000s, the fates of the remaining 12 are unknown.

North Korea claims without concrete evidence that eight victims died of unnatural causes, such as traffic accidents and gas poisoning, while four never entered the territory. Glaring contradictions in North Korea's reports raise doubts about the fate of these abductees.

Meanwhile, relatives of the abductees have passed away waiting for resolution. I met family members and felt their pain as they held decades-old pictures of their loved ones.

These unresolved abductions are grave injustices that undermine international law and human rights.

We must support Japan in demanding justice and end decades of grief and uncertainty for these families. We must hold North Korea accountable, bring the abductees home, and give aging loved ones the peace they deserve.

#### APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO SERVE ON JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 114(b) of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1103), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development for a term of 6 years:

Mr. Michael Joseph Sommers, Alexandria, Virginia

#### APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO LIBRARY OF CONGRESS TRUST FUND BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 1 of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board Act (2 U.S.C. 154), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board for a 5-year term:

Mr. Saul Aaron Fox, Miami Beach, Florida

#### STRONGLY CONDEMNING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION AND ITS BORDER CZAR, KAMALA HARRIS'S, FAILURE TO SECURE THE UNITED STATES BORDER

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1376, I call up the resolution (H. Res. 1371) strongly condemning the Biden Administration and its Border Czar, KAMALA HARRIS's, failure to secure the United States border, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1376, the resolution, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the resolution, as amended, is as follows:

H. RES. 1371

Whereas, on March 24, 2021, President Biden tasked Vice President Kamala Harris with working to address illegal immigration into the United States, including "root causes", and came to be known colloquially as the Biden administration's "border czar";

Whereas it took Vice President Kamala Harris 93 days as the border czar before finally visiting the southern border on June 25, 2021;

Whereas when Vice President Kamala Harris traveled near the southern border for the first time on June 25, 2021, she decided to travel to El Paso, Texas, 800 miles away from the lower Rio Grande;

Whereas former United States Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz stated that during his two years in the position, "I've never had one conversation with the president [Biden] or the vice president [Harris], for that matter. I was the Chief of the Border Patrol, I commanded 21,000 people. That's a problem.";

Whereas current United States Border Patrol Chief Jason Owens stated that Vice President Kamala Harris has not spoken with him since he was appointed in July 2023;

Whereas, since Joe Biden and Kamala Harris took office, there have been over 9.7 million illegal immigrant encounters nationwide;

Whereas, since Joe Biden and Kamala Harris took office, there have been over 7.9 million illegal immigrant encounters at the United States southern border;

Whereas, since Joe Biden and Kamala Harris took office, there have been roughly 2 million known gotaways who evaded the United States Border Patrol;

Whereas this number represents more known gotaways than in the previous decade combined;

Whereas, in May 2024, there were 170,723 illegal immigrant encounters at the United States southern border, a 185 percent increase from the average May encounter total under President Trump;

Whereas May 2024 was the 39th straight month where monthly illegal immigrant encounters have been higher than even the highest month seen under President Trump;

Whereas illegal immigrants with violent criminal histories who have murdered innocent Americans like Laken Riley, Jocelyn Nungary, Rachel Morin, and others throughout the United States, pose an existential threat to the safety and security of the American people;

Whereas, in June 2024, NBC News reported that over 400 illegal immigrants with ties to an ISIS-affiliated smuggling network entered the United States under Border Czar Harris's leadership, and that the whereabouts of over 50 of these individuals were unknown;

Whereas, under Border Czar Harris's leadership, multiple illegal aliens with terrorist ties have been released into the United States;

Whereas, to date in fiscal year 2024, there have been a record-breaking 31,077 Chinese nationals encountered at the southwest border;

Whereas the Biden border crisis is costing the United States approximately \$150.7 billion each year and each taxpayer \$1,156 each year;

Whereas, in April 2024, Republicans on the House Committee on Homeland Security released documents showing the Biden administration, under Border Czar Harris, flew at

least 400,000 illegal immigrants into the country through the abuse of parole programs; and

Whereas President Biden's and Border Czar Harris's far left Democrat open border policies are to blame for this historic crisis, and in August 2022, Biden and his administration decided to make the border crisis significantly worse by formally ending former President Trump's successful Remain in Mexico program: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) strongly condemns the Biden Administration and its Border Czar, Kamala Harris's, failure to secure the United States border;

(2) affirms that the American people deserve elected officials who understand the gravity of the crisis at the border and who will execute the policies to fix the border crisis; and

(3) clearly and firmly states that the continuation of the Biden, Harris border policies would be disastrous for both the United States and the American people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee of Homeland Security or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 1371.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on March 24, 2021, President Joe Biden announced to the American people that he tasked Vice President KAMALA HARRIS to "lead our efforts" to address the "root causes" of the border by working with Mexico and Central America to stem the flow of illegal border crossings at the Southwest border.

However, since President Biden and Vice President HARRIS took office, CBP has recorded more than 9.6 million encounters nationwide, and this number continues to rapidly increase.

Over 200,000 Americans have died from the fentanyl flooding across our open border. Precious lives like those of Laken Riley, Rachel Morin, and Jocelyn Nungaray have been brutally taken by illegal aliens who have been released.

We have been told that Vice President HARRIS' job was to find the root causes of the crisis. Turns out to do so, she could have just looked in the mirror.

Now, it would be charitable to say that Vice President HARRIS is com-

pletely out of her depth when it comes to securing the border. The fact is, she has a long track record of opposing border security and immigration enforcement, whether as a Senator, a Presidential candidate, or as Joe Biden's "border czar."

For example, then-Senator HARRIS advocated abolishing Immigration and Customs Enforcement. She proudly boasted that she would introduce legislation to reduce the number of ICE detention beds, and she also advocated for doing away with private detention facilities. She called construction of the new border wall system "a stupid use of money." She opposed the use of title 42 during the COVID-19 pandemic. She even once compared ICE to the KKK.

In her short-lived campaign for President in 2019, Vice President HARRIS declared during one debate that she supported decriminalizing illegal border crossings. According to her campaign website, longstanding, bipartisan border security policies were "cruel and out of control."

As Vice President, her track record has been just as dismal. Let's first recognize that many of the very policies she supported as a Senator, including cutting ICE beds, ending border wall construction, and ending title 42, became a reality after she took office.

Further, despite being President Biden's border czar, after saying border visits were just grand gestures, she has only made one trip to the Southwest border, all the way back in June 2021, in what Texas Democratic Representative HENRY CUELLAR called a politically safe, check-the-box visit. She has not been back since.

Just this week, it was reported that she has never spoken with current Border Patrol Chief Jason Owens or his predecessor, Chief Raul Ortiz. This belies absolute dereliction of her responsibility to secure the border.

This longtime extremist has run point on ending the Biden administration's self-inflicted border crisis, and it shows.

Vice President HARRIS has also lied to the American people repeatedly about the crisis she helped to create. In June 2022, she falsely claimed on national television: "The border is secure. . . . We have a secure border, in that that is a priority for any nation, including ours, and our administration." She also helped spread the vicious lies about mounted Border Patrol agents in Del Rio, Texas, slandering and maligning them for just doing their jobs.

Now, given how bad the border is for them politically, our friends on the left are suddenly aghast that we are again referring to the Vice President as the border czar. However, back in March 2021, even the corporate media were describing her role with this title, which, as we all remember from the Obama years, simply means a government official tasked with the responsibility for a particular policy issue.

Now that Vice President HARRIS is the presumptive Democratic nominee for President, we have watched our colleagues on the other side of the aisle get defensive about it because they know they cannot possibly defend her disastrous handling of the border crisis she was supposed to end.

Vice President HARRIS is an extreme, dishonest, open-borders radical. That is why President Biden entrusted her with this role. She owns all of his failed border policies and the horrific consequences that have resulted from them. Americans know it, and I am glad that this Congress will acknowledge it, too.

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

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to this unserious and politically motivated resolution.

It is sad that today we are wasting time on this pointless resolution, which is nothing more than a campaign press release, rather than addressing real problems facing the American people, but a do-anything resolution is right in line with this do-nothing Congress.

The House is about to go on vacation for 6 weeks, having delivered only political resolutions, not solutions, for the American people.

In fact, my Republican colleagues are so eager to campaign, they are starting the August recess a week early and rushing to the floor with this press release disguised as a resolution before they head for the exits.

Let's make no mistake: This resolution is only before this body because Vice President HARRIS will be the Democratic nominee for President.

Testing new campaign messaging, though, is not a good use of the House's time, yet that is all this resolution offers. It changes absolutely nothing. It does not even pretend to change anything.

I am sure the American people would rather us use our time to fund the government, but my Republican colleagues can't seem to agree among themselves about that.

Instead, here we are, debating H. Res. 1371, a second-rate attempt at election interference. Perhaps it is also an ethics violation since my Republican colleagues are blatantly using House resources for campaign purposes, and like so much other campaign literature, this political resolution is premised on falsehoods and supported by cherry-picked statistics.

The resolution would have you believe President Biden and Vice President HARRIS inherited an impenetrable southern border from the former administration. This is just not true. The cruel and inhumane policies of the

Trump administration did not deter irregular migration.

It took a worldwide shutdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to temporarily reduce the ever-increasing numbers of desperate people seeking freedom, safety, and opportunity in the United States. When global pandemic-era restrictions eased, worldwide migration increased. The United States is far from alone in facing this challenge.

When President Biden and Vice President HARRIS took office, they reversed terrible Trump-era policies that separated children from their parents and put children in cages.

The Biden-Harris administration has also increased enforcement, deployed more border surveillance equipment, and sped up immigration processing. The administration is removing and returning more people and implementing tough new policies that have cut the number of border crossers by more than half over the last 7 weeks alone.

□ 0930

Vice President HARRIS, in particular, has worked to address the root causes of migration, especially from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. Improving conditions in Northern Triangle countries means fewer people feel compelled to make the journey to the U.S.

We have seen results. Since Vice President HARRIS was given this task, Customs and Border Protection's encounters with Central American migrants have declined by more than 70 percent.

Furthermore, under Vice President HARRIS' leadership, the administration has also reinforced partnerships with countries in the region, and even around the world, to increase enforcement and share information.

Mexico, for the first time ever, has agreed to accept the return of Venezuelans and Cubans. Under the former President, we struggled to remove migrants from these countries from the United States.

There are also more visa requirements to enter the Western Hemisphere now, making the journey that much more difficult. This administration has recognized that migration is no longer regional but global and has taken action.

Mr. Speaker, you will notice that nowhere in my remarks have I referred to the Vice President as a so-called border czar like this flawed resolution does. That is because such a position does not exist.

The authors of this resolution cannot point to a single administration document that names the Vice President the "border czar." That is because such documents do not exist.

Even news organizations, like Axios, that referred to Vice President HARRIS as a so-called border czar have posted corrections and clarifications. That is because border czar is simply not her role.

I would like to read from President Biden's March 2021 remarks describing

Vice President HARRIS' duties. "The Vice President has agreed, among the multiple other things that I have her leading—and I appreciate it—agreed to lead our diplomatic effort and work with those nations to accept the returnees and enhanced migration enforcement at their borders."

The Vice President's role is diplomatic. It is about leading partnerships with foreign countries. It is not about overseeing the Border Patrol or ICE. That is Secretary Mayorkas' job, and he said as much in testimony before the Homeland Security Committee.

The border czar title is a work of fiction created by overactive Republican imaginations and the media, and this resolution is premised on that fiction.

Furthermore, this resolution is incredibly petty because Republicans struggle to quick squeeze anything of substance into it. It criticizes the Vice President, who was directed to focus on diplomatic engagements, for waiting 3 months to visit the southern border. Republicans then take issue with where she chose to go along the southern border. Vice President HARRIS went to Texas, just not the part of Texas Republicans thought she should go.

The resolution also criticizes the Vice President for failing to make direct outreach to U.S. Border Patrol chiefs. Again, she was not tasked with overseeing the Border Patrol. Secretary Mayorkas, their actual boss, speaks to the U.S. Border Patrol regularly.

Furthermore, H. Res. 1371 only includes border encounter statistics through May of this year, conveniently failing to include a nearly 30 percent decrease in encounters between ports of entry in June.

The resolution also conveniently fails to mention that since early last month, DHS has removed or returned more than 65,000 border crossers to more than 125 countries. In the past year, DHS has removed or returned the most people since 2010. That includes more removals to countries other than Mexico than in any other prior year ever.

Mr. Speaker, the House has better things to do than adopt pointless, false, and politically driven, nonbinding resolutions. Perhaps, for example, it could legislate on border security in a bipartisan fashion as the Senate tried to do; that is, before former President Trump told his MAGA allies to run away from the negotiating table so he could run on border security on the campaign trail.

As much as my Republican colleagues talk about the threats from our border, they don't want to seem to do anything about it. Taking action is bad politics for them, so we get political resolutions rather than solutions.

In fact, under Republican control, the 118th Congress has little to show for itself. Indeed, it is among the least productive in history. Maybe House Republicans are simply biding their time because they think they can imple-

ment their Project 2025 agenda next year.

This do-nothing resolution is out to test-drive political talking points rather than change the sorry trajectory of this do-nothing Congress.

Before I reserve, Mr. Speaker, I want to note that this is the first time the Homeland Security Committee has come to the floor since the passing of my dear friend, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, who was a senior member of the committee. Congresswoman Jackson Lee cared passionately about border security and a humane immigration system that reflected American values. We will miss her bold, distinctive voice during today's debate, which we all know that she would have participated in with trademark tenacity.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this thinly veiled attempt as a political attack, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK), the esteemed Republican Conference Chair and the author of this resolution.

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to condemn Vice President KAMALA HARRIS for her failed and dangerous policies as Joe Biden's border czar that caused the most catastrophic border crisis in modern history.

No matter what congressional district you go to, the number one issue facing Americans is KAMALA HARRIS' open-border crisis. By every metric, KAMALA HARRIS has failed to secure our borders and has been instead advancing far-left Democrats' failed open-border policies and the needs of illegal immigrants over the safety of Americans.

This resolution condemns KAMALA HARRIS' role as Joe Biden's open-border czar and affirms that the American people deserve elected officials who understand the gravity of the crisis at the border and who will work to secure the border.

Now, Democrats will try to run from this record, but they cannot hide. Joe Biden's open-border czar KAMALA HARRIS, and every elected Democrat, is responsible for this border crisis, along with every other aspect of Joe Biden's failed and feckless record which brought not only the border crisis but skyrocketing Bidenflation, surging violent crimes, chaos, and weakness around the world.

We all remember the widely publicized delegation that Vice President KAMALA HARRIS conducted and led, saying: "Do not come. Do not come." Millions of illegals poured into our country since then because of KAMALA HARRIS' and Joe Biden's administration's unconstitutional, illegal executive actions wiping away President Trump's effective border security policies which created the most secure border in modern history. The American people know that.



In fact, just last month, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection announced there were over 130,000 illegal immigrant encounters at our southern border in June. This is roughly 4,300 illegal encounters at our southern border a day, which is four times more than the definition of a crisis set by Obama's DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson.

So far this fiscal year, there have been 93 individuals whose names appear on the terrorist watch list who were stopped trying to enter the U.S. illegally between ports of entry at the southern border. That is over 500 since KAMALA HARRIS was assigned the border-czar role.

On our northern border, in the Swanton Sector, which I represent, I have seen firsthand, with the Border Patrol, the disastrous consequences of KAMALA HARRIS' and Joe Biden's administration's failed, far-left open-border agenda which caused a historic surge in illegal crossings the likes of which we have never seen on our northern border before, including individuals on the terrorist watch list.

This is not just a national security crisis. It is a humanitarian crisis. Under KAMALA HARRIS' role as Joe Biden's border czar, nearly 80,000 minors have been lost, left, slipped through the cracks. This is also part of the violent crime crisis surge concerning every single American.

Look in upstate New York. A 21-year-old, innocent girl was killed by an illegal and buried in a Syracuse public park and a 15-year-old, innocent girl was raped by an illegal in Albany County, all because of KAMALA HARRIS' failed policies as open-border czar.

Make no mistake: Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS are to blame for this historic crisis. Their policies stopped the construction of the border wall, ended President Trump's remain in Mexico program, and released the largest number of illegals into the United States in history.

Since KAMALA HARRIS became the open-border czar, monthly encounters have surpassed even the highest month under President Trump and the number of illegals released into the country have skyrocketed.

Former U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz stated that during his 2 years in the position, he had never once spoken to Vice President HARRIS. Even worse, Vice President HARRIS has never even spoken with the current Border Patrol chief since he was appointed in July of 2023. This is unacceptable.

The American people have had enough. They know that the only way to fix this historic crisis is by returning to President Trump's effective border security policies. That is why House Republicans passed H.R. 2, the strongest border security bill in history, the Secure the Border Act of 2023, that will put an end to this catastrophic border crisis caused by Joe Biden and his open-border czar, KAMALA HARRIS.

KAMALA HARRIS has failed in over-seeing American safety by refusing to secure the border. She has proved that she is unfit to lead, and I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL).

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this resolution.

Here we go again. The Republican majority made their appropriations bills so extreme that they can't pass the vast majority of them with votes from their own party. Instead, we are going to come here to the floor and waste our time as they politicize the work that we are doing here in Congress and use this time to attack the Vice President.

They can't pursue their impeachment claims, their fake impeachment claims of Joe Biden, or any other number of people that they have targeted, because Joe Biden is no longer running for President. Now, they have got to quickly shift and instead use their time on this floor, where we are supposed to be doing official business, to attack Vice President HARRIS days after she is clearly going to be our Democratic nominee for President.

KAMALA HARRIS was never the border czar. She was never asked to address the situation at the border. She was asked to do something that MAGA extremists, who want quick fixes that they can give to FOX News, never want to focus on, and that is a real solution.

She was narrowly tasked with developing agreements that could help bring government and private-sector investments to those countries that are sending migrants to the United States, so that those countries could help strengthen the conditions in those countries. She did so, most significantly in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras.

She brought in billions from private-sector investments to support government funding for entrepreneurs, to ensure labor rights, to strengthen food security, and launch projects across those countries that invested in financial inclusion, healthcare, climate finance, and affordable housing. Those are the things that will keep migrants in their home countries.

The only reason that Republicans are doing this today is to distract the American people from the fact that they still can't get anything done here on the House floor that will actually benefit the American people. It is no wonder. The leader of their party has been convicted on 34 felony counts and has a Trump Project 2025 agenda that will take total control over people's lives.

□ 0945

That agenda includes plans for mass deportations, including spouses and children of U.S. citizens, Dreamers, and essential workers and farm workers.

Let's not forget that roughly 22 million people in America live in mixed-status families where at least one person is undocumented. When Donald Trump and Republicans are talking about mass deportations, they are talking about tearing apart American families.

It doesn't end there. Trump's Project 2025 calls for the end of protections for Dreamers and family-based immigration. Attacking family unity comes as no surprise from the party that cruelly tore over 5,000 kids from their moms and dads. Trump's Project 2025 also eliminates due process in the immigration system. It would deny people their day in court to make their case for protection under U.S. laws. Republicans have made it clear over and over again that they do not want to modernize our immigration system.

Even the bill that was written by the second-most conservative Republican Senator in the U.S. Senate, Trump told them not to vote for it, so they didn't because they wanted to keep it out there as an election issue.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans want to distract you from the fact that the Biden-Harris administration has been the most effective administration in my lifetime, investing in infrastructure and green jobs, taking on climate change, bringing down the cost of prescription drugs, and canceling student loan debt so people have more money in their pockets instead of allowing billionaires to profit off your pain.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEBER of Texas). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Washington.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Just today we heard that the economy grew by 2.8 percent in the second quarter showing extraordinary strength because of the policies that President Biden and Vice President HARRIS have put into place for this country.

Don't be distracted, Mr. Speaker. Democrats want to protect your freedoms, uphold democracy, and give every American a real chance to succeed.

Vote "no" on this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward nominees for the Office of the President.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GREEN for yielding.

Today, I rise in strong support of H.J. Res. 1371 introduced by Congresswoman ELISE STEFANIK.

Each day, the failed policies of this administration become more glaring, and those who implemented the disastrous agenda leading to the current crisis at our border must absolutely be held accountable.

Today, I give my strongest support to this resolution to ensure that Vice

President KAMALA HARRIS is held responsible for her role in the administration's far-left open-border policies.

As border czar, Vice President HARRIS has overseen the most catastrophic border crisis in our Nation's history. As we all know, the failed policies of the Biden-Harris administration have turned every State in the United States into a border State and led to a record level of illegal immigration, including from individuals on the terrorist watch list.

We cannot stand by and allow this to happen. These failed policies are a direct assault on the sovereignty, the security, and the strength of the United States.

Under HARRIS' watch and with her consent and her support, President Biden has issued more than 70 executive orders and policy changes that have brought about this border crisis, something unlike anything we have ever seen in our Nation's history.

Illegal immigrants have had free run to abuse our system. Drugs like fentanyl have poured into our communities across our entire country, and individuals with ties to terrorism and to known adversaries of our great Republic have been turned loose inside the United States, including a record level number of Chinese Communist nationals. Because of that, Americans are suffering, and we are in danger.

Despite this, KAMALA HARRIS has visited our southern border just once since becoming border czar, and for that reason this resolution is important to hold her accountable for her role in this mess.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is an important part of that accountability, and, as such, I urge passage, and I urge all colleagues to lend it support.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN).

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the Republicans' desperate attempt to, yet again, use the official business of the House of Representatives to do the partisan, political bidding of Donald Trump.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have spent most of this Congress wasting our time and taxpayer money on a bogus sham impeachment investigation of President Biden that yielded no evidence of wrongdoing, much less any high crime or misdemeanor.

It was obvious that that phony effort was solely designed to provide election fodder for Trump in advance of November's election, and recently the chairman of the committee overseeing that investigation even admitted as much.

Now that President Biden has selflessly and patriotically passed the torch to Vice President KAMALA HARRIS, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are scrambling to help Donald Trump's electoral chances by using our

time here today on a blatantly false resolution about Vice President HARRIS.

The title of this resolution is "Strongly condemning the Biden administration and its Border Czar, Kamala Harris's, failure to secure the United States border."

There is one problem. There is no such thing as a border czar, nor was Vice President HARRIS ever named the border czar. The entire premise of this resolution is simply false.

Not surprisingly, the resolution makes no mention of the border security bill that the Biden-Harris administration negotiated with Senate Republicans that would have comprehensively addressed the problems at the border, nor does it say anything about Donald Trump's decision to sabotage and kill that bipartisan bill because it would have solved the problems that this resolution complains about.

Now, why did he do that?

It is precisely because he wanted his minions in the House to introduce useless and deceptive resolutions like this one to help his campaign. While Republicans continue to play politics with the border, the Biden-Harris administration did not stop trying to solve the problems facing the administration. They used what limited authority they have to control the border, and it is working.

This resolution cites statistics from May of 2024 that there were 170,723 encounters at the border; however, the resolution does not include numbers from the next month, June of 2024, which cut encounters by more than one-half, to 83,536.

While my Republican colleagues continue to put politics over solutions, this administration and House Democrats will continue to put people over politics to address the issues facing the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this false, inaccurate, and deceptive resolution.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ).

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, this is a subject that is very, very close to me and my community. I am on the border of Texas, over 80 percent of my district being Hispanic.

This is a resolution that I strongly support. In fact, in listening to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle where they say this is campaigning and politically motivated, not only am I deeply offended, but the American people are deeply offended by those comments.

Why?

It is because we are not rushing to recess to campaign. We are rushing to our districts to calm our communities down that very soon—very soon—there will be a change in administration, there will be a change in political thought, and that we will have a President come January who will care about our borders and who will care about our national security.

It is an insult to the American people that KAMALA HARRIS and the Biden administration have not cared about our national security and that they have allowed millions of illegal immigrants to come to our border.

Perhaps my colleague from Mississippi has not been to Eagle Pass, Texas, or Del Rio, Texas, and seen the kids. Let's talk about false claims here.

Kids in cages?

No, sir, there are no kids in cages.

Let's talk about the kids who are missing in America who are sex trafficked. Let's talk about those kids under the Biden-Harris administration, but we forget about those thoughts.

It is an insult of what I am hearing across the aisle about our border and the lack of national security that has been caused by the Biden-Harris administration.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGÁN).

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member THOMPSON for yielding.

We should be offended at the lies. We should be offended that the American people are being lied to.

We should be offended that kids were separated from their parents and their families under the Republican Party and the Republican leadership. That is what the American people and they should be offended about.

House Republicans are living in a land of make-believe when it comes to the record of Vice President HARRIS. We keep hearing the term over and over again, the lie that she was the border czar. Vice President HARRIS was never the administration's border czar. As a matter of fact, Republicans even know that because they had to change the resolution. There has never been such a position. It was invented by Republicans.

Border security is the responsibility of Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas. He has been to the border. He has met with the border chief. Republicans tried to impeach him, and they failed in the Senate. Now they have a desperate resolution to blame Vice President HARRIS for the border.

Again, this was not the responsibility President Biden gave her. President Biden tasked the Vice President to address the root causes in the Northern Triangle countries of Central America that caused migrants to flee their home countries.

While a lot of work remains, Vice President HARRIS got results. She announced an additional \$310 million for humanitarian relief to address food insecurity for El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. She led efforts on a private-public partnership that has secured commitments from the private sector to invest over \$5 billion in the region to improve peoples' lives.

She worked with the Department of Justice to launch the Task Force

Alpha to combat migrant smuggling and human trafficking from the Northern Triangle countries. This task force led to over 220 convictions of members of human trafficking organizations.

Border crossings from migrants from Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, the countries in Vice President HARRIS' root causes portfolio, have also decreased in recent years. In fiscal year 2023 the crossings from these Northern Triangle countries made up 22 percent of all crossings, down from 41 percent in 2021 when she started.

This resolution also criticizes the administration for the number of border crossings and the encounters.

Guess what, Mr. Speaker?

Border crossings are lower today than when the Trump administration left office.

Let me say that again: Border crossings are down at a lower level than when even the Trump administration left office, but that is not convenient for my colleagues across the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans also fail to tell you the Republicans have refused to vote even on a border supplemental bill because former President Trump told them: Don't do it, we need this for an election year issue. Here we are on the House floor talking about this as a political issue.

What Republicans also fail to tell you, Mr. Speaker, is that more Democrats have actually voted for funding for DHS and border security than Republicans.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. BARRAGÁN. This resolution does nothing to address the challenges at our southern border, and Republicans know that. They are not serious in addressing border security. This resolution is not about solutions, it is about politics.

Democrats, including Vice President HARRIS, will continue our work to address the challenges everyday Americans face.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject these desperate tactics and this dishonest resolution.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1371, and I stand before you for the fourth time requesting that my State's former attorney general, former U.S. Senator, and now Vice President and candidate for President come to the border.

Mr. Speaker, the other side will tell you she wasn't a border czar. I am going to tell you they didn't say she didn't have the border responsibility given to her by the President and dealing with the root causes, so to speak, when it happened. They are now revising history. You can't unring the bell. She was assigned it. She said she was

going to do it, and she didn't come to the border.

□ 1000

I represent the district that has the most border crossings in America over the last two quarters. We had over 250,000 encounters just in the last year. Most importantly, 90 percent of the over 52,000 of what my colleagues call special interest aliens crossing the border since October 2023 entered from my district.

These are Chinese. These are Russians. These are people who have come from countries where we cannot verify and cannot return.

They are not just being encountered, but they are being brought into the country. They are being sent to New York. They are staying where they want to stay and doing what they want to do.

That is what this administration has done for 4 years. In 4 years, our country has absorbed 10 million or more people as a result. Some were getaways, 500,000 at a crack, per year. Some simply presented themselves and were automatically allowed in.

This administration has not used the tools they claim to use. Now, in an election year, they want to unclaim their border czar, and they want to unclaim responsibility for an un-American activity, letting people into the country outside the intent of the law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the resolution.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, if my Republican colleagues are worried about migrant children, I encourage them to look at policy solutions and to engage on a bipartisan bill, such as the Senate bipartisan border bill, where we can make real change. I encourage the majority to support this administration's effort to crack down on the employers who take advantage of these children.

I encourage Republicans to take real action. This partisan resolution achieves nothing.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KENNEDY).

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the border crisis, an issue my Republican colleagues are quick to pontificate on but refuse to address.

At the heart of the matter are real people escaping extreme poverty, violence, natural disasters, and persecution. They are leaving their homes, their families, their culture, and their countries to do what many of our own ancestors did in order to seek a better life.

What they experience in pursuit of the American Dream is nothing short of a nightmare. On their journey to the United States, they risk their lives traveling through treacherous terrain. They are vulnerable to everything from drug cartels to disease.

Throughout our country and especially in border communities, the

inpouring of migrants seeking asylum and immigrants is overwhelming hospitals, schools, and other social service providers.

Instead of advancing solutions, Republicans in this House have resorted to blatantly obvious politics. Unfortunately, because this body has failed to deliver resources to our borders, tens of thousands of personnel have had to do more with less as the crisis worsens.

In my district and other northern border communities, our Border Patrol officers and agents are being sent away from their posts in the north to meet the demands at the southern border, even as migration and illegal drug smuggling rises back home.

The need to act could not be more dire.

Earlier this year, a bipartisan coalition of United States Senators came together for the first time in decades to provide meaningful immigration reform. The bipartisan bill would invest in law enforcement with more than 2,000 new Border Patrol officers and other personnel to secure the border, speed up the processing of those seeking asylum, crack down on illegal drugs by investing in cutting-edge inspection machines for ports of entry, and improve the immigration system with 4,300 new asylum officers and 100 more immigration judges.

We have the solution. Extreme MAGA Republicans in this body declared it dead on arrival before even reading the bill. Instead of solving real problems, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle chose politics over people.

We were sent here to do the opposite. We could be using this time to advance a bill that would improve the lives of Americans, those seeking asylum, and immigrants while strengthening security at the border and boosting our economy. Instead, we are wasting our time on this political stunt.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, we are wasting our time on this political stunt, one that is both entirely transparent and, frankly, desperate. This is simply an attack on Vice President KAMALA HARRIS for one reason: Her career is advancing, and extreme MAGA Republicans are shuddering.

Since Democrats have rallied behind our nominee for President, extreme MAGA Republicans, fearful of a candidate running on the issues instead of a cult of personality, have rushed this emergency resolution to the floor of the House. It has no basis in fact or reality. That doesn't appear to bother my colleagues across the aisle.

What they should be doing is bringing the bipartisan border bill to the floor for a vote. That is what the American public wants. That is what I urge my colleagues to do.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. YAKYM).



Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution introduced by my colleague, Representative STEFANIK.

In March 2021, an Axios headline declared: "Biden puts Harris in charge of border crisis."

According to this article: "The first goal will be stemming the flow of illegal migrants to the U.S."

The chart next to me shows cumulative Southwest border encounters for the first 42 months of the last six Presidential terms. The red line represents the Biden-Harris administration. Look at the chart and ask yourself: How did Vice President HARRIS do as the person in charge of the border?

In June 2021, Vice President HARRIS said: "If you come to our border, you will be turned back."

Look at that chart and ask yourself if anyone took her warning seriously.

In September 2022, Vice President HARRIS said: "The border is secure."

Look at that chart and ask yourself if it was then or if it is now.

Mr. Speaker, the Venn diagram of border security and the Biden-Harris administration are two separate circles.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GIMENEZ).

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1371.

Mr. Speaker, in March 2021, President Biden proclaimed Vice President KAMALA HARRIS as our Nation's border czar. Yet, over the last 3½ years, it is unclear what work she has done, if any, to secure our borders.

As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I traveled to the Darien Gap in Panama to witness the migrant crisis firsthand. I have also been to our southern border.

This is a picture of me at the Darien Gap. Those folks there, that is thousands of migrants coming to the United States. This is 2 years after she was named the border czar.

According to the CBP, before the Biden-Harris administration, there were less than 1 million encounters at the southern border annually. Since the border czar, HARRIS, has taken over, there have been nearly 8 million illegal encounters at the southern border and nearly 2 million known got-aways. That is a total of almost 10 million people who have entered our country.

The growing crisis has a direct impact on our border districts, like mine. Illegal migrant landings have increased in our State, particularly in our beloved Florida Keys. We have seen an increase in encounters of Chinese and other nationals.

Our adversaries know that they can take advantage and exploit the open-

border policies of the Biden-Harris administration. FBI Director Christopher Wray has testified that suspected terrorists have crossed the southern border and are unaccounted for in our country.

The Biden-Harris open-border policies are a risk to every man, woman, and child living in America.

Vice President HARRIS has proven herself incapable as border czar, and I know that the country cannot afford 4 more years of these disastrous policies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this resolution.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Tennessee has 11½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Mississippi has 4½ minutes remaining.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Ms. VAN DUYNE).

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this necessary rebuke of Vice President KAMALA HARRIS' abject failure to do anything meaningful to secure the southern border and protect American citizens in her responsibility as border czar of the Biden-Harris administration.

Since HARRIS was given this critically important national security role, control of our southern border has been handed over to ruthless and deadly Mexican cartels that were aided by policies and spending from this administration to engage in the most massive government-sanctioned human-trafficking effort we have seen in American history.

Indeed, because of the Vice President's staggering negligence and outright contempt of actually protecting our Nation, we have seen the largest amount of human slavery in America since before the Civil War. Children are sold as sex slaves. Others are forced to work at gunpoint in illegal marijuana farms. Tens of thousands of other illegal immigrants have simply gone missing because, once Biden and HARRIS traffic them to destinations across the country, they are dropped with people who are part of cartel human-trafficking rings.

To make this worse, cartels operate gangs in virtually every part of America, which has led to increased domestic violence, rapes, murders, and more than 100,000 dead Americans because of fentanyl poisoning.

Young women and children have been slaughtered in every State as a direct result of Vice President HARRIS' dereliction of duty, but we should not at all be surprised that the end goal for Vice President HARRIS was to drive this invasion, regardless of the chaos, pain, and loss of life on American citizens. After all, then-Presidential candidate

HARRIS plainly stated that she wanted to decriminalize illegal immigration. She wanted to give free taxpayer-funded healthcare to illegal immigrants. She serves in a party that has openly stated that they want vast illegal immigration to help them with Census data, populating congressional districts, and holding on to electoral college power for failing liberal States.

The long-term damage done and that is being done to America could be tracked directly back to Vice President HARRIS, and it is time that this House spoke clearly and definitively against her willful acts.

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

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE).

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

Mr. Speaker, since being appointed as border czar by President Joe Biden, KAMALA HARRIS has undoubtedly been a complete failure in her job and has destroyed our country by releasing a record-setting level of criminals, rapists, and terrorists into our communities.

Despite the attempts of the fake news media to whitewash her appointment as border czar, as Axios correctly reported and are now lying and saying they never did, she was, in fact, labeled a border czar by nearly every major news outlet across the country.

Border czar KAMALA HARRIS said, "Do not come," yet proudly welcomed 11.5 million illegals from over 160 countries, including over 2 million known got-aways, who completely evaded U.S. authorities.

She stood by and allowed these people to come in and idly watched our children and women being raped by illegal alien criminals.

She is not just allowing them to come. The policies of the administration allowed the CBP One app to import over 400,000 illegals into American communities. Under her watch as border czar, this has happened.

She can fake it for the photo ops, but we know that KAMALA HARRIS wholeheartedly supports the chaos at our border, the chaos in our streets, and the chaos in the families who have been victims of her open-border policies.

Border czar HARRIS outlandishly compared ICE to KKK and radically called for ICE to be abolished. She also posted the Minnesota Freedom Fund to bail out violent Black Lives Matter terrorists who burned down cities, looted stores, destroyed communities, and caused over \$2 billion in damage to communities all over America.

KAMALA HARRIS is not only the border czar, but she is also the czar of chaos, and her policies have destroyed America.

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

□ 1015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ).

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, as I walked in here, all I heard was what I hear in my committee, constant criminalizing of immigrant communities.

Let me tell you, I rise in strong opposition to H. Res. 1371.

What this is, is more lies, more misrepresentations, and more inaccuracies.

When the majority cannot pass bills, what do they do? They introduce blatantly political resolutions that consistently target powerful women of color.

Mr. Speaker, you can always tell when we are getting closer to an election because these extreme members of the Republican Party literally turn up the volume on their xenophobia, and they are doing it again with H.R. 1371.

They lie about immigration and public safety. When you look at studies, it shows that immigration is actually associated with lower crime rates.

They fearmonger, they dehumanize, while they are also quoting Scripture, which is kind of hypocritical, and they scapegoat asylum seekers, people who, just like my parents, want to seek a life of dignity and hope and who have faithfully contributed to their community and to our collective economy.

They are willing to vilify and misrepresent the sitting Vice President of the United States for her diplomatic work to address the root cause of migration from Central America.

If my Republican colleagues actually cared about immigration or border security, they would address the conditions that drive people to the southern border. They would pass spending bills and invest in foreign humanitarian assistance and international development programs and would participate in cooperative efforts to realize a world where people can build the life they want back at home. They have done none of that.

Just this week, I didn't see any of my Republican colleagues at my Congressional Caucus on Global Migration. Instead, they want us to waste our time on legislative gimmicks and sham resolutions to score cheap political points. It is enough. Seriously, enough.

We have been here. We have done this. It is *deja vu*. It is so tired.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Illinois.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, they should shelve their mass deportation BS; I am so tired of it.

Let's get to solutions. We should be talking about appropriations. We should be talking about how we make

sure that things are working for the American people, instead of criminalizing people that are helping us with our economy.

Mr. Speaker, let's vote "no" on H. Res. 1371 and let's be done with this waste of time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER).

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer support for H. Res. 1371, Strongly Condemning the Biden Administration and Its Border Czar, Kamala Harris's, Failure to Secure the United States Southern Border, and in fact, all of our borders.

This administration's failure to secure the border has been so significant, so catastrophic, that Congress must use its power to provide accountability.

On day one, the Biden-Harris administration issued 64 executive orders to open the border to human traffickers, terrorists, and foreign adversaries.

In fact, over 300 known or suspected terrorists have crossed the border illegally that we know about and 50 migrants with ties to ISIS are currently on the loose inside the United States.

What are we hearing from our colleagues on the other side of the aisle with regards to that? Don't they care? They don't want to do anything about it. They just want to defend an open-border policy because that is what they are doing.

The American people are paying the real cost of this border crisis. It is people like Laken Riley, like Jocelyn Nungaray, like Rachel Morin, who were assaulted and killed by violent criminals who crossed the southern border illegally.

I have even lost constituents in my own district to this border crisis. The Tambunga family lost 78-year-old Maria and 7-year-old Emilia to a human trafficker who was here illegally, evading law enforcement, doing over 100 miles an hour.

What is being done? Where is the compassion that I just heard from my colleague toward that family?

Law and order is compassionate. Americans deserve accountability for this crisis that has wreaked havoc on our communities.

Unfortunately, Vice President HARRIS does not take it seriously, has not done anything positively to shut down the border, to restore law and order, and her complacency and complete disregard to secure the border is unprecedented.

This isn't about politics. In fact, for the first 2 years of the administration, we didn't have a single hearing on border security, not a single one, on the Committee of Homeland Security.

This resolution simply calls for accountability. How many more hearings do we have to have under our current chairman to call for accountability on this because our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are not willing to actually call out President Biden

and Vice President HARRIS? How many more times do we have to call out for help in our communities?

This was led by the border czar. This open-border policy was led by the border czar, and it doesn't matter what we hear, it doesn't matter what excuses are said, and it doesn't matter what else is said from the other side of the aisle.

The facts are clear: 8½ million people plus have entered this country illegally, 300 plus on the terrorist watch list. Thousands of people who are associated with gangs, who are associated with criminal activities, and who are associated with delivering fentanyl that has killed over 100,000 people in this country.

I don't think it is funny. I personally don't think it is funny.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I personally don't think it is funny. For those laughing on the other side of the aisle, shame on them. The Tambunga family deserves better in my district. In fact, every American deserves better.

How many more classified hearings, Mr. Speaker, are we going to have where the FBI comes in and where other intelligence agencies come in and say we have got a problem? How many more classified hearings are we going to have to have where they come into Congress to tell us that we have known and suspected terrorists inside our country?

The post-9/11 Commission said the system was flashing red. We need to wake up. The system is flashing red right now, and it is due to President Biden and Vice President HARRIS' inability to secure the border and do something to secure our country. Shame on those who won't stand up and do the right thing.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1371 and to bring accountability back to the southern border.

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

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is a last-ditch, unserious effort by extreme MAGA Republicans to scapegoat Vice President HARRIS for longstanding challenges at the border.

H. Res. 1371 is premised on the false claim that the Vice President was made a "border czar," a fake title made up by Republicans and the media. This is a political stunt on the American taxpayers' dime. I wish they would put the same effort into immigration reform or passing budget bills.

Let me reiterate: This resolution does absolutely nothing to improve the quality of life for Americans. If Republicans truly saw the challenges at the border as a crisis, they would have worked with Democrats on the bipartisan Senate border legislation, but

they abandoned the bipartisan bill to please their Presidential candidate who wanted a campaign issue instead.

We get political resolutions rather than solutions. The American people deserve better.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as we conclude this debate, I will quote the Vice President one more time.

In 2015, she said: "An undocumented immigrant is not a criminal."

Well, actually, under title 8 of the United States Code, illegally crossing the southwest border is a Federal misdemeanor with up to 6 months in prison as the penalty for a first offense and a felony for repeated offenses.

Vice President HARRIS brought that mentality to her role as border czar. What we have witnessed today from congressional Democrats confirms that they know it. They have demonstrated that they have no concrete defense for the Biden administration or Vice President HARRIS' disastrous handling of the unprecedented border crisis, which the Vice President was supposed to help resolve.

They are more upset about colloquial titles for the Vice President than the deadly chaos she has blatantly ignored. They think 1 month of slightly less disastrous border crossing numbers compared to the numbers of the past 3½ years is their get-out-of-jail-free card on this issue.

The American people are not so easily fooled, however. It is time to pass H. Res. 1371 to call out Vice President HARRIS' abysmal failure and for the Senate to move on the mountain of border security bills we have sent them this Congress as well.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a July 23 article from CBS News stating that the "border czar" title is incorrect and the Vice President's work is often mischaracterized.

Notably, the article includes the following quote: "Harris was not asked to be the administration's 'border czar' or to oversee immigration policy and enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border."

[From CBS News, July 23, 2024]

THE FACTS ABOUT KAMALA HARRIS' ROLE ON IMMIGRATION IN THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

(By Camilo Montoya-Galvez)

Following President Biden's decision to abandon his reelection campaign and endorse Vice President Kamala Harris to be the Democratic nominee for president, Harris' role on immigration has come under scrutiny.

Soon after Mr. Biden's announcement, Republicans sought to blame Harris for the Biden administration's woes at the U.S.-Mexico border, where American officials have reported record levels of illegal cross-

ings in the past three years. In a phone conversation with CBS News on Saturday, former President Donald Trump said Harris presided over the "worst border ever" as "border czar," a title her Republican detractors often give her.

Harris is all but certain to face even more criticism over the Biden administration's record on immigration, one of American voters' top concerns ahead of the election. And Harris does have an immigration-related role in the Biden White House, but her responsibilities on the issue are often mischaracterized.

WHAT EXACTLY IS HARRIS' IMMIGRATION ROLE?

In March 2021, when the Biden administration faced the early stages of an influx in illegal crossings at the U.S. southern border, Mr. Biden tasked Harris with leading the administration's diplomatic campaign to address the "root causes" of migration from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, including poverty, corruption and violence.

The region, known as Central America's Northern Triangle, has been one of the main sources of migration to the U.S.-Mexico border over the past decade.

Harris was not asked to be the administration's "border czar" or to oversee immigration policy and enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border. That has mainly been the responsibility of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas and his department, which oversees the country's main three immigration agencies, including Customs and Border Protection.

In reality, the only role close to that of a "border czar" under the Biden administration was held for only a few months by Roberta Jacobson, a longtime diplomat who served as coordinator for the Southwest border until April 2021.

In her immigration role, Harris' main line of work has focused on convincing companies to invest in Central America and promoting democracy and development there through diplomacy. In March of this year, the White House announced Harris had secured a commitment from the private sector to invest over \$5 billion to promote economic opportunities and reduce violence in the region.

Efforts to reduce migration by improving conditions in migrants' home countries have always been viewed as a long-term strategy by U.S. officials. In its "root causes" framework, the Biden administration conceded the "systemic change" it envisions for Central America "will take time to achieve."

QUESTIONS ABOUT HER WORK ON IMMIGRATION

There are some legitimate questions about Harris' work on immigration.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, most non-Mexican migration to the U.S. southern border originated from the Northern Triangle. In 2021, it made sense for the administration to focus on the root causes of migration in those countries. But migration flows have changed dramatically in recent years. Record numbers of migrants have been coming from places outside of Central America, including from countries like Cuba, Colombia, China, Ecuador and Venezuela.

In fiscal year 2023, for example, Border Patrol apprehensions of migrants from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador made up 22 percent of all crossings during that time period, down from 41 percent in fiscal year 2021, government statistics show. On the flip side, however, the administration could point to the fact that illegal crossings along the U.S. southern border by migrants from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador have decreased significantly every year since 2021.

While most of her critics have been Republicans, Harris' work on immigration has also garnered some criticism from the left. During a visit to Guatemala in June 2021, Harris told those intending to migrate, "Do not come," a statement that drew ire from some progressives and advocates for migrants.

As the second-highest ranking member of the Biden administration, Harris will also likely face questions over the all-time levels of unlawful border crossings reported in 2021, 2022 and 2023. Those crossings, however, have plunged this year, reaching a three-year low in June, after Mr. Biden issued an executive order banning most migrants from asylum.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a July 19 article from CBS News stating that the number of migrants unlawfully crossing the southern border has continued to drop dramatically in July, thanks to Biden-Harris administration policies.

Notably, the article includes the following quote: "July is on track to see the fifth consecutive monthly drop in migrant apprehensions along the U.S.-Mexico border and the lowest level in illegal immigration there since the fall of 2020, during the Trump administration. . . ."

[From CBS News, July 19, 2024]

MIGRANT CROSSINGS CONTINUE TO PLUNGE, NEARING THE LEVEL THAT WOULD LIFT BIDEN'S BORDER CRACKDOWN

(By Camilo Montoya-Galvez)

The number of migrants unlawfully crossing the U.S. southern border has continued to drop markedly in July, nearing a threshold that would require officials to lift a partial ban on asylum claims enacted by President Biden, according to internal government data obtained by CBS News.

July is on track to see the fifth consecutive monthly drop in migrant apprehensions along the U.S.-Mexico border and the lowest level in illegal immigration there since the fall of 2020, during the Trump administration, the internal Department of Homeland Security figures show.

In early June, President Biden invoked a far-reaching presidential authority to suspend the entry of most migrants entering the U.S. illegally, effectively shutting off access to the American asylum system outside of official ports of entry.

Illegal border crossings—which were already falling before Mr. Biden's action—plunged further after the order took effect, reaching a three-year low in June.

ILLEGAL CROSSINGS ALONG U.S. SOUTHERN BORDER OVER THE PAST YEAR

The numbers denote Border Patrol apprehensions of migrants who entered the U.S. between official ports of entry along the southern border.

But the DHS regulation implementing Mr. Biden's proclamation stipulated that the asylum crackdown would be lifted if the 7-day average of daily migrant apprehensions between ports of entry fell to 1,500.

In the past week, the average of daily illegal crossings counted in the regulation's calculations reached roughly 1,650, according to the internal DHS figures. Those calculations, as dictated by the regulation, exclude crossings by unaccompanied children who are not

from Mexico. Those children are typically housed in government-run shelters until they turn 18 or are placed with a U.S.-based sponsor, as mandated by a 2008 antitrafficking law.

If the 7-day average of daily illegal crossings dips to 1,500, the regulation says, Mr. Biden's asylum proclamation would be "discontinued 14 days after" Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas makes a "factual determination" about the threshold being reached.

"The Departments have determined that the 1,500-encounter threshold is a reasonable proxy for when the border security and immigration system is no longer over capacity and the measures adopted in this rule are not necessary to deal with such circumstances," the regulation says.

#### ASYLUM LIMITS COULD REMAIN IN PLACE

While illegal border crossings are nearing the 1,500 deactivation threshold, it's possible that they may remain above that number, keeping the partial asylum ban in place. And even if the 1,500 trigger is reached, Mr. Biden's proclamation would be reinstated if the 7-day average of daily illegal crossings were to rebound to 2,500.

A senior U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) official said the agency does not expect the partial ban on asylum requests to be deactivated imminently, noting that illegal crossings appear to be plateauing.

"We're not in a place yet where we're a day . . . or days away from being below 1,500," the official told CBS News.

But the official acknowledged that reaching the 1,500 trigger is possible and confirmed there's been internal planning and preparations for that eventuality.

If Mr. Biden's proclamation is suspended, the official said, CBP would still strive to place migrants in expedited deportation proceedings, instead of releasing them with notices to appear in immigration court. Another Biden administration asylum restriction that applies to those who don't seek refuge in third countries before crossing into the U.S. would also remain in place.

"Noncitizens who enter the United States between ports of entry and do not have a legal basis to remain in the United States continue to be swiftly removed," DHS spokesperson Erin Heeter said in a statement.

#### A DRAMATIC CHANGE AT THE BORDER

With an overall average of roughly 1,800 daily migrant apprehensions so far in July, Border Patrol is on pace to record fewer than 60,000 migrant apprehensions this month, the lowest level since September 2020, according to unpublished DHS data. That average, unlike the one used in the asylum regulation's calculations, includes all unaccompanied children.

The current situation at the southern border represents a dramatic change from just late last year, when illegal crossings rose to a quarter of a million in December, an all-time monthly high. After that record-breaking influx, the Mexican government, at the request of U.S. officials, ramped up operations to stop migrants from reaching American soil.

Immigration experts credited the Mexican government's migration crackdown with playing a key role in the sustained drop in migrant crossings recorded by American officials this year. Temperatures in the southern U.S. have also soared in the summer, making the migration journey even more perilous.

But U.S. officials said Mr. Biden's move to partially shut down asylum processing has led to a more acute drop in unlawful crossings. Because it makes it easier for U.S. officials to deport more migrants, the proclama-

tion has sharply reduced the releases that authorities view as a factor that encourages migration.

Still, not everyone is being deported quickly. Some groups, such as unaccompanied children, medically vulnerable migrants and those who secure appointments to be processed at legal entry points, are exempt from the partial asylum ban. Some migrants who are disqualified from asylum under the policy are also still allowed to stay because the U.S. does not carry out regular deportations to their home countries due to diplomatic and logistical constraints.

Progressive advocacy groups have strongly decried Mr. Biden's asylum crackdown, and the American Civil Liberties Union is arguing in federal court that the policy violates U.S. and international refugee law.

Theresa Cardinal Brown, a senior adviser at the Bipartisan Policy Center and a former government immigration official under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama, said the legality of Mr. Biden's actions are "still an outstanding question." But she said the drop in releases under the policy is affecting migrants' decisions, at least in the short-term.

"When a sufficient number, it doesn't necessarily have to be everybody, but a sufficient number of people are not allowed to come in, to wait and succeed in coming in, that does send a signal back," she said.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a fact sheet released by the Department of Homeland Security this morning that shows President Biden's Presidential Proclamation to temporarily suspend the entry of certain noncitizens across the southern border has helped reduce the number of encounters at our Southwest Border by 55 percent.

[From the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, July 24, 2024]

#### FACT SHEET: PRESIDENT BIDEN'S PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION AND JOINT DHS-DOJ INTERIM FINAL RULE CUT ENCOUNTERS AT SOUTHWEST BORDER BY 55 PERCENT

The Presidential Proclamation issued by President Biden to temporarily suspend the entry of certain noncitizens across the southern border—including the southwest land and southern coastal borders—and the complementary joint interim final rule (IFR) issued by DHS DOJ have now been in effect for seven weeks, helping reduce the number of encounters at our Southwest Border by 55 percent. The Border Patrol's 7-day average has decreased to below 1,800 encounters per day. In June, the Border Patrol recorded 83,536 encounters between ports of entry, the lowest number since January 2021, and below the number of encounters between ports of entry in June 2019, the last comparable year prior to the pandemic.

While the President's action has led to significant results, our nation's immigration system requires Congressional action to provide needed resources and additional authorities. Twice now, Congress has failed to pass the bipartisan border security agreement negotiated in the U.S. Senate, which would provide the critical personnel and funding needed to further secure our Southern border. The agreement would have added 1,500 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Agents and Officers, added 1,200 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) personnel, 4,300 asylum officers, invested in technology to catch illegal fantasy, and delivered sweeping reforms to the asylum system. Congress must still act.

While the Proclamation and IFR have been in effect:

DHS has removed and returned more than 65,000 individuals to more than 125 countries,

including by operating more than 200 international repatriation flights.

DHS has doubled the percentage of noncitizens processed through Expedited Removal while in CBP or ICE custody. Expedited Removal processing was already at record levels prior to the Proclamation.

DHS has decreased the number of people released pending their removal proceedings by 70

We continue to implement recently announced measures (<https://www.ice.gov/newsroom/ice-announces-ongoing-work-optimize-enforcement-resources>) to increase the overall capacity of enforcement resources—including repatriation flights and detention capacity. ICE is optimizing air charter contracts to maximize the number of repatriation flights operated each week.

Over the last year, the agency has removed individuals to a range of South American and Eastern Hemisphere countries, including Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Egypt, Mauritania, Senegal, Uzbekistan, and India, and in the last few weeks, DHS conducted a removal flight to the People's Republic of China (PRC). Efforts to expand the number of removal flights continue with the expectation of additional flights added to the schedule in the coming weeks.

Under the terms of the IFR, the limitation on asylum eligibility will be discontinued when encounters fall below certain levels but will come back into effect if encounters rise again. The Proclamation and IFR enable DHS to quickly remove those without a legal basis to remain, strengthening enforcement consequences for those who fail to use lawful pathways to come to the United States. For more information on how the Proclamation and IFR work, visit the following links:

Fact Sheet: President Biden's Presidential Proclamation and Joint DHS-DOJ Interim Final Rule Cut Encounters at Southwest Border by Over 40 Percent in First Three Weeks (<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/06/25/fact-sheet-president-bidens-presidential-proclamation-and-joint-dhs-doj-interim>)

Fact Sheet: Presidential Proclamation to Suspend and Limit Entry and Joint DHS-DOJ Interim Final Rule to Restrict Asylum During High Encounters at the Southern Border (<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2024/06/04/fact-sheet-presidential-proclamation-suspend-and-limit-entry-and-joint-dhs-doi>)

Individuals continue to be eligible for asylum, including individuals who use the CBP One™ mobile app's appointment scheduling function. CBP makes 1,450 appointments available per day at eight land ports of entry via this functionality. Use of the app requires those seeking an appointment to submit vital information in advance, improving DHS's ability to conduct screening and vetting. CBP One is just one example of how this Administration has carried out the largest expansion of lawful pathways and orderly processes in decades.

The majority of all Southwest border encounters during the past three fiscal years resulted in a removal, return, or expulsion. DHS removed or returned over 740,000 individuals in the 12 months after the end of the Title 42 public health Order, more than any year since 2010. That included more removals to countries other than Mexico than in any prior year ever.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a July 22 "analysis" article from the right-wing Wall Street Journal stating that the Vice President's role was narrow—and also successful.

Notably, the article includes the following quote: "Harris's job was meant to be narrow, and over the years Harris has fulfilled it by announcing tranches of private investments."



[From WSJ, July 22, 2024]

ANALYSIS: WAS KAMALA HARRIS ACTUALLY  
BIDEN'S "BORDER CZAR"?  
(By Michelle Hackman)

Even before Kamala Harris became the Democrats' likely challenger to Donald Trump, Republicans have used her immigration portfolio as a line of attack against her—calling her President Biden's "border czar." But Harris's task, assigned to her in 2021 by Biden, was actually much narrower.

At the start of his presidency, Biden tasked his VP with what the administration called the "root causes" of migration from Central America—the extreme poverty, famine and gang violence that have driven so many people over the last decade to uproot their lives and head north to the U.S.

Former President Barack Obama had asked Biden to take on the same task when he was vice president. Biden successfully pushed Congress to allot several billion in aid money for Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

Harris's job was meant to be narrow, and over the years Harris has fulfilled it by announcing tranches of private investments by companies like Pepsi, Cargill and Nestle in Central America.

But the assignment gave Republicans a convenient scapegoat as illegal crossings at the southern border climbed. Days after the announcement of her assignment, House Republicans appeared at a press conference brandishing a sign reading, "missing at the border: Vice President Kamala Harris."

On Monday, the RNC tweeted a video purporting to show the moment Biden anointed Harris "border czar." In the video, Biden says he is asking Harris "to lead our efforts with Mexico and the Northern Triangle, the countries that need help in stemming a movement of so many folks, of stemming the migration to our southern border."

Mr. Thompson of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an April 5 "fact check" article from the Washington Post giving four Pinocchios to the favorite Republican claim that the Biden administration "flew at least 400,000 illegal immigrants into the country."

Notably, the article states that Republicans are Quote: "peddling a blatant falsehood her" Unquote.

[From the Washington Post, April 5, 2024]

TAXPAYER DOLLARS BEING USED TO FLY  
'ILLEGAL ALIENS' INTO U.S.? NOPE.

(By Glenn Kessler)

"Do you support American taxpayer dollars being used to fly illegal immigrants from countries like Venezuela and Haiti into America to be settled in cities and towns near you? If so, then vote against me. Vote no to preserve this practice of using taxpayer dollars to charter planes that move and import thousands of illegal aliens into your states."

Sen. Bill Hagerty (R-Tenn.), in a speech on the Senate floor, March 23:

"Have you had to cancel or rethink any upcoming summer trips because of high prices? Don't worry—your taxpayer dollars will be used to pay for illegal immigrants to fly into a town near you."

Rep. Mark Green (R-Tenn.), chair of the House Homeland Security Committee, in a post on X, April 2:

Two lawmakers from Tennessee have issued misleading statements about a Biden administration program that permitted an increased use of a process known as humanitarian parole for migrants from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela. Hagerty offered an amendment to a spending bill—defeated in a party-line vote—that he said would prevent taxpayer dollars from being used to fly in migrants. Green, on X, posted a Fox News article—headlined "All Senate Dems vote against barring taxpayer funds to fly illegal migrants to U.S. towns"—and made a similar claim.

Under the Biden program, people from these countries who try to cross the border without the proper paperwork are ineligible for parole and subject to expulsion. Instead, before arriving, they must receive authoriza-

tion to travel to the United States and a statement of financial support from a sponsor.

As of the end of February, the Department of Homeland Security says, more than 386,000 people from those countries had arrived lawfully in the United States and another 19,000 were vetted and authorized to travel. In other words, they are not in the country illegally, despite the rhetoric in the statements.

And beyond the question of whether these immigrants are "illegal," if you listen to Hagerty and Green, U.S. taxpayers are footing the bill for their travel. That's wrong.

#### THE FACTS

The website for the program makes clear that people applying for humanitarian parole must pay for their tickets. Under a list of requirements, one is: "Provide for their own commercial travel to an air U.S. port of entry and final U.S. destination."

When we asked spokespeople for Hagerty and Green, we received different answers about why they said taxpayers' dollars were involved. Neither is convincing.

Hagerty's staff said he was referring not to plane tickets, but to the fact that the program was created and administered with taxpayer dollars. His amendment said "no funds appropriated by this Act may be used to facilitate, provide, or purchase air transportation from a foreign country to the United States"—so "facilitate" is the operative word here.

But the arm of the DHS that administers the program—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)—is 96 percent funded by fees paid by people seeking to come to the United States. For instance, people in the parole program must pay as much as \$520 to file an application for work authorization.

Moreover, parole applications (now totaling about 400,000) make up an even smaller part of the nearly 10 million applications handled by USCIS each year, so the number of people handling the applications would be an infinitesimal part of the USCIS workforce. On top of that, the salaries of these workers are funded by fees, not congressional appropriations ("taxpayer dollars").

In any case, as we noted, people approved for the program must book and pay for their own flights to come to the United States. There aren't any charter flights, despite what Hagerty said.

Green's staff offered a different explanation—that he was referring to nongovernmental organizations being reimbursed for transportation costs through the Shelter and Services Program (SSP), run by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, another arm of the DHS. But this is also off base.

The SSP is focused on helping pay the costs for people who cross the border between ports of entry, such as with the help of smugglers, and find themselves abandoned in the middle of a desert. The recipients are mainly border cities and charities that assist these undocumented immigrants with food, shelter and transportation. But people in the parole program arrive with authorization and a confirmed financial sponsor. In fact, the Biden administration created the parole program to reduce unauthorized border crossings that have burdened border facilities.

So the only way SSP dollars would be used by someone in the parole program is if a disaster happened and this person found themselves in a shelter that received some funding from the SSP—a highly unlikely prospect.

#### THE PINOCCHIO TEST

Hagerty and Green are peddling a blatant falsehood here—that the Biden administration is paying for the flights of migrants from four countries in the parole program. In reality, the migrants must pay their own way. When challenged, their offices resorted to alternative explanations about the use of taxpayer dollars that strain credulity.

#### FOUR PINOCCHIOS

The Fact Checker is a verified signatory to the International Fact-Checking Network code of principles.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1376, the previous question is ordered on the resolution and the preamble, as amended.

The question is on adoption of the resolution.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 220, nays 196, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 400]

YEAS—220

Aderholt	Fry	Mills
Alford	Fulcher	Molinaro
Allen	Gaetz	Moolenaar
Amodei	Garbarino	Mooney
Armstrong	Garcia, Mike	Moore (AL)
Arrington	Gimenez	Moore (UT)
Babin	Golden (ME)	Moran
Bacon	Gonzales, Tony	Murphy
Baird	Good (VA)	Nehls
Balderson	Gooden (TX)	Newhouse
Banks	Gosar	Norman
Barr	Graves (LA)	Nunn (IA)
Bean (FL)	Green (TN)	Oberholte
Bentz	Greene (GA)	Ogles
Bergman	Griffith	Owens
Bice	Grothman	Palmer
Biggs	Guest	Peltola
Bilirakis	Guthrie	Pence
Bishop (NC)	Hagaman	Perez
Boebert	Harris	Perry
Bost	Harshbarger	Pfleger
Brecheen	Hern	Posey
Buchanan	Hill	Reschenthaler
Bucshon	Hinson	Rodgers (WA)
Burchett	Houchin	Rogers (AL)
Burgess	Huizenga	Rogers (KY)
Burlison	Hunt	Rose
Calvert	Issa	Rosendale
Cammack	Jackson (TX)	Rouzer
Caraveo	James	Roy
Carey	Johnson (LA)	Rulli
Carl	Johnson (SD)	Rutherford
Carter (GA)	Jordan	Salazar
Carter (TX)	Joyce (OH)	Scalise
Chavez-DeRemer	Joyce (PA)	Schweikert
Ciscomani	Kean (NJ)	Scott, Austin
Cline	Kelly (MS)	Self
Cloud	Kelly (PA)	Sessions
Clyde	Kiggans (VA)	Simpson
Cole	Kiley	Smith (MO)
Collins	Kim (CA)	Smith (NE)
Comer	Kustoff	Smith (NJ)
Crane	LaHood	Smucker
Crawford	LaLota	Spartz
Crenshaw	LaMalfa	Staubert
Cuellar	Lamborn	Steel
Curtis	Langworthy	Stefanik
D'Esposito	Latta	Steil
Davidson	LaTurner	Steube
Davis (NC)	Lawler	Strong
De La Cruz	Lee (FL)	Tenney
DesJarlais	Lesko	Thompson (PA)
Diaz-Balart	Letlow	Tiffany
Donalds	Lopez	Timmons
Duarte	Loudermilk	Valadao
Duncan	Lucas	Van Drew
Dunn (FL)	Luetkemeyer	Van Dwyne
Edwards	Luna	Van Orden
Ellzey	Luttrell	Wagner
Emmer	Mace	Walberg
Estes	Malliotakis	Waltz
Ezell	Maloy	Weber (TX)
Fallon	Mann	Webster (FL)
Feenstra	Mast	Wenstrup
Ferguson	McCaull	Westerman
Finstad	McClain	Williams (NY)
Fischbach	McClintock	Williams (TX)
Fitzgerald	McCormick	Wilson (SC)
Fitzpatrick	McHenry	Wittman
Fleischmann	Meuser	Womack
Flood	Miller (IL)	Yakym
Fong	Miller (OH)	Zinke
Foxx	Miller (WV)	
Franklin, Scott	Miller-Meeks	

## NAYS—196

Adams	Gonzalez,	Pallone
Aguilar	Vicente	Panetta
Allred	Gottheimer	Pappas
Amo	Green, Al (TX)	Pelosi
Auchincloss	Harder (CA)	Peters
Balint	Hayes	Pettersen
Barragan	Himes	Phillips
Beatty	Horsford	Pingree
Bera	Houlihan	Pocan
Beyer	Hoyer	Pressley
Bishop (GA)	Hoyle (OR)	Ramirez
Blumenauer	Huffman	Raskin
Blunt Rochester	Ivey	Ross
Bonamici	Jackson (IL)	Ryan
Bowman	Jackson (NC)	Salinas
Boyle (PA)	Jacobs	Sánchez
Brown	Jayapal	Sarbanes
Brownley	Jeffries	Scanlon
Budzinski	Johnson (GA)	Schakowsky
Carbajal	Kamlager-Dove	Schiff
Cardenas	Kaptur	Schneider
Carson	Keating	Scholten
Carter (LA)	Kelly (IL)	Schrier
Cartwright	Kennedy	Scott (VA)
Casar	Khanna	Scott, David
Case	Kildee	Sewell
Casten	Kilmer	Sherman
Castor (FL)	Kim (NJ)	Sherrill
Cherfilus-	Krishnamoorthi	Slotkin
McCormick	Kuster	Smith (WA)
Chu	Landsman	Sorensen
Clark (MA)	Larsen (WA)	Soto
Clarke (NY)	Larson (CT)	Spanberger
Cleaver	Lee (CA)	Stansbury
Clyburn	Lee (NV)	Stanton
Cohen	Lee (PA)	Stevens
Connolly	Leger Fernandez	Strickland
Correa	Levin	Suozi
Costa	Lieu	Swalwell
Courtney	Lofgren	Sykes
Craig	Lynch	Takano
Crockett	Magaziner	Thanedar
Crow	Manning	Thompson (CA)
Davids (KS)	Matsui	Thompson (MS)
Davis (IL)	McBath	Titus
Dean (PA)	McClellan	Tlaib
DeGette	McCollum	Tokuda
DeLauro	McGarvey	Tonko
DelBene	McGovern	Torres (CA)
Deluzio	Meeks	Torres (NY)
DeSaulnier	Menendez	Trahan
Dingell	Meng	Trone
Doggett	Mfume	Underwood
Escobar	Moore (WI)	Vargas
Eshoo	Morelle	Vasquez
Espallat	Moskowitz	Veasey
Fletcher	Moulton	Velázquez
Foster	Mrvan	Wasserman
Foushee	Mullin	Schultz
Frankel, Lois	Nadler	Waters
Frost	Napolitano	Watson Coleman
Gallego	Neal	Wexton
Garcia (IL)	Neguse	Wild
Garcia (TX)	Nickel	Williams (GA)
Garcia, Robert	Norcross	Wilson (FL)
Goldman (NY)	Ocasio-Cortez	
Gomez	Omar	

## NOT VOTING—16

Bush	Grijalva	Quigley
Castro (TX)	Higgins (LA)	Ruiz
Evans	Hudson	Ruppersberger
Garamendi	Massie	Turner
Granger	Pascarell	
Graves (MO)	Porter	

□ 1059

Mr. NUNN of Iowa changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I missed one Roll Call vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted “YEA” on Roll Call No. 400.

Mr. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during today's vote series. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 400.

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 400.

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OBERNOLTE) laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
July 25, 2024.

I hereby designate the period from Thursday, July 25, 2024, through Sunday, September 8, 2024, as a “district work period” under section 3(z) of House Resolution 5.

MIKE JOHNSON,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

## RECOGNIZING NATIONAL HIRE A VETERAN DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor today as National Hire a Veteran Day. This day is crucial to the spirit and health of both America's veterans and our communities.

Set aside to raise awareness of the unique skills and valuable abilities of servicemembers after military service, we must use this day to recognize the sacrifice and strength of our veterans. Qualities like dedication, determination, and tenacity are highly valuable in America's private and public sectors. These features are fostered during military service and can be helpful in nonmilitary employment.

As 200,000 military members retire and become veterans each year, more and more qualified potential employees are eligible to join the greater American workforce.

As we look to hire, let us not forget the sacrifices made by our servicemembers. Each and every one of them, having defended our great country, deserve the opportunity to create a unique and positive impact in the workforce. Their dedication, determination, and tenacity are not just skills but a testament to their commitment.

## CELEBRATING BENTLEY SYSTEMS

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate Bentley Systems as they mark 40 years of business in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Under Greg Bentley's leadership as CEO, Bentley Systems has grown to become the industry leader with its digital twin advanced infrastructure technologies. Their tools are utilized by every State department of transportation across our Nation and by 194

countries worldwide, not only helping move forward our outdated infrastructure, but also moving us into the 21st century.

In Congress, I am proud that we have made recent bipartisan progress for the Federal Government to fully realize this kind of potential. From the Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization to the Water Resources Development Act to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, each of these bills have contained related provisions that will help save taxpayer dollars and improve our infrastructure for years to come.

I congratulate Greg Bentley on his well-deserved retirement as CEO. His entrepreneurial leadership and vision have transformed Bentley into a cornerstone of innovation right in our own backyard of Exton, Pennsylvania.

I congratulate Bentley Systems, and here is to 40 more years.

## ENSURING AI DEEPFAKES DON'T UNDERMINE ELECTIONS

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

Mr. LATURNER. Mr. Speaker, artificial intelligence is an incredible tool that is only becoming more accessible, powerful, and impactful.

With all the good this emerging technology provides our society, AI also has its downsides. It is easier than ever before for bad actors to make AI-generated deepfakes to deceive the public and spread false information about elected officials and political candidates. Anyone with a laptop can create realistic images, videos, and audio clips depicting events that did not occur.

This poses a serious threat to our national security and could harm the integrity of our election systems.

As a member of the Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs, I will continue to work to ensure AI-generated deepfakes are not undermining our local, State, and Federal elections.

## DRAWING ATTENTION TO DESTRUCTIVE DEEPFAKES

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the dangerous issue of deepfake pornography, which is incredibly destructive and can have life-altering impacts on its victims.

Almost 96 percent of all deepfakes online are pornographic in nature, and nearly every single one targets women. It takes no special knowledge or technical expertise to create these images, and more women are being targeted each and every day, including high school students, young girls who



should be worried about their homework, not whether a classmate is using their image to make an explicit video that has the potential to do serious and irreparable harm.

Deepfakes are abhorrent, and I have introduced legislation to bring strong criminal and civil penalties against those who create them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in demonstrating our shared commitment to fighting the dangerous misuse of artificial intelligence.

#### THANKING NETANYAHU FOR UNIFYING MESSAGE

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, Prime Minister Netanyahu's joint address yesterday sent a bipartisan message of patriotism, strength, and unity. It underscored our joint responsibility to uphold freedom, prosperity, and security for our citizens and the world.

On October 7, Israel was brutally attacked by Hamas. Babies were burned, women were raped, and people were murdered in the worst ways possible. Israel has the obligation to respond to these atrocities, ensuring Hamas is unable to perpetrate another attack on future generations of Israelis, which Hamas has promised to do.

In his address, Netanyahu praised the diplomatic progress achieved in the Middle East under the Trump administration as well as the Biden administration, the Abraham Accords chief among them.

The Prime Minister ended with a message of hope, hope that Israel and its partners can bring long-lasting peace to the region.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Prime Minister for his unifying message and will continue to stand strongly with Israel as they fight to defeat Hamas, ensure hostages are released, and return peace and stability to the Middle East.

As the Consul General of Israel said to me just recently in reference to the hostages, and in the words of Moses, who stands atop this House Chamber, "Let my people go."

#### HATRED ENDANGERS DEMOCRACY

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the same day Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed our Congress and spoke of how Iran has exported anti-Semitism around the world, including the United States, we saw reminders of that disgusting and dangerous influence just blocks from our Capitol.

Protesters graffitied "Hamas is coming," "Welcome to the Intifada," and other anti-Semitic messages outside of Union Station. Some brandished Hamas flags while burning the Stars

and Stripes. This anti-Semitic hate has no place anywhere in the world, let alone within the view of this Capitol.

This vile hatred is a continuation of millennia of prejudice, discrimination, persecution, and violence toward Jews.

Hate and bigotry are un-American. Hate and bigotry are the tools of fascists, dictators, and thugs—the foul products of twisted minds.

Hatred and bigotry endanger not only Jews but democracy itself. It falls to each of us, Mr. Speaker, to remove the cancer of anti-Semitism from our society.

Jews are and have always been a fundamental part of our American family, and no amount of spray paint can ever change that.

#### CELEBRATING MAJOR EDWARD BURKE

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

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the incredible life of Major Edward Arthur Burke, a Cincinnati native and D-day veteran who passed away on June 22 at the age of 104 years old.

Major Burke attended my alma mater, St. Xavier High School. He went on to Xavier University and joined the ROTC program in 1938 after reading the news of Hitler's march through Europe.

Upon graduating in 1942, he and his fellow officers were sent to Fort Knox to prepare for the historic D-day invasion. Hand-selected by General Patton to be commander of the 821st Tank Destroyer Battalion, Burke was sent on numerous missions behind enemy lines. He was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and the French Legion of Honor for his service in Europe.

At St. Xavier High School, our goal is to be "Men for Others," something Major Burke truly embodied. He was willing to put himself in harm's way, not just for the betterment of his men, but to protect freedom and give liberty an opportunity to thrive. His life is a testament to the sacrifices of his generation.

As yet another member of our Nation's Greatest Generation has found eternal peace in Heaven, it is our job not only to remember their stories and the bravery they embodied, but to protect the rights and freedom that they fought so bravely to save.

□ 1115

#### HONORING MICHAEL SCHWEINSBURG

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

Mr. GOLDMAN. New York. Disability Pride Month, commemorated in July, is a time to highlight the history, achievements, experiences, and strug-

gles that the disability community has experienced.

From battling for greater public accessibility to ensuring government officials recognize the specific needs of the community, disability advocates have often had to fight to obtain the representation they deserve.

One of these great advocates is Mike Schweinsburg who has worked toward better and greater representation and inclusion in my district, New York-10 in New York City, for nearly two decades.

Mike has advised mayors, agencies, elected officials, national politicians, and everyone in between on the disability community's pressing needs, working to ensure that New Yorkers with disabilities are never left without a voice.

For two decades, Mike has been an integral part of the 504 Democratic Club, the Nation's first and largest club advocating for the civil rights of people with disabilities.

I am truly honored and blessed to work alongside him to ensure that everyone in New York City and our country gets the proper representation they deserve.

#### HONORING LOU DOBBS

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I recognize my friend, Louis Carl Dobbs, from Childress, Texas, who sadly passed away at the age of 78.

Lou Dobbs, born on September 24, 1945, to Frank and Lydia Dobbs, earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard University. He then moved into journalism, starting as a reporter in Arizona and later working as a television anchor in Phoenix and Seattle.

He joined CNN at its inception in 1980, and he hosted "Moneyline." Later in 2010, he joined Fox Business Network, hosting "Lou Dobbs Tonight" until 2021. He also hosted "Lou Dobbs Radio" and wrote for Money Magazine, U.S. News & World Report, and the New York Daily News.

He is remembered for his dedication to his profession and his impact on the field of journalism, leaving behind a legacy of in-depth reporting that shaped the way many Americans understood political issues.

Lou was a dear friend of mine. He will be missed greatly. He was never afraid to tell the hard truth, something that is missing today in journalism, and that is something that is hard to find, of course, in the world in general.

I am praying for Lou's family and his friends during their time of loss, Mr. Speaker. I thank Lou for being my friend.

#### HONORING PENNSYLVANIA OLYMPIANS

(Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as the world watches the Paris Summer Olympics begin, Pennsylvania is sending our very best, and I am not just talking about our athletes.

From Berks County, Pennsylvania, GK Elite Sportswear has made Team USA women's gymnastics uniforms, bringing a piece of fabric from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Paris.

Of course, the stars of the Olympics are the competitors, women and men with awe-inspiring, singular dedication and discipline.

Three-quarters of the United States women's field hockey team are Pennsylvanian, including three residents of my home, Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District: Ashley Sessa from Schwenksville, Phia Gladieux from Oley, and Meredith Sholder from Fleetwood.

On the men's USA swim team, Chris Guiliano from Douglassville will be competing in the 50-, 100-, and 200-meter freestyle events.

I congratulate and wish good luck to: Ashley, Phia, Meredith, Chris, and all the hardworking, talented athletes representing Team USA in the games in Paris. They are the very best of us. Once again, Montgomery County and Berks County, Pennsylvania, are leading the way.

#### LOCAL COLORADO NEWSPAPER CLOSINGS

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

Mr. LOPEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and dedication of local newspapers to the communities of Colorado's Eastern Plains. The Burlington Record, Burlington Plains Dealer, and Lamar Ledger have kept citizens of eastern Colorado informed for over 100 years. It is an honor to celebrate their achievements today. Sadly, all three newspapers will be closing their doors at the end of this week.

Established in 1888, 1905, and 1907 respectively, the Burlington Record, Burlington Plains Dealer, and Lamar Ledger have consistently provided plainspoken, accurate, and even-handed reporting and resources for their communities.

Upholding the highest journalistic standards, they have reported on some of the most influential moments in our country's history from the Great Depression to the world wars to 9/11, covering births, graduations, deaths, and local triumphs. They have covered 20 Presidential Inaugurations, watched 28 Colorado Governors take office, and existed before the district that I represent was even created. To say that these newspapers were ingrained in the local communities they served would be an understatement.

Local journalism has long served as the bedrock of American society. Responsible for not just educating their local community but highlighting local stories, they offer an experience more personal to citizens in Prowers or Kit Carson County. The closure of these institutions will certainly impact the communities of eastern Colorado.

I thank each talented staff member for their many years of service to their neighbors. The Burlington Record, Burlington Plains Dealer, and the Lamar Ledger will be missed.

#### RECOGNIZING BIPOC MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize BIPOC Mental Health Awareness Month.

As the co-chair of the bipartisan Mental Health Caucus and as a proud Latina myself, I know how important it is to bring culturally relevant, multilingual mental health resources directly to our communities.

Between cultural differences, stigma, and language barriers, it makes it so hard for folks to receive potentially lifesaving mental health care.

Growing up, I watched my sister fight her battle in complete silence, pushing through her pain until it was so great that she attempted suicide, something that no family should ever have to experience.

Her story is like so many others across the Nation. BIPOC and Tribal people face lower rates of mental health treatment yet face higher rates of attempted suicide—22 percent for Hispanic and Latino youth.

This is totally unacceptable, and I am committed to working across the aisle to find evidence-based solutions and to prioritize policies that will make mental health care more accessible and affordable.

Not just in July but every single day of the year, we must ensure that our BIPOC neighbors and loved ones have access to these resources and know that they are not alone in this fight. Together, we will end the stigma around mental health and put an end to this crisis.

#### SECRET SERVICE FAILURES

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, like many of the Tennesseans I represent, I was relieved to learn that Secret Service Director Kimberly Cheatle resigned on Tuesday.

We all watched as she refused to answer very simple questions at a House Oversight hearing this week. She did, however, confirm what we already knew, that a significant operational failure occurred on July 13.

Ms. Cheatle did not offer an explanation as to why the former President was allowed on stage after the agency was notified multiple times about a suspicious person. She did confirm that the roof from which the shooter acted was identified as a possible vulnerability days before the rally, yet failed to explain why it was not secured.

I support a bipartisan task force to investigate the attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump. An armed, would-be assassin with a clear line of sight must never be allowed to get within 150 yards of a Presidential nominee or a former President ever again.

#### RECOGNIZING OHIO OLYMPIANS

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize not one, not two, but three incredible athletes from Ohio's 13th Congressional District who will represent our country at this year's Olympic Games in Paris: LeBron James, Marcus Christopher, and Steph Curry.

LeBron is a three-time Olympic medalist and the greatest basketball player of all time. We know him fondly as just a kid from Akron.

LeBron will be the first men's basketball player to ever carry the flag in the opening ceremony for Team USA, an incredible honor and a true testament to his passion for his sport, dedication to his community and hometown, and his leadership amongst his teammates and fellow Olympians.

Making his Olympic debut, Steph Curry is a four-time NBA champion and two-time NBA MVP.

Both LeBron and Steph were born in the same Akron hospital, giving us the inspiration for the "Birthplace of Champions." I know they will represent us well during the men's basketball game.

Marcus Christopher is a proud product of Canton, Ohio, and at just 21 years old, he is one of the top BMX freestyle riders in the world. He recently earned a gold medal at the X Games in California and looks to repeat this dominance at the Olympics.

These incredible athletes embody the highest levels of perseverance, dedication, and sportsmanship. LeBron, Marcus, and Steph each reflect our district's proud legacy as the Birthplace of Champions, and the entire community and our country is rooting for them and cheering them on, wishing them the best of luck. Go, Team USA.

#### MYRTLE BEACH CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

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

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the inaugural Myrtle Beach

Classic Golf Tournament, which was held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, this past May.

The Grand Strand's first-ever PGA tour event was a monumental success, drawing more than 40,000 spectators, over a thousand volunteers, and 132 players.

On Saturday, May 11, the tournament broke the PGA attendance record for a first-year event, serving as a reminder that Myrtle Beach is, indeed, the golf capital of the world.

I congratulate Chris Gotterup for taking the title of the first-ever winner of the Myrtle Beach Classic, which was also his first-ever PGA title.

I am excited to see the continued success of the Myrtle Beach Classic for years to come.

#### HONORING DR. NORMAN C. FRANCIS

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

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you with immense pride as we honor a remarkable leader and my mentor, Dr. Norman C. Francis. His commitment to advancing education through social justice transformed Louisiana and had a profound impact on this entire Nation.

As the longest-serving president of Xavier University, my alma mater, Dr. Francis set the gold standard for HBCUs, fostering excellence in higher education. His leadership during the civil rights movement was instrumental in breaking down barriers and fighting for equality.

In 2006, Dr. Francis was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, our Nation's highest civilian honor, in recognition of his deep intellect, compassion, and character. His tireless dedication to uplifting others has left a lasting impact on countless lives, including my own.

Today, I ask for support in granting Dr. Norman C. Francis the distinguished Congressional Gold Medal. This honor would celebrate his lifetime of service and his enduring legacy, ensuring that his works continue to inspire future generations.

I thank Dr. Francis' family for letting him be a part of our lives. I thank Dr. Francis for his extraordinary contributions. His legacy will live forever and continue to light our paths toward a more just society.

#### CELEBRATING JUANITA MORGAN'S 101ST BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. MOONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Juanita Morgan who celebrated her 101st birthday in Randolph County, West Virginia, on June 1, 2024.

Juanita represents a distinguished group of women, widely known as "Rosie the Riveters," who helped fill the gaps in the industrial labor force in factories and shipyards when our brave soldiers left for World War II. They were known by the slogan, "We Can Do It" as you can see from the three ladies standing behind her in this picture.

She served at the Glenn L. Martin aircraft factory in Baltimore, riveting B-29 airplanes. The B-29 airplane would play a pivotal role in our victory in the war.

Juanita and all the Rosie the Riveters are inspiring individuals who demonstrate their patriotism of their generation as we came together to fight the forces of fascism in Europe and the Pacific.

Randolph County is hosting a special event on August 10 to honor all of the West Virginia Rosie the Riveters and their families.

I congratulate Juanita on a life well lived as she celebrates her 101st birthday and wish her continued good health.

□ 1130

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MENTAL HEALTH

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

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of efforts to rein in deepfakes. This country, and especially our children, are in the middle of a mental health crisis.

In 2021, 22 percent of high school students seriously considered attempting suicide, including nearly one in three girls. It is reported that 10 percent of high school students actually attempted suicide, and these trends have been going in the wrong, tragic direction for years.

Now deepfakes are exacerbating these problems. Revenge porn wasn't a thing when I was in high school, but now AI allows anyone to create a pornographic image with the click of a button.

AI is also being used to improve our mental health response. Lifeline 988 volunteers are trained on artificial intelligence chatbots before interacting with individuals actually in crisis.

As the co-chair of the Congressional Mental Health Caucus and Suicide Prevention Task Force chair, I have long been engaged in efforts to improve resources like 988 and their ability to address the mental health crisis.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to tackle the current youth mental health crisis. In different ways it touches every family.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. MICHAEL BERNARDINO

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

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Michael Bernardino for his extraordinary dedication and service as a high school chemistry teacher for 30 years. Mr. Bernardino, a proud Arizonan, has not only imparted knowledge, but he also has encouraged countless students to pursue their passions.

Beginning his career 30 years ago at Apollo High School and ending his career at North Canyon High School, Mr. Bernardino has been a beacon of excellence and a pillar of his community. His direct, honest, and charismatic style helped him connect with students and often inspired them to be better people and not letting themselves or him down.

Because of his innovative and fun teaching methods along with his unwavering commitment to student success, Mr. Bernardino cultivated students into productive citizens, one of whom worked for me for the last few years.

In his own words Mr. Bernardino shared: "It has been fun, rewarding, exhausting, and sometimes heart-breaking. In short, it has been a career that mimics everyday life in repeating 60-minute blocks."

Mr. Bernardino spent roughly 5,400 days teaching young students, molding minds to be independent thinkers and cultivating good people.

Today, we honor Mr. Bernardino for a remarkable career and express our deepest gratitude for what he did for the community.

#### HONORING FELICIA MICELI DURING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor my constituent, Felicia Miceli, a dedicated champion seeking to address opioid abuse among our youth.

Her beloved son, Louie Theodore Miceli, loved the outdoors, he was an exceptional friend, he made people laugh, and he was an athlete. He began taking opioids to treat a sports injury. At the age of 24, he died from a heroin overdose.

Since then, Felicia has worked to reduce the epidemic and ensure that other peoples' stories end differently. As the founder and president of LTM Heroin Awareness and Support Foundation, her efforts, including the passing of Louie's Law, protected the youth of DuPage County and beyond. Her commitment has honored her son's memory and has saved lives.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, I commend Felicia Miceli for her dedication to mental health awareness and her relentless pursuit of justice and support for our community.

I congratulate and thank Felicia.

### HONORING CAMBIANDO VIDAS 15TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Disability Pride Month, I rise to celebrate Access Living -Cambiando Vidas, on their 15th anniversary serving Latinos with disabilities in Chicago.

Cambiando Vidas provides a space for Latinos and immigrants with disabilities to build community, organize, and create equitable change through advocacy.

Their commitment to change lives by ensuring respect and dignity of all is invaluable. Each step they have taken and each barrier they have overcome has paved the way for a more inclusive society.

Congratulations to Cambiando Vidas on 15 years of remarkable accomplishments. Here's to many more years of making a difference and transforming lives.

Congratulations. Felicidades.

### AURORA THEATER SHOOTING ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the victims of the horrific mass shooting at a Century 16 movie theater in Aurora, Colorado, 12 years ago. Each year, July 20 brings back the shock and pain that reverberated across Aurora and the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, 12 lives were brutally cut short, and countless others were forever changed. The pain still echoes through our community, a constant reminder of the devastating toll of gun violence.

I remember the victims, A.J.; Alex; Alexander; Gordon; Jesse; Jessica; John; Jonathan; Matt; Micayla; Rebecca; and Veronica; their families; and the survivors who still bear the scars of that night.

I think of the heroes who risked their lives to shield and save others. Their bravery provided a beacon of hope in immense darkness.

We must not grow numb to the pain of that day. We must use their memory to continue to fight for commonsense gun reform.

May we never forget the lives lost in Aurora.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF MARGARET "PEGGY" MURRAY

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life of Margaret "Peggy" Ann Murray who passed away peacefully on June 6, 2024.

Peggy's life was a testament to dedication, service, love.

Born and raised on a farm in Huron, Ohio, she embodied the values of hard work, learning, and compassion that imbues an ethic that makes life worth living.

A proud graduate of Marquette University, Peggy's journey was marked by a profound commitment to her faith and her community. She taught CCD for 15 years and was a founding member of Habitat for Humanity's Firelands affiliate and played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Second Harvest Food Bank of northeast Ohio.

She supported education through the Charles and Margaret Nickels scholarship, named in honor of her late parents.

A lifelong member of the Democratic Women of Erie County, Peggy served on the Erie County Democratic Central Committee.

Peggy's legacy is carried on by her loving husband Dennis, Sr., 5 children, and 11 grandchildren. Her life was a beacon of service, love, and unwavering commitment to bettering her community and world around her and us.

### HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN SHEILA JACKSON LEE

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, the House has lost a giant and a trailblazer for justice and a good friend for so many of us, Sheila Jackson Lee, whom we honor here today and remember.

Born in Queens, New York, she was among the first women to graduate from Yale, and she dedicated her life to public service. For nearly 30 years she represented the people of Houston, Texas, in the House of Representatives. She was a role model for so many and for young women seeking to serve.

She led the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, VAWA, and established with her colleagues Juneteenth as a Federal holiday. Not only that, but she authored the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act with so many of her colleagues. The list goes on and on and on.

Sheila was my friend and had a thoughtful approach to foreign policy. Many don't know her efforts for years interacting with our colleagues in Europe and the European Parliament, always willing to participate and share her point of view. She was respected, and she noticed that dialogue and diplomacy should be the tools first rather than the last resort.

Her legacy will continue to inspire future generations of leaders.

We will miss you, Sheila, our friend. May you rest in peace.

### SOCIAL SECURITY

(Ms. MANNING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, hardworking North Carolinians pay into Social Security year after year with the promise that they will be able to retire with comfort and dignity.

In my district, over 158,000 retirees and families rely on Social Security, yet House Republicans' extreme budget plans to raise the retirement age to force Americans to work longer for less. That means cutting Social Security benefits for three out of every four people in my district.

While extremist Republicans are pushing to cut Americans' hard-earned benefits, we Democrats are fighting to protect and strengthen Social Security.

That is why I am a proud cosponsor of the Social Security 2100 Act, legislation to enhance Social Security benefits for the first time in 50 years and ensure the program's solvency for years to come.

Social Security is a sacred promise that Congress must keep, and I will always fight to ensure hardworking North Carolinians' benefits are protected.

### DISABILITY RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FONG). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. WEXTON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. WEXTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the majority leader and staff for allowing me to participate in today's Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, before I begin my speech, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN).

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding and for her incredible leadership in this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, as we approach the beginning of the Olympic Games, I want to extend my support and encouragement to the athletes representing their countries in the coming weeks. Among them are some outstanding athletes from the Second District of Massachusetts:

Stephen Nedoroscik, who will compete for Team USA in gymnastics;

Aaron Ortiz, who will compete for Team USA in a Muaythai match;

Gabby Thomas, who will compete for Team USA in track; and

Aisyah Rafae, competing for Singapore as a rower.

Mr. Speaker, the Olympics are a unifying moment for our country and the world. It is a time when we can set aside our differences and come together to cheer for those who represent the best in us.

To Gabby, Stephen, Aisyah, Aaron, and all of the other athletes who have worked so hard to reach this milestone: Your journey to the Olympics is already a victory. We are so proud of all

of you, and we will be cheering for you every step of the way.

Go Team USA.

Ms. WEXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Disability Pride Month, celebrated each July to commemorate the Americans with Disabilities Act.

It is hard to believe that the ADA will turn 34 years old tomorrow. I was in college when it passed in 1990. Today, an entire generation has never known life without the protections that exist because of the ADA.

We have come a long way from the days when sidewalk curbs would routinely cause insurmountable challenges for Americans in wheelchairs, and now accommodation is the rule, not the exception.

As a new member of the differently-abled community, I believe it is important not only to celebrate how far we have come, but also to recognize how far we still have to go.

The issue of disability rights and accessibility has been one I have worked on closely since my first days in public office. When I served in the Virginia State Senate back in 2015, I worked alongside Conner Cummings, a young Virginian with autism who lived in my district, and his mom, Sharon, to pass Conner's Law, legislation that closed a loophole and extended parental support for severely disabled and special needs children over the age of 18, giving relief to single parents.

I have had the pleasure of welcoming Conner and Sharon to Capitol Hill to testify on the impact of Conner's Law for families like theirs and the need to replicate it in States across the country.

□ 1145

The proudest vote I took in the State senate was in 2018, when we voted finally to expand Medicaid in Virginia. Through this monumental action, we extended affordable healthcare access to hundreds of thousands of the most vulnerable Virginians, including many of those living with disabilities.

That is also why I fought so hard once I came to Congress to successfully protect and expand the Affordable Care Act, including preventing insurance companies from discriminating against people with preexisting conditions and defending the elimination of lifetime caps on coverage, which would be devastating for families of those with disabilities.

In fact, the very first constituent meeting I took when I came to Washington in 2019 was with the Little Lobbyists, a group of families with young children with complex medical needs and disabilities. I invited one of those families to be my guest at the State of the Union in 2020 to highlight just how important fighting back against efforts to undermine the ACA was for families like theirs.

Over the past year, the fight for disability rights has become a personal one. My battle with progressive

supranuclear palsy, or PSP, has robbed me of my ability to use my full voice and move around in the ways that I used to. Rather than striding confidently onto the House floor to vote, I gratefully accept rides across Independence Avenue—and, yes, I get the irony—from my office to the Capitol. I rely on a walker to get around, and in all likelihood, before my term ends, I will appear on the House floor for votes in a wheelchair.

I can no longer give the same kind of impassioned, impromptu speeches during debates on the floor or in committee hearings. This very impressive AI re-creation of my voice does the public speaking for me now. I found myself understanding firsthand just a fraction of the challenges that so many Americans live with each day.

It has been a big adjustment for me, for my family, for my team, and for my colleagues who have known me for years and have had to watch me go through these challenges, but mine is not a unique story. Millions of Americans face challenges that make it harder to move, speak, act, or otherwise live their day-to-day lives, but that disability does not define who they are.

I certainly have not allowed my new challenges to define me. This is not a situation I would have chosen to find myself in. I never thought that, at my age and otherwise good health, something like PSP could, in the space of just over a year, rob me of my ability to speak, run, or dance, and force me to stop doing the job that I love.

I also never expected to be in a position to make history by being the first Member to use an augmentative and alternative communication device, or AAC device, on the House floor. I used to be one of those people who hated the sound of my voice. When my ads came on TV, I would cringe and change the channel, but you truly don't know what you have until it is gone because hearing the new AI of my old voice for the first time was music to my ears. It was the most beautiful thing I had ever heard, and I cried tears of joy.

I am not going to sugarcoat the difficulties I have faced the past year, but what has brought me a renewed sense of determination is the opportunity to use this unique platform to try to help others.

The supportive messages I have received have been overwhelming, especially from those facing similar speaking or movement challenges who see someone like me, who just happens to be in the spotlight, persevere in the same ways that they are.

I am not doing it for praise or admiration, but I do hope that when people see me continuing to do all I can to keep living my life and doing this job I love as best I can, they understand and appreciate the courage, resilience, and spirit that so many Americans of differing abilities demonstrate each and every day.

I hope I can be a voice, even an AI voice, for Americans facing accessi-

bility challenges and other disabilities because, too often, people only see us for that disability. In truth, we are so much more.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this Disability Pride Month and in celebrating the strength and perseverance of the disability community.

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

#### RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING CITIZENS OF MISSOURI'S FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD).

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. WEXTON) for her courage. We love her, and America thanks her.

#### RECOGNIZING PATRICK O'HANLON

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate our top 10 speechwriters for this year's Missouri's Fourth Congressional District Speech Competition. They were chosen to write speeches on what America means to them, and we are so proud of the work they are doing in their schools to keep the American Dream and spirit alive.

Today, we are sharing several of these speeches, the first from Patrick O'Hanlon, from Pleasant Hill, Missouri, in Cass County.

Patrick writes: "America is a special country. We have the freedom of speech and the freedom of religion. America was built by people from around the world. Our Founding Fathers wrote an amazing Constitution and Bill of Rights that limits the government's powers and gives freedom to the people."

"When a B-2 cruised over my home on the Kansas City Royals opening day, it was such a magnificent reminder of our exceptional country. It was hard not to be overflowing with patriotism. After seeing that, I am glad they are on our side. These things are a big part of what America means to me."

I thank Patrick for being such a shining light in the classroom and sharing what America means to him.

#### RECOGNIZING NATALIE MYERS

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate another top 10 speechwriter, this one from Polk County, Natalie Myers, from Pleasant Hope Middle School.

"America, Where My Heart Calls Home."

"America is more than the home of the brave. It is where the heart finds home. Home is where the heart belongs. My heart is painted with the

strokes of red, white, and blue. Having the freedom of religion, speech, to be who I want to be. That is what America offers me, and I thank her in deep gratitude.

"America isn't perfect, but we strive for perfection. Let's not forget the ones who fought for our land that hold the red, white, and blue. America is always ready to provide peace and win battles. America is a mighty land that embraces diversity and love. America is my home."

I congratulate Natalie on a great job and thank her for her work.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CIDER HOUSE

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fourth Congressional District of Missouri's July Small Business of the Month, The Cider House, of Cass County.

Owned and operated by the Middaugh family, The Cider House was established in 2004, but the family business roots run much deeper than that. The Middaughs started their business adventure back on four corners of 7 Highway in 1978. What began as a seed company grew into a fruit market, an orchard, and a red barn that served lunch, pies, breads, jams, jellies, and much more. They began hosting home-cooked dinner buffets on the weekends, with a band playing upstairs while renting the facility.

In 2001, part of the family bought the farm, which was formerly an old horse stable, and began booking events again. With the addition of a pumpkin patch, selling seeds, and young children growing up, repurchasing the orchard seemed like just the right thing to do. For Jeanne and her husband, Chad, they did that.

Repurchasing the orchard was just what the Middaughs needed, allowing the family to rebrand the facility The Cider House and allowing them to offer farm-to-table dinners, as well as hosting events that partner with local farmers, wineries, and local artists.

Their story is an inspiring story. It reminds us all of just how hard work and family-driven spirits can pay off in Missouri's Fourth Congressional District.

#### RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN CHARLES "BEN" BASYE

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize, honor, and remember the July Veteran of the Month, Mr. Charles "Ben" Basye, who sadly passed away this month in Columbia, Missouri.

He was born in rural Howard County and attended Union School, a one-room schoolhouse there. At the age of 15, he graduated from Fayette High School. He went on to serve his Nation for nearly 43 years in our Armed Forces, spending 11 years in the U.S. Navy and almost 32 in the Naval Reserves.

In World War II, he served aboard the USS *Boxer*, an *Essex*-class carrier, where he flew multiple fighters. In 1949, he was one of the first Navy pilots to land a jet on a carrier during the earliest stages of catapult takeoff and landing operations for the Grumman F9F.

On his 60th birthday, Mr. Basye retired from the Navy with the rank of captain. During his service to our Nation, Captain Basye attended six different universities, earning bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering and a Ph.D. in engineering and mathematics. He taught 18 different engineering courses and served as a faculty adviser for 400 engineering students.

A proud father, he is survived by his four sons, six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

He served his Nation, his State, and his family well.

We honor Captain Basye today on the House floor as July Veteran of the Month, and we will continue to honor his life and his legacy. I thank Captain Basye for his great service.

#### RECOGNIZING CACKLE HATCHERY

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fourth Congressional District of Missouri's August Small Business of the Month, Cackle Hatchery, a longtime family-owned source of prime poultry.

Located in Lebanon, Missouri, Cackle Hatchery remains one of the last few hobby hatcheries in the United States. It preserves the genetics of over 200 varieties of poultry and distributes hundreds of thousands of chicks to families and farms each and every year in the United States.

As a family-owned and family-operated business since 1936, it is one of the few businesses in Lebanon that still has had the same owner, same location, and same business during that length of time.

While most hatcheries closed their doors in the mid-1960s, Cackle Hatchery continued to provide chicks through local feed stores and mail delivery.

The moniker of hobby hatchery is a representation of Cackle's customer base, not the scale of their current business itself.

I congratulate Cackle Hatchery for exceptionally producing poultry year after year. Keep up the great work.

#### RECOGNIZING HAROLD KING

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our August Veteran of the Month, Mr. Harold King.

Mr. King attended Leigh High School in Nebraska, Utah State University, U.S. Armor School, JFK Special Warfare Center and School, and Command and General Staff College.

Mr. King joined the Army as a military policeman in 1984 and held many jobs throughout his career. Among those are armor crewman, armor officer, company commander, operations officer, and information operations officer.

In 1990, he served in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm with 4-37 Armor 1st Division as a legacy. His grandfather was in World War II.

He left Active Duty in 1994, becoming a psychological operations officer with the 10th PSYOP Battalion in St. Louis, Missouri. Then, in 2007, Mr. Speaker, he deployed again to Iraq until 2008.

After that, King remained committed to serving his fellow veterans. He worked as a veteran service officer with the Missouri Veterans Commission for over 10 years and recently took on an additional duty of appeals specialist.

Right now, he serves as military services coordinator for the Department of Veterans Affairs at Fort Leonard Wood. There, he provides veterans and servicemembers with the information they need to fully understand the comprehensive assistance and benefits available to them.

He is a devoted father, devoted husband, grandfather to one, and papa to a crew of dogs, cats, and fish.

I congratulate our August Veteran of the Month, Major King, and I thank him for his service. Major King makes Missouri's Fourth Congressional District and America proud.

Mr. Speaker, I wish my colleagues on both sides of the aisle a safe and productive time working in their district, reconnecting with their families, and making memories.

God bless this body, and God bless the United States of America.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, sometimes I come behind these microphones and often what I share, what I need to share—it is my therapy—is a bit dour, and it is sometimes fun to listen to someone who actually is happy and joyous.

Now that the uplifting portion of this program is over, let's get to the facts.

The number, \$35 trillion, guess when we hit it. We should be very excited and proud of ourselves. We did something that so many economists said we would never get to this quickly. My math says, this coming Friday, 3 p.m., the United States gross debt will cross over \$35 trillion.

Now, understand that is not the way Europeans calculate our debt. They calculate our debt dramatically higher because of our obligated unfunded liabilities, but watch the Treasury, Friday, about 3 p.m., post up a number, \$35 trillion. We did it. Congratulations.

How many people have you heard come find the microphone today or this week understanding and wanting to talk about that? What we have gotten is people coming behind the microphone and not telling the truth. We all want to protect Social Security. The way you protect Social Security is you know the math and how it actually works.

□ 1200

We are on track in a decade to double senior poverty. God forbid if any of us tell the truth about math because the truth gets you unelected and a bunch of really angry ads at home, so this place runs around and avoids telling the truth.

Let's walk through another little factoid. My math basically says this year 45.68 percent of all the income tax collections, receipts your government takes in, just cover the cost of interest.



I have been coming from behind the microphone and saying interest in 2024, this fiscal year, would be somewhere around a little less than \$1.2 trillion. I apparently have that wrong. It is probably going to come in at about \$1.140 to \$1.160 trillion. Either way, I am off a fraction, but 45.68 percent of every dime we are collecting in your income tax now just pays interest.

I have tried to say it over and over and over at home and other places and you get people that just stare at you and go, huh?

Who really runs this government? Seriously, it is an honest question. I need you to think like adults, maybe those who actually went to a finance class.

Who actually now runs this government? I am going to argue the debt markets, the bond markets from around the world. If you have to bring almost \$10 trillion to market this fiscal year—2, 2.25 trillion virgin new issues because we are borrowing—that is like \$75,000 to \$80,000 a second right now. The economy is good. The actual baseline data on GDP is good, and you are still burning almost \$80,000 a second in borrowing.

What happens the second you have a U.S. debt auction that is undersubscribed or there are not enough people there? What happens to U.S. interest rates? How much of the world goes into depression? Are we going to talk about that?

Oh, God, no. No, because that would require math. That would require being serious.

We passed a bill here earlier today. I voted no on it. They worked hard on it. They lowered the top-line spending, but you have got to deal with a really uncomfortable discussion: every dime a Member of Congress votes on is borrowed.

Let's process that. Every dime a Member of Congress votes on is borrowed and, depending on some of the projections, about a quarter of Medicare.

Social Security has its own trust fund. It runs out in like 9, 10 years, and then we have got to figure out what is going to happen there. We will continue to get Democrats coming behind the microphone lying about it, which makes it almost impossible to actually lay out the math and try to fix it.

Remember, raising the cap, doing the Democrats' plan of \$400,000 and up and just raising the cap, only covers about 38 percent of the shortfall.

You had the President in that debate last month saying if we just tax rich people 1 percent more—and I have a chart in here that will show it is a fraction of a fraction of a fraction of the shortfall. Remember, if you take \$400,000 and up, the Democrats' definition of rich, and you tax them at 12.4 percent, you will only cover 38 percent of the shortfall.

This is the nature of our discussion. When every dime a Member of Congress votes on is borrowed, is it moral to borrow money here to send it to entities

around the country, even though there are many programs I love? I think they are the right thing. I just think the way we finance it isn't. Is it right to send cash to that city, to that State, to that county, and they have their own taxing authority? They may have more cash in the bank than we do as a percentage.

Do you borrow money? That is what we are doing today; we are borrowing money. The crazy thing is when you do the adjustment for the ability for interest to be tax exempt from municipal debt, we have municipalities in this country that have a better credit rating than the United States.

Remember, Greece can sell a 10-year bond cheaper than the United States today. We are number 14 on the credit stack, meaning there are 13 other countries that can sell 10-year bonds cheaper than the United States.

If you read the instruments, if you read the Moody's, the S&P's, their documents and their reps and warranties and their analysis on U.S. debt, they don't trust this place. They do not believe Congress. We are supposed to be the adults in the room. We make policy. The White House carries it out.

Remember that little thing, the Constitution. Maybe someone should try reading it. They don't trust us, and they have no reason to trust us.

How much discussion have you heard, anyone that has been listening to these microphones this week, heard people like me—which maybe I am just an idiot for actually giving a damn—get behind these microphones and actually walk through the math and explain there is a way we keep our promises.

There is a way we meet our obligation from the earned benefits. There is a way to make this work. You don't have a lot more time to keep screwing around, but if you do it in the next 3, 4 years, this is another American century.

I have my 8-year-old sitting over here. I also have a 2-year-old. My wife is exactly my age. Yes, I am pathologically optimistic. The math says her generation will be the first generation to live poorer than her parents. Great morality, Madam Speaker. I am very proud of us.

Madam Speaker, I thank anyone that listens to my diatribes here. I think this is almost like my therapy session because I get angry all week long listening to the absurdity and people saying things that mathematically have no basis in fact.

One hundred percent of the debt—and this makes everyone angry, and it is factual—100 percent of the U.S. debt from today through the next 30 years is demographics. Huh? What are demographics? This is your country's leadership. It is demographics. We got old as a society and we didn't set aside the resources to keep our promises.

Since 1990, U.S. fertility has been falling. I won't use the word collapsing, but last year, we estimate, 2023, 1.63 percent, maybe 1.62 percent fertility.

Meaning, the United States now has fewer children than much of Europe.

Now, tell me how I build a pay-as-you-go system to keep our promises to those who paid into Social Security, to those who paid into Medicare? Remember, the Medicare taxes you pay only cover about 38, 40 percent. Why don't we do this right now?

Social Security does not add to the U.S. debt technically but paying back the money that was borrowed from the Social Security trust fund does. There is some \$3 trillion that has been borrowed out, and for the last few years, every month, there are not enough tax collections coming in on the FICA tax, that 12.4 percent, to make the payments to Social Security recipients.

I want you just to visualize this. Every month, Social Security says: Hey, Treasury, I am holding a bunch of your bonds. You owe us some money and they cash them in, then Treasury goes and borrows money and pays interest for that borrowed money.

Social Security doesn't create the debt, but Treasury does because the Treasury has to go out and borrow money to pay back the money they have taken out of the Social Security trust fund.

If you add it all up, plus interest—forgive me, I am partially doing this off the top of my head. I calculate maybe \$6 trillion, 3-plus in principal, then over time the interest paid back is probably another 3.

How many times have you had anyone just try to be honest about it? It is not Republican math. It is not Democrat math. It is just math to be avoided because we are terrified to tell our voters the truth because we have lied to them for so long.

How many times have you had a Democrat go around here and say, what if we just tax rich people more? I have done entire presentations here and for those of us on the Republican side, if we just cut discretionary spending, damn it, I can come up with about \$300 billion in discretionary that can be cut down. They will be screaming, but that is still 1 percent of GDP.

For the Democrats, every tax hike they genuinely propose that could be executed, when adjusted for its economic effects, that would be about 1.5 percent of GDP. You have 1½ there on tax hikes, you got 1 percent in cuts over here. It is a big 2½ percent, right? Right? It is 2½ percent. We are borrowing 7 percent of the entire economy this year.

Madam Speaker, we are doing a great job. I guess part of my anger is, I love some of the people I work with here. They are smart. They care, but they run away from me when they see me coming because I want to talk about this stuff. This chart is the pie chart of America's spending.

Do you see this number? Seventy-four percent is in the red. The red doesn't get a vote from a Member of Congress. That is on autopilot. It is called mandatory. It is earned benefits.

Some of the benefits you get because you are part of a certain Tribal group or you fall below a certain income, but this is earned.

Do you see the blue? It is defense and nondefense. Every dime of defense is borrowed. Every dime of what we call nondefense discretionary is borrowed and a wedge of this over here is borrowed.

When we say net interest, I have tried to explain the difference between net interest and gross interest. Net interest this year will be \$892 billion. That is interest we pay to people out in the world: your pension fund, a nice family on the other side of the world, the union retirement fund over here. They buy U.S. debt.

The other debt is what we owe to the trust funds. We have borrowed the money from the trust funds, but we still have to pay it back. We still have to pay interest. It is one of the great cons we do in our budgeting here. Well, gross interest is only \$890 billion, Schweikert; why do you keep going around saying \$1.2 trillion?

Interest just this year is because of that other chunk of interest we have got to pay, and we are going to have to pay back the principal. The same as I just explained on how Social Security works.

Once again, if you are a Member of Congress and you are doing a townhall or putting out something and you are not showing this chart, you are not helping our brothers and sisters across the country understand how serious this election is, how serious putting people in office that will stop pandering to your need for a dopamine hit in your brain, but maybe own a calculator.

Once again, I can make this math work. You can't pretend that we can tax rich people, and we can just cut our way there. You may have to do a bit of both of those, but it is policy.

I have done presentation after presentation after presentation on how you could crash healthcare, how you could adopt artificial intelligence to reduce the size of this government dramatically and still have better customer service. How the mechanics of talent-based immigration could actually grow the economy but shutting down the border—stop importing competition to our working poor, making our working poor poorer.

You have got to think like an economist. The folks here want to talk down to you. They talk to you like you are a child and say, well, if we just did this, we would be fine. It doesn't work that way.

We are now so upside down debt-wise that unless you do something that is holistic with lots of moving parts, none of the math works. We are uncomfortable telling that truth.

Let's actually walk through a board I don't think I have ever shown before. Fiscal year 2024, here is where we are at to date. We have taken in \$3.755 trillion.

Do you see the red here? The red is the individual income tax. Your country is an income tax-based economic system where other countries may rely more on a value added tax, which is a really regressive tax and crushes the middle class.

□ 1215

The blue over here, when you start to look at that, we call it social insurance and retirement programs. It is Social Security. That is actually going out the door immediately, and we have to borrow some to cover it.

The blue over here is actually corporate income taxes. Remember, the United States, back in about the late eighties, early nineties, changed much of the corporate tax structure when we started having passthroughs. Do you remember LLCs, subchapter S, partnerships, those things? Much of what is corporate activity in the United States flows through to that individual tax line.

When you get the brain trust here that says we are going to raise corporate taxes, great, okay. Is that going to solve something?

We are trying to vet the paper I got the math from, but we have a paper from about a year or year and a half ago that said, in the 2017 tax reform we did, 67 percent of the corporate tax rate reduction went to wages.

When you have someone from the left who runs around here saying we are going to raise corporate taxes, what they are doing is basically screwing over the working men and women of the country. That is how it works.

When your wages go up, the old saying used to be it is inflation—that doesn't get you anything—or it is productivity because you built a tax code that said we can afford to buy the next better piece of equipment, build better processes, build better supply chains, become more productive, and workers get part of that.

Part of that productivity also is a tax system that maximizes economic vitality. Economic growth is moral. If we want to have fewer poor people in society, if we want to close income inequality, don't do it through transfer payments. We have data over data that many of the transfer payments, at the end of the decade, make people poorer because you dissociate their lives from being part of the society, part of work. The secret is having an economy that grows, that needs them. Getting economics right is moral.

This is the reality. Do you see these tiny little wedges there? That is excise taxes. Some will think of it as tariffs, when you actually see some miscellaneous. Society is functionally financed by income tax. This is FICA, and this is corporate.

Mark my words—and I will probably be long gone from this place—because of what the Democrats are doing policy-wise and, honestly, the Republicans' unwillingness to actually do tough things, at the end of this decade,

we are all going to be having a discussion of having a national VAT, a value-added tax, just like the rest of the world.

All of the crap discussion that it is not progressive enough, that it is regressive and hurts working men and women, working men and women are going to get their heads kicked in because it is the only way to start to confiscate enough resources from people.

Let's actually talk through and knock down some of the craziness that keeps being said around here. This is a brand-new chart for me: U.S. fiscal dynamics, now and then. We are going to go way back. Let's actually do from 1984 to 2023 and then current.

Our tax revenues are up. We are taking in more receipts. Technically, they are not revenues. Revenues are what you earn. Receipts are what you confiscate. That is just a little bit of tax lingo there.

You see tax receipts are up, but our spending is way up. When you see the white line over here, deficits, it is just basically the derivative of tax receipts are up, but we are spending faster than those receipts are going up. Therefore, you get a deficit.

If someone says those 2017 tax cuts—no, tax receipts are up. I have another chart I am going to show. Corporate tax rates, corporate tax collections—don't think about the rate; it is about what you take in—are actually above the mean.

How much of this spending is the Orwellian-named Inflation Reduction Act? The Democrats lost their mind when we did 2017 tax reform. Remember, it was actually a few trillion dollars—\$5 trillion, \$5.5 trillion—but functionally \$4 trillion of it was also covered, direct taxes.

We just moved things around to maximize productivity. It was about getting companies to move back to the United States, move their organizations, their intellectual property, the things they were making money on, getting them back to the United States. We had to become competitive in the world again.

The other \$1.5 trillion, the Democrats say that is the driver of the debt. No, it is not. It turns out it wasn't \$1.5 trillion. The latest data is almost \$900 billion of that has been covered by economic growth. Yet when the Democrats controlled this place in the last session, they dropped \$2 trillion in subsidies, handouts, to big business. All of that is borrowed money.

When was the last time that a reporter actually covered this fairly? When was the last time you met a reporter who owned a calculator? The public has no understanding of what is going on out there.

I keep trying to provide this chart over and over. This is U.S. Government revenues. The sign should say "receipts." This is mislabeled. Green is individual income taxes. Remember, we are mostly an individual income tax country. When you see spikes like this,

this is the dot-com bubble of 1999, 2000, 2001, the dot-coms. That is capital gains.

This spike here is actually people were getting lots of COVID money, so it was direct spend from the Federal Government. We borrowed it, gave it to them, and they had to pay taxes on it.

This line here, the blue, is FICA taxes. That is your Social Security and Medicare—very stable.

Down here, this is corporate taxes. Do you see the line? Remember, this is the regime of the new corporate tax rate since 2017. Tax receipts, the actual tax dollars, are up. It is above the mean of the last couple of decades.

We need vitality, dynamism. There are lots of things we can do policy-wise. The United States is becoming a bit more of an oligopoly. Many of our businesses are becoming far too big and far too protectionist. That is government. Government likes big organizations because they are easier to manipulate to get them to do what they want. Here is a subsidy, wink, wink, nod, nod. Engage in our social policy, engage in our political policy, and we are going to hand you billions.

Instead, what you do is tax reform for everyone. Knife fight, battle it out, the best product, the most dynamic company, the one who moves the fastest and most innovative wins. That is the way a market economy is supposed to work.

Instead, now our brothers and sisters on the left here go behind these microphones and use: Our industrial policy is this. Our planned economy is this.

I keep waiting for them to build a 5-year plan and hold up little red cards. If you don't get that reference, go look it up.

This is the driver of the debt. Remember, I showed tax receipts are up, but our spending is up more. Where is that spending? It is in what we call mandatory.

In many ways, this isn't Republican or Democratic. It is what we are as a society. We calculate in about 10 years, 22 to 23 percent of our population will be 65 and up. The politics will weaponize that very sentence I just gave, but it is math. It is what we are. It is demographics. We are having and have had, for the last couple of decades, dramatically fewer children. We got older. If we tell the truth about that, we can look at what the cost driver is. Then, folks come in and say: Well?

Almost all the cost driver is interest and healthcare costs. A decade from now, when the Social Security trust fund is gone, do we backfill it? The brain trust here will say: Let's do this. We will do the ACA, ObamaCare, the Republican alternative, or Medicare for All.

Those are financing bills. Once again, if our body here would tell the truth, that is who gets subsidized and who has to pay. They don't change what we pay.

Technology, cures, disruptions are better ways to do it, but we keep much

of the technology that could crash the price of healthcare here illegal because there are armies of lobbyists in our hallways who don't want to compete against your ability to use technology to keep yourself and your family healthier.

I have been able to attach a handful of AI and algorithm bills to provide customer service at the IRS, the VA, or other things, and then we have gotten hate from the government employees unions.

The fact of the matter is, it is moral. It would be better customer service for our constituents. It would be faster, better, and cheaper. The fact of the matter is, there is no pension with it.

There are solutions that are not tax or cut and burn. It is a policy. This place won't engage in the policy because we are afraid. We are protectionists. We are protectionists of the government bureaucracies and incumbent business models.

Is that Republican or Democratic? It is math. Not going to bother you with that.

Madam Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MALOY). The gentleman from Arizona has 23 minutes remaining.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, for those trying to take down my words, I am sorry for talking so fast.

Tax revenues are projected to be billions of dollars. Once again, I want to make the point that individual income taxes are projected to be up dramatically. Payroll taxes are up fairly substantially. Corporate income taxes are fairly healthy. Other types of receipts are also up.

Where I really want to get back to is trying to make this point, and then we are going to do some actual tax history.

This is from the CBO, Congressional Budget Office. This is not Republican or Democratic. It is math. One hundred percent of the next 30 years of debt is healthcare and interest, and then, in 10 years, if we backfill Social Security. The rest of the budget is calculated to have an almost \$9 trillion positive balance.

When was the last time this place actually was willing to have one of the most difficult discussions? About a month, month and a half ago, the Joint Economic economists on the Republican side took the leap and told the truth. We wrote a detailed report about demographics, tax policy, maximizing economic growth. Then we talked about health.

This is where I get the crap kicked out of me for telling the truth. Obesity in the detailed line item—and we spent months and months working on these numbers and vetting them—could be as high as \$9.1 trillion of additional healthcare costs over the 10 years.

Having a society where we are about to have the fifth year in a row where prime-age males are dying younger, is that moral? Having a society where we

calculate, in 3 to 4 years, 50 percent of America will be obese, is that moral?

What we do in the farm bill, what we do in nutrition support, and what we do in trying to have a healthier society, is that Republican or Democratic?

I often accuse my Democratic friends of wanting to engage in policy to maintain people's misery, where others, at least myself, want to cure the misery. I want to end the misery, cure diseases, move the types of investment but also the policies so the FDA can use technology to bring cures to market faster. We have a whole portfolio of these ideas. Not one of those was a tax. Not one of those was a major cut.

We calculate that 16 percent of all U.S. healthcare, \$600 billion, is people not staying on their statin or taking their insulin improperly or their calcium inhibitors so they are having a stroke.

There is a 99-cent pill bottle cap that beeps at you, and I can't get a damn hearing on that for years. These are simple ideas that could crash the price of healthcare.

□ 1230

Our society is dying. In 15 years, we calculate that we have more deaths than births. Oh, but that doesn't work in the next election. That is not what I am going to use in my propaganda. The attack ads that are going to come at you, SCHWEIKERT, well, we are going to say you mentioned the words Social Security and Medicare, but we are going to lie that you are one of the few idiots here trying to find a mathematical way to save it. This place is absolutely immoral.

I have done this before; I have tried to walk through the actual cost to the poor on what we are doing at our border. I will do this quickly. You are the individual or the couple who didn't finish high school. What you sell is your talents. You are willing to go out and hang drywall, you work yourself off as hard as you can, and then you get a White House that engages in border policy where millions of people with the same skill set as you have come in, and they consume the housing stock. You want to know why the lowest tiers, the least expensive housing has had some of the highest inflation, why they can't find a place to live, and now their wages are going down because you are competing against millions of people with the same skill set. The cruelty of the current border policy crushes the working poor.

Can we have a discussion like economists instead of "Well, you are immoral, you want to . . ." No. Then on the flip side, we have entire charts that talk about how talent-based immigration—and talent could be a skilled carpenter or synthetic biologist—grows the economy.

I will argue a number of the economic policies I propose I cannot make work math wise unless we actually—because in the 1970s, 1980s the world fought for hydrocarbons. Last decade

we fought for rare earths. I can build you the math model that says this decade and the next three decades, we are going to fight for smart people, the entire world. We educate people here, and then we send them away. Are we out of our minds?

Madam Speaker, I am going to skip a bunch of the boards and just try to close this out with just a couple more. This is 2023. Total outlays, total spending, \$6.1 trillion; total receipts, \$4.4 trillion. What is that? \$1.7 trillion borrowed. This year, borrowing is going to be about two-and-a-quarter, and this is a time when the economy is doing remarkably well. Now, it is subsidized, so it is basically a sugar high, but it is still doing well.

Now, our problem is, in 2023, gross interest was about \$700 billion. This year, we are heading toward \$1.14 trillion, \$1.16 trillion, but this differential here, almost every dime of that \$1.7 trillion borrowing, the growth on it—now, much of it is Inflation Reduction Act, the shortfall from tax reform, but we have never been given the run to show how it is growing tax receipts. I am showing you even corporate tax receipts where the different rates are up.

It turns out it is healthcare and interest now. As we are moving back to more normalized interest—How many of you live in a fantasy world where you think interest rates are going back to 0? You realize the current interest rates on 10-year notes still aren't at historic norms when you take away the years of suppression on the rate.

For my brothers and sisters on the left, who like to say, well, you gave away to rich people, today, the rich, as defined by you, pay a higher percentage of Federal income taxes than they did before. The Republican tax reform was more progressive than the previous Tax Code.

When we get to some of the other charts, here is my chart showing that President Biden in the debate said something insane about covering Social Security. Let me see if I can find one. In 10 years, gross debt will be \$56.8 trillion.

However, here is one of the points I desperately want to make. Historically, when we have had very high marginal rates, we get 17.6, 18, 18.2 percent of GDP in taxes. When we have had very low marginal rates, we get 17.6, 18.2 percent of the economy in taxes because the economy changes in growth. When you look at it, the black line is receipts, revenue. The line above it is interest and healthcare.

When our friends keep saying, well, we are going to tax the rich more. Great, but I have already shown you if every tax worked absolutely to its maximum efficiency, you get a point and a half, a percent of GDP, and we are borrowing 7 this year.

We will make this the last one. Until we are actually willing to first have the same definitions of here is the drivers of debt, here is the innovations we are willing to bring into our society,

this is our future, our future is just absolutely crushing, and it is percentages of GDP. We expect Social Security and Medicare outlays, as we start to head to the 30-year budget, 17.6 percent of the entire economy, where revenues are 6.3. Okay, no one has any idea what you are talking about. My basic point is, today through the next 30 years, it is demographics. It is mostly healthcare, and then the cost of financing that shortfall.

Helping people live longer, live healthier, live freer of disease is moral. It isn't Republican moral, Democrat moral, it is just moral, and yet every piece of legislation I have brought here over the last few years can't get a hearing or gets shot down because the bureaucracy despises it. The interest groups care more about their money than they care about my 8-year-old's future.

There is a path where the math can be made to work, but for everyone around here, you think there is a simple solution. My father used to have this great saying, for every complex problem, there is a simple solution. That is absolutely wrong. We will have to do complexity to save our future, save my retirement, save my children.

We have put it on paper. We have done economic modeling; we have had multiple Ph.D. economists do the math. There is a way it works. Will this place step up and buy a calculator and put batteries in it and then sit down with those of us who want to save our future and make this another American century? Instead, we run around terrified from doing what is hard.

Madam Speaker, thank you for the therapy session of letting me vent. I am going to bite my tongue from saying what I have to say, but I am going to throw one last thing. There are a number of people who watch these presentations on YouTube. Half the comments are bots, they are fake, they are Russian troll farms. Half the remaining half are people who care more about saying ideological insanity, but there is about a quarter of them that help, that actually have sometimes brilliant ideas, are engaged in saying, what if you did this, what if you looked at that? We are diving into ideas on things of consolidation, things that are mandatory. Those ideas actually came from the population that has been willing to watch these presentations over the years.

One of my last great hopes is when I would do these economic presentations 5 years ago, 12 people would watch them. Today, I will have several hundred thousand. Maybe, just maybe, Democrats, Republicans, the people who are Independents are tired of being treated like children, and they are ready for us to start talking to them like honest brokers of policy.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOONEY).

Mr. MOONEY. May I inquire how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 9½ minutes remaining.

#### TAX NEUTRALITY FOR MONETARY METALS

Mr. MOONEY. Madam Speaker, my constituents are getting crushed by inflation caused by out-of-control Washington spending, which reduces the purchasing power of their dollar.

Many Americans turn to gold and silver for a better store of value, yet the IRS classifies gold and silver as "collectibles" alongside artwork and baseball cards, which subjects them to a punitive 28 percent capital gains tax, despite the U.S. Constitution affirming gold and silver as money. The IRS does not let taxpayers deduct losses they suffer from holding U.S. dollars, so it is unfair to assess a capital gains tax when citizens hold gold and silver to protect against inflation.

My legislation, H.R. 8279, the Monetary Metals Tax Neutrality Act, would end the Federal income taxation of gold, silver, and bullion, and I urge my colleagues to support this common-sense measure.

#### PERMANENTLY ALLOW LOCALIZED HIRING AUTHORITY AT HAZELTON FEDERAL PRISON

Mr. MOONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to call on the Bureau of Prisons to permanently allow for localized hiring authority at the Hazelton Federal Prison in Preston County, West Virginia, in my district.

The prison has struggled for years to fill critical staffing shortages, which has resulted in unsafe conditions for both correctional officers and inmates.

I helped lead the charge for the authorization of retention bonuses at the facility and am pleased that the Bureau of Prisons has authorized local hiring to speed up the process and provide jobs for hardworking West Virginians.

Prior to this authorization, applicants were required to apply through the Bureau of Prisons headquarters in Texas. This bureaucratic process slowed down and discouraged hiring. Local hiring authority has already resulted in a class of seven new officers, which are desperately needed at this facility, which doesn't have enough people there.

I join the correctional officers' union in calling for this authority to be made permanent as the prison works to fill the 90-officer shortage.

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

#### ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, we have someone running for President, a former President, who claims that there were no deaths of our soldiers in Afghanistan for 18 months under his Presidency. Clearly false. Identified as false. We will see the statistics. We see

that 163 of our best and finest died in Afghanistan during the Trump Presidency, and they died in every year he was in office.

Now, more died under the Obama administration, but at least under the Obama administration, we got something. We got bin Laden. Let us not forget that on 9/11 we lost more Americans than Pearl Harbor, we lost more Americans on American soil than had been lost at any time since 1865.

□ 1245

Madam Speaker, 163 of our soldiers and marines died in Afghanistan under Trump, and what did we get for it? Did Trump leave Afghanistan better than he found it? Did Trump leave Afghanistan at all? No.

The Afghanistan he left his successor was identical to what he inherited from his predecessor, but 163 Americans died. He left the withdrawal, knowing it was very difficult, to the Biden administration, and then the attack is that we lost 12 soldiers under the Biden administration. We lost 163 under Trump. He did not leave Afghanistan better than he found it. He did not leave Afghanistan at all.

While focused on 9/11, we have to remember Dr. Afridi, the Pakistani doctor who helped us get bin Laden and has been in a Pakistani jail for a decade and a half since then. We should leave no man behind, and certainly not Dr. Afridi.

There have been proposals to trade Dr. Afridi for Dr. Siddiqui, a terrorist who tried to kill Americans, but didn't kill any Americans, who is now a mental patient in a prison hospital. We should make that trade whenever it becomes available.

Pakistan, right now, is in a period of unrest. We have to demonstrate our dedication to democracy and human rights around the world and particularly in Pakistan.

Yesterday, I got a commitment from the State Department official who deals with all of our policies in South Asia to consider directing Ambassador Blome to go visit Imran Khan in jail. For this man, a former prime minister—more votes than anyone else in Pakistan—a demonstration by the United States that this statesman should not be killed in prison is very important.

#### CONDEMNING ANTI-ISRAEL, PRO-HAMAS DEMONSTRATIONS

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I join Vice President HARRIS in condemning yesterday's anti-Israel, pro-Hamas demonstrations.

The demonstrators may not know that their leaders are funded by Iran and Qatar, which fund the organizations and the propaganda. These same leaders glorified October 7. They rejoiced at the death of every Israeli civilian.

They condemned Israel on October 7 before Israel had done anything to respond because their demonstrations were not about whether Israel should

not respond. Their demonstrations were a glorification of the death brought by Hamas.

Now, the followers chant, "From the river to the sea," but some of them don't even know which river, which sea. What they don't know is the background of that slogan, "From the river to the sea, Palestine shall be free." It is a declaration that every Jew who lives from the river to the sea should be killed or ethnically cleansed.

Since, as we saw in the 1930s, there is no country that wants to accept millions of Jewish refugees, that means they should all be killed. That is the chant that we hear, "From the river to the sea."

Prior to October 7, we needed to see a two-state solution, and I hope we get there, but there is this effort to convey the life of those who lived in Gaza as being somehow equivalent to the Rohingya refugees, refugees living in camps in Bangladesh.

The fact is that those living in Gaza had longer life expectancies than the average person in the world, considerably longer than those living in Russia, roughly equal to those living in Saudi Arabia. All of that was destroyed on October 7.

Hamas knew exactly what they were doing. They conducted this attack for the purpose of the response because they know they cannot achieve their political objectives, which, remember, is to expel or kill every Jew from the river to the sea.

They can't possibly achieve those objectives unless they massively change world opinion. They know and have said on the record in their own comments that every death of a Palestinian civilian helps them achieve their ugly purpose.

That is why we had, in our great Capital, the waving of the Hamas flag while they burned the American flag. Make no mistake about it, those who hate Israel also hate America. We see our statues desecrated, and we see a call by the demonstrators for the final solution. At least a few of them understand that "from the river to the sea" means killing 7 million Jewish Israelis.

#### PROBLEMS WITH CRYPTOCURRENCY

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, we have seen a discussion of cryptocurrency. It was the one thing the Biden-Harris administration agreed with Donald Trump on. We know that the Biden-Harris administration has been relatively tough on crypto, but here are the words of Donald Trump from 2019: "I am not a fan of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies, which are not money and whose value is highly volatile and based on thin air. Unregulated cryptoassets can facilitate unlawful behavior, including drug trade and other illegal activity. . . . We have only one real currency in the USA, and it is stronger than ever, both dependable and reliable. It is by far the most dominant currency anywhere in the world."

That is what Donald Trump said until he realized that he could get tens

or hundreds of millions of dollars from the crypto billionaire bros if he was willing to change his position, and that is exactly what he is doing.

He is going to the Bitcoin 2024 Nashville conference to pledge his allegiance to the bitcoin billionaires. You can be sure his campaign will get tens of millions—no, hundreds of millions into supersecret PACs to try to propagandize the American people. God only knows whether he will personally get tens or hundreds of millions of dollars in cryptocurrency. We will never know because, as I will explain, cryptocurrency is the favorite device, a well-tailored device, for those committing bribery and other crimes.

Some consultants have come to Vice President HARRIS—and thank God she has not yet taken the suggestion of these consultants—and told her to go to Bitcoin 2024 Nashville, and there will be hundreds of millions of dollars for her campaign.

Why do these bitcoin bros have so much money? Well, they are in the business of making money. Everybody else in business has to actually make a product and sell it to get money. With crypto, you just call it a currency, and it is money, and you make sure you have a billion coins for yourself before you sell the rest.

There are those in the Harris campaign or some outside the Harris campaign who will tell the Harris campaign, hey, the political thing to do is to get money from the crypto billionaires. The fact is that is not the case.

I have never seen a political year in which there is so much money available for candidates to communicate their messages. What will win in 2024 is not money but message.

The message has to be clear: Democrats don't sell out.

When Trump didn't see money on either side, he said he was not a fan of Bitcoin. Now, he is going to become a Bitcoin fanboy in Nashville. Our candidate won't sell out.

What is the risk posed by crypto? When the crypto bros tell you what they plan to do, you should believe them. Right now, crypto is just something interesting to bet on. You buy Ethereum today, maybe it is worth less tomorrow. Maybe it is more tomorrow. It seems as harmless as betting on the Dodgers or the Angels, but that is not the purpose of cryptocurrencies.

Cryptocurrencies aspire to be a currency. What have the crypto bros told us? That they plan to displace the dollar as a medium of payment and as a store of value, as a reserve currency.

How important is the dollar's current role as a reserve currency? Our fiscal policy, our budget deficit, is enormous. It would make Argentina blush. Our trade deficit is larger than any country in the history of the world, yet we continue to have a relatively prosperous country. We do that because of the role the dollar plays in international finance because the dollar is the reserve currency for everywhere around the world.

The bitcoin billionaire bros say, hey, that is a good idea. It supports the lifestyle of over 300 million Americans. Maybe we can divert those profits to ourselves. They tell you upfront they want to challenge the dollar's role.

If that role is successfully, even partially, challenged, we will have to cut expenditures, including Social Security. We will have to raise taxes. We will be in a very difficult circumstance.

I know people come here and say that we are going to have a balanced budget. We last had that under Clinton. Nobody has proposed a system for getting there anytime soon.

Yet, it is not just a potential reserve currency. It is designed to be a payment system. Now, how is it going to be better than the dollar? Well, it is electronic. So is Venmo. So is a host of other things that already exist.

I am sure that millions of transactions will take place where people are buying things today using the U.S. dollar in an electronic system. Most people can go a week or several weeks without touching a paper dollar or paper check. What is the thing that the crypto bros think makes their currency better? It is not the fact that it is electronic. It is that it is a perfect device to evade the law. The crypto transactions are on the blockchain, but no one knows who owns any blockchain account.

It is the preferred method—growing method—for bribery, drug dealers, human traffickers. It is, though, particularly valuable to tax evaders. The goal, the self-expressed goal, of the crypto bros is that income tax will only be a tax on wages and maybe a bit of voluntary contributions from those who make their money elsewhere.

Trump's Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service testified that we have basically a trillion dollars a year of uncollected taxes, mostly from the very wealthy. That means they have to conceal \$3 trillion of income to avoid paying taxes or evade \$1 trillion of tax. That means, in every decade, we are talking \$30 trillion of assets that need to be concealed.

□ 1300

Cryptocurrencies are the perfect device to achieve that if they become currencies, if you can buy a yacht for a bitcoin or a bunch of bitcoins.

HARRIS will have a powerful issue in demonstrating that Trump knows full well that Bitcoin is a crock, that he sold out and that we won't, that her loyalty is to the American people who benefit from the role that the dollar plays in international transactions and as a reserve currency, that they benefit from a system in which we are able to collect taxes not just from those who get W-2 forms but from everybody who makes money in our society.

Now, I am not sure that the government will stop crypto, but I believe that crypto will stop crypto. There are a limited number of government currencies. You have a U.S. dollar. You

have a Uruguayan peso. The Uruguayan peso will always have value because there will always be a Uruguay. The U.S. dollar will always be more valuable in total than the Uruguayan peso because America will always be bigger.

There is no inherent value of any cryptocurrency. Sure, we have bitcoin, but why isn't hamster coin worth more than bitcoin? There is no particular reason.

We have hamster coin. I always thought it was a joke and said so in a hearing until my staff said: No, boss, there is a hamster coin. Then I said, what about cobra coin? Well, no. We have cobra coin. A cobra could eat a hamster, but there is already a cobra coin.

I said, well, gee, there could be mongoose coin, and I proposed it in a hearing as a joke. Lo and behold, by the end of the day, they had created mongoose coin, which leads to the question: What about skibidi coin? I thought that was a joke until I was told that there already is a skibidi toilet coin.

Once they make the skibidi coin, skibidi toilet movie, will skibidi coin go to the Moon? We don't know. Why is bitcoin more valuable than skibidi coin? It is today, maybe not after the movie.

The promoters of crypto say, well, there is a limited number of Ethereum. There is a limited number of bitcoin. You can't have anymore, but you can have an infinite number of competing coins.

There are roughly 200 countries in the world, not an unlimited number, and it is obvious that by the order those countries are in, Uruguay will always be smaller than the United States.

#### ENGINEERED INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I want to focus on engineered intelligence. There are two groups of engineers who are in a race that they don't know about.

One are the bioengineers creating new DNA, perhaps a new species. By the end of this century, who says they won't have a thousand-pound mammal with two 80-pound brains, which will probably beat my grandkids on the law school admissions test.

We all know even more about computer engineers, and we know the upside of artificial intelligence. We heard our good friend, JENNIFER WEXTON, address this House, thanks in part to artificial intelligence.

We are not going to stop artificial intelligence. Hopefully, we will make sure that it does not somehow lead to bias and discrimination, but we do have to make sure of one thing, that artificial intelligence remains a tool, not a creature.

We need to do the research so that we have the capacity to monitor for and to prevent artificial intelligence from becoming self-aware, developing volition, developing ambition, and developing a survival instinct.

I know it sounds like science fiction, but if somebody describes for you the future, and it seems like they are describing a science fiction movie, they might be right in their description of the future. If somebody describes the future, and it doesn't look like a science fiction movie, you know they are wrong.

Our kids and our grandkids are going to be living in a science fiction movie. We just don't know which one. I hope it is not "Terminator."

We need to take seriously not only how artificial intelligence can be used as a tool to carry out, hopefully, benign objectives of its human programmers, but we do have to also monitor whether artificial intelligence becomes a creature, a self-aware entity interested in its own survival, aware of its surroundings with volition and ambition.

#### NATION OF IMMIGRANTS

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I have cringed again and again when I have seen Republicans condemn immigrants by identifying individual crimes committed by individual immigrants.

Madam Speaker, imagine how much crime is committed in this country by bald people. All those crimes would be eliminated if bald people were somehow excluded from the country.

Every group has its saint and its sinners. You can turn to any group, God forbid bald people could be your choice, and identify individual criminals.

What I haven't heard is somebody coming to this floor and talking about the hundreds of thousands of lives of Americans who have been saved by immigrants, immigrants who are emergency medical technicians, home healthcare workers who are the difference between life and death for those they care for, those they feed, those they help prevent from falling, from our hospitals where you may have an immigrant as a janitor, preventing the spread of biological diseases throughout the hospital, or a hospital where you have the emergency room physician who is an immigrant.

Let us have a Republican come to this floor and say they don't care about the hundreds of thousands of Americans who are alive today because of the lifesaving work of immigrants.

Let us work toward a more sensible immigration system. We had a chance of getting there with the bipartisan bill that was being worked on in the Senate that would have brought order to our border. Instead, it was killed by Donald Trump, who was remarkably honest and simply declared that he didn't want us to solve the problem because as long as the problem was there, it helped his campaign.

Let us realize that we are a Nation of immigrants, that every group, including immigrants, includes both life-savers and includes those who commit crimes. Keep in mind that on a per capita basis, immigrants commit less crime than those of us who are native born.



Let us remember and praise all of the immigrants that have saved American lives and continue to do so today.

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

#### MAINSTREAM MEDIA ISSUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, let's address some problems that ought to be covered by our mainstream media, but I don't feel are adequately being covered. One more time, I would like to review what is going on at the border.

So the American citizens know, our fiscal year ends on September 30. Sometime in the next 2 months as information keeps flowing out from the administration on the number of people crossing our southern border, we are going to hit the all-time high in the number of immigrants who are coming here, what I believe to be the all-time high.

Right now, at the end of June, we have let in, in our current year, over 2.1 million immigrants. When the prior administration left, in his final year, we were probably around about 120,000. The American citizens ought to know, when we hit the all-time record, it was 20 times as many people who had crossed the southern border as who crossed the southern border in fiscal year 2020.

Of course, in addition to the skyrocketing high number, you have the huge cost of immigrants. Immediately when they come in, they are given school at probably 12 or 13 or \$15,000 a year. They are housed sometimes in hotels. They are fed. They are given free medical care or largely free medical care, as President Biden promised he would do when he ran for President 4 years ago.

I hope that when these final figures are released—they might be released in the middle of September, they might be released in the middle of October—the American public is immediately given time to digest the numbers.

This is also a humanitarian problem, in addition to a huge fiscal problem. It is a humanitarian problem in that along with this group, it appears as though we are going to approach—probably won't get there—but approach 90,000 unaccompanied minors.

Can you imagine a 10-year-old, a 12-year-old child, without either parent there, being let into the United States? They will try to find a foster parent, and maybe it will be a relative, maybe it won't be, although the Biden administration no longer does DNA tests to make sure if somebody claims to be an uncle or a parent that they really are.

There was a time we were upset about tiny numbers of people when their parents broke the law and they were separated from their parents for a

week, 10 days, or something. Here we have a situation in which we are going to have almost 90,000 unaccompanied minors separated from their parents for life. Talk about a humanitarian problem.

I should also point out that when we have an open border, people die making the dangerous trip—I have been at the border eight or nine times—be it drowning in the Rio Grande, be it drowning in the Pacific Ocean, or be it dehydrating in the Arizona heat.

Every year, people are dying because they think they can come to this country because President Biden has created the expectation that people can come in this country without concern.

I also want to point out, and I hate to be too tough on President Biden here because, of course, soon after he took office, he named KAMALA the border czar. I would have thought at the time she would be so grateful for the responsibility.

President Biden had rescued her from political oblivion after her Presidential run in 2020 came to naught, but when she was given this responsibility and opportunity to shine—and even if she didn't want the responsibility, Joe Biden gave it to her.

Our boss doesn't always assign us responsibilities we want to have, but it was interesting that for over 3 years, nothing at all was done with the responsibility. It looks like then Joe Biden had to step in and do a little bit of something.

It is something that as we go through our lives and the full impact of letting over 2 million people in this country every year hits this country, we remember the tandem of President Biden, and even more, Vice President HARRIS, who he assigned to solve this problem, what they did and the permanent crisis that we have.

I should also point out because sometimes when people talk about the border, they say, oh, people just have to get here, and we have always been a country of immigrants.

People should remember that if you look in 4-year increments, as far as I can tell, we are now hitting all-time records of legal immigrants coming in this country.

We have legal immigrants coming in at about 850,000 people a year. I don't think we talk about that as much as we should. We have 850,000 new citizens a year.

The other thing while I am talking about the number of new citizens coming here, I would like to touch on where the people are coming from. I touch on it because there are people who like to tear down America, you know, Eurocentric, that sort of thing.

I dug up where our new immigrants are coming from, and kind of from—it may be surprising to the people who like to run down America and talk about being racist, that sort of thing. In the most recent year that I could find, 2022, immigrants from Mexico are coming to the U.S. and being natural-

ized the most, then India, then Philippines, then Cuba, Dominican, Vietnam, China, Jamaica, El Salvador, Colombia, Pakistan, Haiti, Iran, South Korea, Nigeria, Bangladesh, and Brazil.

□ 1315

Those are the top 17.

Madam Speaker, do you notice anything about those 17 countries that are the leading countries in sending us immigrants?

None of them have a primarily European population. You have to get down to Britain where you come in at 18. The 17 countries that our new citizens are coming from the most are from all around the globe. None of them are from a primarily European country. I think that is something that we should tell our children and should be taught in class to counteract the people who like to run down America and scream racism, racism.

In any event, to summarize, I hope that when we hit the all-time record of people coming across the southern border, which is going to happen sometime in September or October, it is the banner headline in this country as well it should be.

The next issue that still has not been taken up but ought to be taken up is the large number of people in this country who are born into families in which they won't have a dad at home. Sometimes that is inevitable. However, it has changed America from a time when the Great Society kicked in until today.

There are over 70 programs in this country in which it is much easier to get government benefits if one is a parent not married to the other parent.

This is because we give out various things, food, medical care, and housing, if someone is perceived to be "in poverty." If they are married to somebody with an income, then they are not in poverty. There are over 70 programs that you are eligible for that if you are married and the other parent has an income, then you would lose that program.

You have a very generous earned income tax credit program that can get you \$7,000 or \$8,000; you have the food share program; you have, as I mentioned, the healthcare that you could lose if you married somebody with a decent income; and you have the rental assistance which can give you a benefit of over \$10,000 a year.

I don't know why politicians don't talk about it. I think it ought to be a subject for debate. There have always been people in this country who do not want children to be raised in what we call the old-fashioned nuclear family going back to Karl Marx and his disciples in the 1960s. His disciples are part of Black Lives Matter. It is not as if this decline in both parents at home happened in a vacuum. It happened I think because of government policies and the fact that there is a small but powerful group of Americans who wanted it to happen.

We should have an open discussion on these programs. It hasn't been done I think because the press does not adequately describe for the public the generosity that will be given somebody if they stack these programs on top of one another. Obviously, nobody takes advantage of all 70 programs, but there are a whole lot of people who take advantage of six or seven of these programs and put themselves in a position in which financially they do not want to live in a two-parent household.

In any event, these are a couple of the issues that I think have not been adequately covered in the newspapers. I hope they are in the future.

To summarize, again, I would like to see a banner headline when sometime in September or October we have numbers released when we hit the all-time high number of what we will call illegal immigrants coming in this country. I would like to see the newspapers do a better job of covering the fact that our current, what else to call them, welfare programs appear designed to discourage Americans from having children raised by a married couple.

I would like to have a little more information because when I ask people at random back home, they don't know the answer to these questions. I would like to have a little bit more publicity as to where the immigrants who are naturalized in this country are coming from because I think it would perhaps be a surprise to those people who like to educate our young people what a racist country we have when, in fact, the top 17 countries in which we get immigrants from are non-European countries.

I hope the press follows up on these what I think are vital issues.

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

#### SAVING SAN FRANCISCO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with an update on the condition of San Francisco, a city whose fate has been largely shaped by several politicians of prominence here in Washington, D.C. Foremost among them are Vice President KAMALA HARRIS and Speaker Emerita NANCY PELOSI.

I think it is important for all Americans to understand the tragedy of San Francisco and what has happened to one of America's most beautiful cities because the same radical failed policies that have caused San Francisco's decline and collapse are gaining increasing traction in Washington, D.C.

I want to go over just a few of the reasons why it is that as the San Francisco Chronicle put it last year, this city is "on the verge of collapse."

Indeed, in many ways, my entire State of California offers a preview of where our country has been headed, but

San Francisco offers an even starker warning. It is the part of our State where failed policies, radical politics, and public corruption are in their most advanced stage and where residents are most rapidly fleeing.

In an article headlined "San Francisco Falls Into the Abyss," UCLA economics professor Lee Ohanian writes: "No major American city has failed at the same level as Detroit, whose population dropped from 1.85 million people in 1950 to about 630,000 today. Move over Detroit, here comes San Francisco, which lost 6.3 percent of its population between 2019 and 2021, a rate of decline larger than any 2-year period in Detroit's history and unprecedented among any major U.S. city."

The city is declining faster than any major U.S. city in the history of our country. The reasons they are not a misery, foremost among them are crime, drug addiction, homelessness, waste, unaffordability, and failing schools, all a result of failed governance.

Let's just start with the crime situation in San Francisco, which is a city that has had a progression of self-described progressive prosecutors starting with now-Vice President HARRIS who has used that term to describe herself, progressive prosecutor, followed by others in her mold, George Gascon and then Chesa Boudin, who was ultimately recalled from office by voters.

On a State level, California law has essentially legalized many forms of crime, making theft of merchandise below \$950 a misdemeanor, as well as the possession of even class A drugs.

In practice, this means offenders are rarely, if ever, prosecuted, and, in many cases, businesses have stopped even reporting losses.

San Francisco's anti-law enforcement policies have compounded these problems. For example, a few years ago in 2020, San Francisco defunded the police shifting \$120 million away from law enforcement. If you park your car while in the city, the advice is just to leave the doors open and make sure there are no valuables inside. That will at least spare you the cost of replacing your windshield.

Last year, the Castro Merchants Association, representing 125 businesses wrote a scathing letter regarding the city's failure to address the lawlessness around them. One said: We are just seeing constant vandalism, constant drug use in public, people passed out on the sidewalk, people having psychotic breakdowns, it is just not something a small business owner should have to deal with.

On top of these general problems relating to crime, retail theft, and car thefts is the issue of drug use. Walking through San Francisco you will see open drug use and drug dealing with an open-air drug market scene that is so rampant that even last year Governor Gavin Newsom sent in the National Guard ostensibly to get it under control.

While California has among the highest rates of illegal drug use in the country. San Francisco is well above the national average with 22 percent of the population in the San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont area using an illegal drug in the last year. Tragically, the number of overdose deaths has skyrocketed from 222 to now 647 in a given year.

Things only got worse during the COVID shutdowns as far more people in the city died from overdoses than from COVID. Facing one of the most punishing lockdowns in the country, emergency room mental health visits increased substantially, especially for young people.

It certainly doesn't help matters that the supply of drugs is abundant thanks to the crisis at our border, largely overseen by this administration's border czar, Vice President KAMALA HARRIS.

It should be noted that San Francisco declared itself a sanctuary city long before California became a sanctuary State.

On that note, the current Vice President also played a starring role when she was district attorney abiding by the city's sanctuary policies. Then when she was the State's attorney general, she actually paved the way for California to become a sanctuary State by opposing a Federal law meant to stop sanctuary jurisdictions.

A third issue that one will confront immediately in San Francisco is the explosion of homelessness. This is very much connected to the crisis of crime, drug use, and mental health.

Once again, while California leads the Nation in homelessness, San Francisco is worst of all. Between 2005 and 2020, the number of homeless increased from 5,404 to 8,124. During that same period, homelessness declined significantly nationwide. Within a 3-year span, complaints of homeless encampments to the city's 311 line increased from 2 to 62 each and every day. Meanwhile, the share of the homeless population that is unsheltered has also gone up in recent years.

Fourthly is the waste situation. Between 2014 and 2018 in San Francisco, calls about human feces doubled to 20,933. \$100 million was spent on street cleaning in 2019 alone. In a 3-year span, the city replaced 300 lampposts corroded by urine. The overall condition in many areas is something that no American should ever have to experience, especially kids walking to school.

Speaking of kids, the San Francisco Unified School District has the second widest achievement gap of any school district in California with over 5,000 students. A CalMatters investigation from 2017 found that San Francisco had the worst Black student achievement rate of any county in California. Just 19 percent of Black students in San Francisco passed the State's reading test compared with 31 percent Statewide. This was before COVID. While California was last in the Nation in

getting students back to school, San Francisco was worst of all, keeping schools closed not only in 2020 but through the end of the 2020–2021 school year.

While they refused to actually operate schools, the district instead spent time on a commission to rename them, even proposing taking Abraham Lincoln's name off of an elementary school. The district then came up with a scheme to scam the State by pretending to open for the last 2 weeks of the school year in order to get millions of dollars in extra funding. Predictably, test scores have since plummeted even further.

The citizens of San Francisco, by the way, responded by recalling three of the school board members from office, each by over 70 percent of the vote.

□ 1330

A fifth issue is bureaucracy. It costs an estimated \$100,000 to build one tiny home for the homeless, 10 times more than even other places in the bay area. Almost \$1.2 million is the cost to build a single unit of affordable housing.

This is the city where it takes 87 permits, a thousand days of meetings, and \$500,000 in fees to build residential housing projects. San Franciscan politicians boast that they brought home the bacon when they brought home a \$1.7 million taxpayer-funded toilet.

As the San Francisco Chronicle puts it: "San Francisco's bureaucracy isn't just incompetent and comically inefficient. It is a corrupting force in our city life."

They say: "Spiritually, yes. But also literally." They call it "corruption born of needlessly complicated government bureaucracy."

The public transportation system is a model of mismanagement, with the Bay Area Rapid Transit facing a \$1.1 billion deficit over 5 years with trains that are dangerous to ride and that rarely show up on time. No wonder ridership has plummeted and they are projecting a \$728 million deficit for the city as a whole over a span of 2 fiscal years.

Finally, there is the cost of living. A survey from the Economist Intelligence Unit found that San Francisco is 1 of the 10 most expensive cities to live in, in the world. The average rent for a one-bedroom apartment is over \$3,500. According to data from the California Association of Realtors, a San Franciscan needs to make nearly \$400,000 to buy a median-income home. The cost of utilities, groceries, and other goods is also well above the national average.

The city has simply become unaffordable for far too many people.

Now, this is the political situation. This is the reality on the ground in San Francisco, and it is directly linked to the political culture of radicalism that has developed in that city over the course of the last, say, one and a half decades. What is truly alarming is that many of the people who have had

positions of leadership, like Gavin Newsom, KAMALA HARRIS, and NANCY PELOSI, have assumed greater power over our State and over our country.

Indeed, California has seen its own population decline significantly. In fact, we led the Nation in outbound U-Haul rentals over the course of 4 years. Many of those problems I just discussed for San Francisco started to become problems for the entire State and are indeed now starting to become problems for the entire country.

I personally believe it is not too late to turn that particular city around. For proof, look at the communities of my district. While California as a whole is declining and 53 out of 58 of its counties are declining, the vast majority of my district is growing. Placer County and Folsom, for instance, are growing as much as anywhere in the State. Our communities are rated among the best in California to live, raise a family, and retire.

While California, as I said, leads the Nation in U-Haul departures, Roseville is the second-place city in the entire country in U-Haul arrivals. Many of the people leaving San Francisco, in fact, come to my district for safer communities, a more affordable cost of living, better schools, and an overall quality of life.

We still face headwinds of misguided policies enacted on the State level, but we strive to use the tools of local governance and community partnerships to do what is best for our citizens. This is the model that our State should strive for, and it is the model that many other States are following. It is the model for our country to reverse the policies that have gotten us so off track in 3 years.

If we are going to get ourselves back on the right trajectory as a country, then we should, indeed, look to San Francisco as a model, but it is a model of precisely what not to do.

#### ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I share some news out of California just today where Governor Gavin Newsom has issued an executive order for State officials to begin dismantling thousands of homeless encampments on State properties and also encouraging local jurisdictions to do the same thing.

Mr. Speaker, this is in response to the Supreme Court's recent decision in the Grants Pass case. I asked the Supreme Court to do what it did in an amicus brief—that is to say, overturn a misguided Ninth Circuit decision and give our communities back the power to deal with homeless encampments and to have commonsense limits on the public spaces where they can be.

It is important to note that Governor Newsom did not join me in those efforts. He did file his own brief, but he explicitly opposed overturning this lower court decision that has handcuffed our local communities' ability to deal with homelessness.

I am glad to see now that the decision came out as it did and the Court

sided with my view as opposed to his, he is seeing the benefits of the decision and is apparently ordering the State to deal with homeless encampments in as much as it can within its jurisdiction and encouraging local jurisdictions to do the same.

I know that, in my district, we already have had communities that have done a very good job limiting homelessness within the constraints that they have, but this decision is going to provide a new set of tools to address the problem in a more comprehensive and compassionate way.

There are other parts of California, such as San Francisco, where the homeless situation has gotten totally out of control. At least to their credit, some of the political leaders there have now realized that they no longer have an excuse now that the Supreme Court has ruled.

Mayor London Breed of San Francisco has announced she will be undertaking "very aggressive" sweeps of homeless encampments in that city. We are also hearing of action coming soon potentially in Oakland and in other cities across California.

I did an amicus brief in this case, calling on the Court to rule as it did because I believed it could be a new day for California. The issue of homeless encampments on our streets and sidewalks, in our parks, and on the paths of families walking their children to school or going to the grocery store has been one of the biggest problems facing our State. It has been causing communities to deteriorate. It has been associated with crime, sexual assault, waste, fires, disease, and many other problems.

It has also manifested a complete lack of compassion for the homeless individuals themselves who oftentimes don't go to shelters when available because they are struggling with substance abuse issues and mental health issues.

This Court decision is giving back to our communities the ability to place commonsense restrictions on where homeless encampments can set up in order to protect order, safety, and public health while also allowing the tools to connect these individuals with the services they need to turn their lives around, whether that is substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, other forms of counseling, family reunification, job training, and the like.

It has been shown time and time again that that is the way to help people turn their lives around and get back on their feet, whereas allowing people to simply live, fester, and all too often tragically die on our streets has proven to be a disastrous policy. Indeed, it has gotten to the point where California, at this time, has about half the unsheltered homeless in the entire country.

I do believe that this Court decision that has just come down, combined with our efforts to restore consequences for criminal activity with

what is now being called Prop 36, really can be a path back to sanity and a new day for California.

I am glad to see that the Governor has at least recognized the potential of this Court decision, and I encourage him to make good on these promises to deal with the State's own issues when it comes to State property and provide encouragement for local jurisdictions to do the right thing while respecting their autonomy and flexibility to meet the needs of their communities as they see best.

#### HONORING LOU CONTER

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, a few months ago, we lost a true hero in my district, Lou Conter, who passed away at the age of 103 and was the last survivor of the attack on the USS *Arizona* at Pearl Harbor.

I have just introduced legislation to honor the memory of Commander Conter by naming the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Auburn, California, as the Lou A. Conter VA Clinic.

I will share with folks in my district and across the country, since this is a true American hero, the text of this resolution.

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

"Louis 'Lou' Anthony Conter was born on September 13, 1921, in Ojibwa, Wisconsin.

"Lieutenant Commander Lou Conter, the last remaining survivor of the attack on the USS *Arizona* at Pearl Harbor, was an American hero.

"On that fateful day, Petty Officer Conter helped evacuate shipmates who were blinded, wounded, or burned, even restraining some of his fellow shipmates from jumping overboard into the burning sea.

"In the days after the attack, he helped with recovering bodies and putting out fires. Lou Conter's heroic actions saved the lives of many of his shipmates on December 7, 1941.

"Following Pearl Harbor, Conter continued serving during World War II in New Guinea and in Europe as an enlisted naval aviation pilot assigned to VP-11, a 'Black Cat' Squadron.

"Lou Conter would be awarded with the Distinguished Flying Cross for actively taking part in the rescue of 219 Australians trapped by Japanese troops in New Guinea.

"Later, in the Korean war, he served on the USS *Bon Homme Richard* as both an intelligence officer and a Navy aviation pilot. Following his service in the Korean war, he served as a military intelligence adviser to three Presidents: Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, and Lyndon B. Johnson.

"During the 1950s, Lou Conter played a prominent role in the establishment and development of the Navy Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape training program.

"In addition to the Distinguished Flying Cross, he was awarded the Navy

Commendation Medal and became the first recipient of the USS *Arizona* Medal of Freedom.

"Louis Conter retired from the Navy in 1967 after serving 28 years as a lieutenant commander.

"Following his retirement, he generously gave his time to share his personal experiences at veterans' ceremonies and by giving lectures to students.

"Lieutenant Commander Conter's lectures were popular with generations of local students who were equally fascinated and enthralled by his first-person accounts.

"He is eminently deserving of recognition for his decades of service to a grateful nation.

"Lieutenant Commander Conter passed away in Grass Valley, California, on April 1, 2024.

"The Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Auburn, California, shall after the date of the enactment of this act be known and designated at the 'Louis A. Conter VA Clinic.' Any reference to such clinic in any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States shall be considered to be a reference to the Louis A. Conter VA Clinic."

#### COMMENDING INTERNS

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, on National Intern Day, I recognize my three summer interns, who graciously came all the way from the great State of California to our Nation's Capital to serve in my Washington, D.C., office.

Amelia Sanchez recently graduated from Long Island University and was also a student athlete who shares a passion for public service. I commend her for the hard work that she has done, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

The second intern I commend is Kevin Scanlan from Grass Valley, California, who recently completed his freshman year at Harvard. He previously distinguished himself as one of my top-performing interns during my 2022 election campaign for the House. His outstanding contributions were recognized statewide in California, culminating in the 2023 Kinder Award for exceptional campaign internship experience.

Following his graduation from Forest Lake Christian High School, Kevin pursued his studies in economics and government at Harvard College. He is deeply passionate about local governance and remains dedicated to fully representing and advocating for constituents to the best of his abilities.

Finally, I commend one of my longest-serving interns, Raghava Kodavatikanti. Raghava is a resident of Folsom, California, and recently wrapped up his freshman year at UCLA.

Even throughout his academic success, Raghava interned with my office while I was in the California Legislature and served in my district office last summer.

I truly could not be prouder of these three young men and women who have been outstanding public servants and have done such a tremendous job for our office. They have tremendously positive attitudes. They are smart. They are dedicated. They understand the importance of the work they do, the responsibility that comes with working for a congressional office, and the responsibility that runs between us and constituents.

I look forward to hearing all about their academic success and look forward to following what is to come next in their respective futures.

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

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 227.—An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Pecos Division of the Western District of Texas, and for other purposes.

S. 1973.—An act to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government.

S. 3249.—An act to designate the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas, as the "Captain Elwin Shopteese VA Clinic".

S. 3285.—An act to rename the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Butte, Montana, as the "Charlie Dowd VA Clinic".

S. 3706.—An act to amend section 3663A of title 18, United States Code, to clarify that restitution includes necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by a person who has assumed the victim's rights.

S. 4548.—An act to make a technical correction to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 by repealing section 5101 and enacting an updated version of the Foreign Extortion Prevention Act.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROSENDALE). Pursuant to section 3(z) of House Resolution 5, the House stands adjourned until 11:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 1 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, July 26, 2024, at 11:30 a.m.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. LUCAS: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H.R. 6213. A bill to reauthorize the National Quantum Initiative Act, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-612). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following

titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. TONKO (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 9131. A bill to authorize a national program to reduce the threat to human health posed by exposure to indoor air contaminants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mrs. HAYES):

H.R. 9132. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide coverage for additional preventive care for individuals with chronic conditions without the imposition of cost sharing requirement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself, Ms. SCHRIER, and Ms. PORTER):

H.R. 9133. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide for 3 primary care visits and 3 behavioral health care visits without application of any cost-sharing requirement; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MCCLELLAN (for herself, Mr. TONKO, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. CARSON, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. SYKES, Ms. ROSS, and Mrs. FOUSHEE):

H.R. 9134. A bill to amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act to direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to carry out a mentorship demonstration program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 9135. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to require certain air carriers to develop and regularly update an operational resiliency strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. FOUSHEE (for herself and Mr. MILLER of Ohio):

H.R. 9136. A bill to strengthen and enhance the competitiveness of cement, concrete, asphalt binder, and asphalt mixture production in the United States through the research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of technologies to reduce emissions from cement, concrete, asphalt binder, and asphalt mixture production, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. NORCROSS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. POCAN, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CASAR, Ms. WILD, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. OMAR, and Mrs. RAMIREZ):

H.R. 9137. A bill to safeguard the rights of workers and protect children by responsibly increasing civil monetary penalties and other means; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BALDERSON (for himself, Ms. KUSTER, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Ms. DELBENE):

H.R. 9138. A bill to expand psychological mental and behavioral health services to Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP beneficiaries by permitting reimbursement of psychological services provided by certain supervised psychology trainees, and facilitating the reimbursement of those services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself and Mr. LIEU):

H.R. 9139. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to convey or lease certain parcels of land at Defense Fuel Support Point San Pedro, Los Angeles, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. BUDZINSKI (for herself, Mr. BOST, Mr. MOONEY, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT):

H.R. 9140. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue a report regarding the effects of mine subsidence; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. CAMMACK (for herself, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, and Mr. KEAN of New Jersey):

H.R. 9141. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand eligibility for health savings accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 9142. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to restrict direct-to-consumer drug advertising; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. ROSE):

H.R. 9143. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit 501(c)(3) organizations from providing direct funding to State attorneys general; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. GARBARINO, and Ms. PEREZ):

H.R. 9144. A bill to require States to permit unaffiliated voters to vote in primary elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 9145. A bill to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to preserve the independent funding in the Office of Financial Research, to establish minimum staffing lev-

els for the Financial Stability Oversight Council, to establish minimum funding levels for such staff, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida (for himself, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. MAST, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. BOST, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, and Mr. DIAZ-BALART):

H.R. 9146. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the consideration of continuity of health care in determining best medical interest under the Veterans Community Care Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 9147. A bill to prohibit the imposition of a sentence for a State criminal offense committed by a major party candidate during a covered time period; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 9148. A bill to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to provide an exemption from the registration requirements under that Act to certain advisers of private funds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GOMEZ (for himself, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 9149. A bill to eliminate asset limits employed by certain federally funded means-tested public assistance programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 9150. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to include wildfire smoke in the definition of major disaster; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. IVEY, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. LIEU, Mr. MORAN, Ms. ROSS, Mr. CLINE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. KILEY, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. CORREA):

H.R. 9151. A bill to strengthen the Department of Justice's enforcement against trade-related crimes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HORSFORD (for himself, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. POCAN, and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 9152. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that determinations regarding whether an individual who is a contractor providing services to an educational organization is a full time employee for purposes of requirements relating to an employer's responsibility to provide health coverage are subject to rules that apply to employees of educational organizations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 9153. A bill to provide for the addition of senior leaders of HAMAS and Palestine Islamic Jihad, United States Designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations, as well as affiliated terrorists to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Most Wanted terrorism list, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. IVEY (for himself, Mr. CLINE, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 9154. A bill to amend titles 11 and 28 of the United States Code to modify the compensation payable to trustees serving in cases under chapter 7 of such title; to extend the term of certain temporary offices of bankruptcy judge; and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas:

H.R. 9155. A bill to exclude certain amounts relating to compensating victims of the Texas Panhandle fires, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Ms. BALINT, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. POCAN):

H.R. 9156. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to enforce certain requirements with respect to for-profit corporations that own health care systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 9157. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to facilitate patient access to certain pediatric technologies; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LANGWORTHY (for himself, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. MILLS, and Mr. WEBER of Texas):

H.R. 9158. A bill to require an institution of higher education that becomes aware that a student having nonimmigrant status under subparagraph (F)(i) or (J) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)) has endorsed or supported a foreign terrorist organization to notify the SEVIS, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LAWLER (for himself and Mr. BEYER):

H.R. 9159. A bill to enhance the preservation, maintenance, and management of national historic trails and national scenic trails, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LAWLER (for himself, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. RULLI, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. CISCOMANI, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. HERN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. GUEST, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. BABIN, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. SELF, Mr. MAST, and Mr. HILL):

H.R. 9160. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to the system of compensation of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority that supports acts of terrorism; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on

the Judiciary, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Ms. CHU, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. THANEDAR, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. RAMÍREZ, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BROWN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 9161. A bill to improve the health of minority individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Agriculture, Oversight and Accountability, Education and the Workforce, the Judiciary, the Budget, Veterans' Affairs, Natural Resources, Armed Services, Homeland Security, Financial Services, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER (for himself, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mr. NEWHOUSE):

H.R. 9162. A bill to amend the securities laws to require certain disclosures and reports with respect to the exposure of issuers to China and the threat of sudden loss of market access between the United States and China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MACE (for herself, Mr. OGLES, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BURCHETT, and Mr. BRECHEEN):

H.R. 9163. A bill to prohibit actions recognizing the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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

H.R. 9164. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the exclusion for certain employer payments of student loans under educational assistance programs permanent; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. MALOY (for herself, Mr. CASE, and Mr. CURTIS):

H.R. 9165. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a grant program to allocate resources for remote search and rescue activities conducted on Federal land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MOLINARO (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 9166. A bill to require the Small Business Administration, the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the Delta Regional Authority to enter into an agreement to

carry out activities to expand rural entrepreneurship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Small Business, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. OWENS (for himself and Mr. CURTIS):

H.R. 9167. A bill to impose certain limitations on the use of grants made under the Shelter and Services Program; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 9168. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to annually submit to Congress, and make publicly available on a website, a report on decommissioning offshore oil and gas wells, platforms, and pipelines; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROSENDALE (for himself, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BRECHEEN, and Mr. HARRIS):

H.R. 9169. A bill to amend section 7 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to permit State agencies to restrict the use of supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to prevent the purchase of soft drinks, candy, ice cream, and prepared desserts (such as cakes, pies, cookies, and similar products); to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. ROSS (for herself, Mrs. FOUSHEE, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 9170. A bill to reauthorize title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to improve and encourage innovation in international education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. RUIZ (for himself, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 9171. A bill to authorize additional appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for solid waste disposal systems of the Army, with an offset; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SALAZAR (for herself, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. TITUS, Mr. STANTON, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEBEREMER, and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 9172. A bill to establish the Precursor Chemical Destruction Initiative to promote bilateral counterdrug interdiction efforts with the governments of specified countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SMUCKER (for himself, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 9173. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to stabilize payments to long-term care hospitals under the Medicare program and improve patient access; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. EMMER, Ms. CRAIG, and Ms. OMAR):

H.R. 9174. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 31143 State Highway 65 in Pengilly, Minnesota, as the "First Lieutenant Richard Arne Koski Post Office"; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. THANEDAR (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. HUIZENGA, and Mr. BERGMAN):

H.R. 9175. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 24837 Goddard Road in Taylor, Michigan, as



the “Technical Sergeant E. Huston James Memorial Post Office Building”; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. THANEDAR (for himself, Mr. ALFORD, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY):

H.R. 9176. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to increase the maximum loan amount for a loan made under section 7(a) of such Act; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 9177. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the requirement of a service-connected disability to furnish veterans with medical care outside of a State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. ZINKE (for himself, Mr. BOST, Mr. VAN ORDEN, and Mr. CISCOMANI):

H.R. 9178. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve access of health care providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs to prescription drug monitoring programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PALMER:

H.J. Res. 194. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration entitled “Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards for Passenger Cars and Light Trucks for Model Years 2027 and Beyond and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Heavy-Duty Pickup Trucks and Vans for Model Years 2030 and Beyond”; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KUSTOFF:

H. Con. Res. 122. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Operation Legend was successful in reducing and combating violent crime in the largest cities of the United States and that a future presidential administration committed to enforcing and maintaining law and order should consider implementing a similar policy; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H. Res. 1386. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives on Project 2025; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H. Res. 1387. A resolution recognizing the importance of independent living and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities made possible by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and calling for further action to strengthen and expand opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate in work and community life; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Judiciary, Energy and Commerce, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. OMAR (for herself and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H. Res. 1388. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of World Drowning Prevention Day; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. RUIZ (for himself and Ms. MCCLELLAN):

H. Res. 1389. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of August 26 through August 30, 2024, as the second annual “National Community Health Worker Awareness Week”; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SCANLON (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H. Res. 1390. A resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Legal Services Corporation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. MANN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Mr. DAVIDSON):

H. Res. 1391. A resolution congratulating the American Motorcyclist Association on their 100th Anniversary; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 9131.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize a national program to reduce the threat to human health posed by exposure to indoor air contaminants.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 9132.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide coverage for additional preventive care for individuals with chronic conditions without the imposition of cost sharing requirement, and for other purposes

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 9133.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide for 3 primary care visits and 3 behavioral health care visits without application of any cost-sharing requirement.

By Ms. MCCLELLAN:

H.R. 9134.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Creating a demonstration program at NSF to improve mentoring practices in STEM higher education.

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington:

H.R. 9135.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to require certain air carriers to develop and regularly update an operational resiliency strategy

By Mrs. FOUSHEE:

H.R. 9136.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Concrete innovation

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:

H.R. 9137.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Labor Standards Enforcement.

By Mr. BALDERSON:

H.R. 9138.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Expands psychological mental and behavioral health services to Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP beneficiaries by permitting reimbursement of psychological services provided by certain supervised psychology trainees, and facilitating the reimbursement of those services.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 9139.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill authorize the Secretary of the Navy to convey or lease certain parcels of land at Defense Fuel Support Point San Pedro, Los Angeles, California.

By Ms. BUDZINSKI:

H.R. 9140.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

A bill to require the Department of the Interior to issue a report to Congress relating to mine subsidence.

By Mrs. CAMMACK:

H.R. 9141.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand eligibility for health savings accounts.

By Ms. DELAULO:

H.R. 9142.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

to prohibit direct-to-consumer advertising of a drug in the first three years after the drug's approval.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 9143.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends 501(c)(3)s to prohibit donations to the office of a state attorney general to fund lawsuits, investigations, or remunerations of personnel.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 9144.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Elections

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 9145.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section

8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill gives the Director of the Office of Financial Research (OFR) within the Department of the Treasury sole discretion over the OFR's annual budget. It also establishes minimum funding and staffing levels for the OFR and for the Financial Stability Oversight Council.

By Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida:

H.R. 9146.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress is granted the authority to introduce and enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the consideration of continuity of health care in determining best medical interest under the Veterans Community Care Program, and for other purposes.

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 9147.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the imposition of a sentence for a State criminal offense committed by a major party candidate during a covered time period.

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 9148.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill provides relief to certain advisers under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

By Mr. GOMEZ:

H.R. 9149.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Federal Benefits

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 9150.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to include wildfire smoke in the definition of major disaster.

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 9151.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Directs the Department of Justice to establish a new structure dedicated to prosecuting, investigating, and detecting international trade crimes.

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 9152.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health Care

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 9153.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill seeks accountability for Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad leaders

By Mr. IVEY:

H.R. 9154.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 4 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

U.S. bankruptcy administration

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas:

H.R. 9155.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To exclude certain amounts relating to compensating victims of the Texas Pan-handle fires.

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 9156.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health care

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 9157.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all laws that shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department

The single subject of this legislation is:

Healthcare

By Mr. LANGWORTHY:

H.R. 9158.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Identifies, revokes visas of, and removes students on J1 and F1 visas who have been shown to endorse or otherwise support foreign terrorist organizations.

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 9159.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 7

The single subject of this legislation is:

To enhance the preservation, maintenance, and management of national historic trails and national scenic trails, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 9160.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To impose sanctions with respect to the system of compensation of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority that supports acts of terrorism.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 9161.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

article 1 section 8 of the United States constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill improve the health of minority individuals

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 9162.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1; Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the securities laws to require certain disclosures and reports with respect

to the exposure of issuers to China and the threat of sudden loss of market access between the United States and China, and for other purposes

By Ms. MACE:

H.R. 9163.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit actions recognizing the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 9164.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, clause 7

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the exclusion for certain employer payments of student loans under educational assistance programs permanent

By Ms. MALOY:

H.R. 9165.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a grant program to allocate resources for remote search and rescue activities conducted on Federal land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 9166.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

Small Business

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 9167.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Immigration.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 9168.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of the Interior to annually submit to Congress, and make publicly available on a website, a report on decommissioning offshore oil and gas wells, platforms, and pipelines.

By Mr. ROSENDALE:

H.R. 9169.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

By Ms. ROSS:

H.R. 9170.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation provides grants to institutions of higher education and related entities to enhance instruction in international and foreign language studies and promote international business skills and education.

By Mr. RUIZ:

H.R. 9171.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of Congress.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill authorizes additional appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for solid waste disposal systems of the Army, with an offset.

By Ms. SALAZAR:

H.R. 9172.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Fentanyl Precursor Destruction

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 9173.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section VIII of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to stabilize payments to long-term care hospitals under the Medicare program and to improve patient access.

By Mr. STAUBER:

H.R. 9174.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 31143 State Highway 65 in Pengilly, Minnesota, as the "First Lieutenant Richard Arne Koski Post Office".

By Mr. THANEDAR:

H.R. 9175.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress shall have . . . power to make all laws. Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 24837 Goddard Road in Taylor, Michigan, as the "Technical Sergeant E. Huston James Memorial Post Office Building"

By Mr. THANEDAR:

H.R. 9176.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress shall have . . . power to make all laws. Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Small Business Act to increase the maximum loan amount for a loan made under section 7(a) of such Act.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 9177.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the requirement of a service-connected disability to furnish veterans with medical care outside of a State, and for other purposes.

By Mr. ZINKE:

H.R. 9178.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve access of health care providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs to prescription drug monitoring programs, and for other purposes.

By Mr. PALMER:

H.J. Res. 194.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To disapprove of of the rule submitted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Admin-

istration entitled "Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards for Passenger Cars and Light Trucks for Model Years 2027 and Beyond and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Heavy-Duty Pickup Trucks and Vans for Model Years 2030 and Beyond".

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 51: Mr. RYAN.  
H.R. 309: Mr. MCGARVEY.  
H.R. 396: Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. CASAR, and Mr. MEEKS.  
H.R. 460: Ms. ROSS.  
H.R. 549: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.  
H.R. 625: Ms. STANSBURY.  
H.R. 1015: Mr. NEHLS and Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.  
H.R. 1088: Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, and Mr. LAHOOD.  
H.R. 1118: Mrs. SYKES and Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE.  
H.R. 1263: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.  
H.R. 1447: Ms. SCANLON and Mr. THANEDAR.  
H.R. 1526: Mr. THANEDAR.  
H.R. 1572: Mr. CONNOLLY and Ms. GRANGER.  
H.R. 1619: Mr. MAGAZINER.  
H.R. 1639: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.  
H.R. 1649: Mr. GALLEGO.  
H.R. 1781: Mr. NICKEL.  
H.R. 1826: Mr. PENCE.  
H.R. 2410: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.  
H.R. 2474: Ms. STRICKLAND.  
H.R. 2584: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 2742: Ms. SCANLON and Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California.  
H.R. 2768: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.  
H.R. 2923: Mr. MOONEY.  
H.R. 2989: Mr. FONG.  
H.R. 3080: Ms. SCANLON.  
H.R. 3143: Ms. STANSBURY.  
H.R. 3312: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.  
H.R. 3396: Mr. MULLIN and Ms. STANSBURY.  
H.R. 3409: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 3413: Ms. LETLOW.  
H.R. 3498: Mr. KILMER.  
H.R. 3510: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 3537: Ms. STRICKLAND.  
H.R. 3768: Ms. SPANBERGER.  
H.R. 3776: Mr. VASQUEZ.  
H.R. 3853: Ms. SALINAS.  
H.R. 3882: Mr. THANEDAR.  
H.R. 3961: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 4089: Ms. SPANBERGER.  
H.R. 4134: Mr. TONKO.  
H.R. 4184: Mr. BERA.  
H.R. 4239: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 4456: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
H.R. 4561: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 4769: Ms. SALAZAR.  
H.R. 4775: Mr. POCAN.  
H.R. 4812: Mr. THANEDAR.  
H.R. 4911: Mr. GALLEGO.  
H.R. 4974: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Mr. MAGAZINER.  
H.R. 5013: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
H.R. 5015: Mr. CASE and Mr. SOTO.  
H.R. 5041: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.  
H.R. 5048: Ms. DEGETTE.  
H.R. 5322: Mrs. RAMIREZ.  
H.R. 5362: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 5421: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 5577: Mr. MASSIE.  
H.R. 5617: Mr. FONG.  
H.R. 5741: Ms. CARAVEO.  
H.R. 5827: Mr. MCGOVERN.  
H.R. 5831: Mr. BOST.  
H.R. 5934: Mr. MCGARVEY.  
H.R. 6053: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 6581: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 6656: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.  
H.R. 6727: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.

H.R. 6751: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KILMER, Ms. MANNING, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAPPAS, Mrs. PELTOLA, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 6790: Mr. VAN DREW and Ms. WILD.

H.R. 6913: Mr. DELUZIO.

H.R. 6928: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 7025: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 7056: Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 7132: Ms. SALINAS, Ms. TITUS, and Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 7165: Mr. CORREA and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 7198: Mr. STEIL.

H.R. 7213: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 7227: Mr. MOLINARO and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.

H.R. 7373: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 7438: Mr. COMER, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. CLINE, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. PENCE, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. MOORE of Utah, and Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 7479: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.

H.R. 7635: Mr. SABLON and Ms. ESCOBAR.

H.R. 7731: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 7770: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 7890: Ms. WILD and Mr. MOORE of Utah.

H.R. 7891: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Mr. BURCHETT.

H.R. 7906: Mr. CARBAJAL.

H.R. 7921: Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. D'ESPOSITO.

H.R. 7999: Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 8018: Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 8028: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.

H.R. 8061: Mr. MOORE of Utah.

H.R. 8075: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 8147: Mr. GUEST and Mr. MASSIE.

H.R. 8307: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.

H.R. 8370: Mr. RYAN.

H.R. 8411: Mr. BEAN of Florida.

H.R. 8420: Mr. GALLEGO.

H.R. 8501: Ms. TLATB.

H.R. 8532: Mr. THANEDAR and Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 8702: Mr. CORREA and Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 8705: Mr. MOSKOWITZ and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.

H.R. 8714: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia and Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 8734: Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 8768: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 8777: Mr. LOPEZ, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. ZINKE.

H.R. 8824: Mr. MOYLAN.

H.R. 8836: Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 8875: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 8934: Mr. LAWLER and Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 8943: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 8957: Mr. MOLINARO and Ms. WILD.

H.R. 8963: Mr. CARSON and Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 8996: Mr. NEGUSE and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 9003: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 9108: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 9129: Ms. STANSBURY and Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.

H.J. Res. 13: Mr. RYAN and Mr. VARGAS.

H.J. Res. 73: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mr. VALADAO.

H.J. Res. 82: Mr. CARSON.

H.J. Res. 163: Mr. LAHOOD.

H. Con. Res. 118: Mr. THANEDAR and Mr. EVANS.

H. Res. 434: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.

H. Res. 439: Mrs. MCBATH.

H. Res. 882: Mrs. HAYES.

H. Res. 993: Mrs. HAYES.

H. Res. 1042: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.

H. Res. 1105: Mrs. HAYES.

H. Res. 1303: Mr. FINSTAD.  
H. Res. 1327: Mr. AMO, Mr. SUOZZI, and Ms. BOEBERT.  
SCHAKOWSKY.  
H. Res. 1336: Mr. GOOD of Virginia and Ms. HUFFMAN.  
H. Res. 1375: Mr. HUFFMAN.  
H. Res. 1365: Mr. SELF.



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

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No. 121

## 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.

God, our help in ages past, at Your throne, we find our faith and strength. Lord, help us to know ourselves for who we are: people who are totally dependent upon Your mercy and grace.

In this great hour of human destiny, deepen in our Senators a sense of surpassing opportunity to permit You to use them as instruments for Your glory. Lord, fit them to protect our Nation from enemies, foreign and domestic, as You do for us all more than we can ask or imagine.

Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

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, July 25, 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.

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### ELIMINATE USELESS REPORTS ACT OF 2024

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the House message to accompany S. 2073, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

House message to accompany S. 2073, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Schumer amendment No. 3021 (to the House amendment to the bill), in the nature of a substitute.

Schumer amendment No. 3022 (to amend amendment No. 3021), to add an effective date.

Schumer motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with instructions, Schumer amendment No. 3023, to add an effective date.

Schumer amendment No. 3024 (the instructions (amendment No. 3023) of the motion to refer), to add an effective date.

Schumer amendment No. 3025 (to amend amendment No. 3024), to add an effective date.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

S. 2073

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as we all know, social media has been part of our lives for two decades. It has connected people in ways previous generations never could have fathomed. But with the benefits of social media also come the risks.

Many kids experience relentless online bullying. Kids' private, personal data can be collected and used nefariously. Predators can exploit or target kids. For kids who struggle with mental health, social media can magnify their anguish.

It has been decades—it has been decades—since the Federal Government has updated laws that protect our kids on the internet, but today, historically, the Senate has a chance to start changing that with bipartisan legislation.

This afternoon, the Senate will vote to advance two bipartisan bills: the Kids Online Safety Act, or KOSA, and an update to the Children and Teens' Online Privacy Protection Act, or COPPA.

KOSA and COPPA represent something very urgent: a first step to keeping our kids safe on social media and other online platforms. I am hopeful that we can act on these two bills swiftly. They have already passed out of the Commerce Committee for the last 2 years, under the careful guidance of Chairman CANTWELL. KOSA has 68 cosponsors—bipartisan—more than enough to pass this Chamber.

Getting here wasn't easy. I have worked for years with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to prepare these bills for the floor. I want to

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



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S5489



thank Senators BLUMENTHAL and BLACKBURN and MARKEY and CASSIDY. They have been a relentless and powerful force to get these bills moving. I made sure everyone had a chance to offer their input, and we worked together through any disagreements. Finalizing these safety bills has been a long and winding and difficult road, but one thing I have known from the start: It sure would be worth it.

We must remember that we could never have reached this point without parents of children who tragically took their own lives because of what happened to them on social media who came down here to relentlessly lobby and tell their stories. Over the past few months, I have sat down with these parents. I have listened to their stories. They are some of the most painful but important meetings I have ever had. We cried together. We looked at pictures of their kids—gone—and felt the deep frustration that we must do more as a society to keep kids safe online.

Looking at these pictures made me think of my own children, now in their thirties, and my grandkids—5, 2, and 1—Noah, Ellie, and Henry. The thought of losing them is incomprehensible.

The message from these parents has been simple and consistent: It has been long enough. The Senate must pass kids' online safety legislation with all due haste.

So, today, as we begin voting on these bills, I want to thank the parents who turned their grief into grace—the parents who turned their grief into grace. I want to thank them and thank them again.

Nobody would blame these parents if they preferred to process their pain in privacy, curse the darkness, but instead they have shared their stories, pushed the Senate into action, lit a candle to make sure other families won't suffer as they have been suffering and always will.

#### AI DEEPFAKES

Mr. President, now on AI deepfakes, it is an important bill, but it has been a busy and frenzied week in Washington, so there has been a lot of news about major speeches and congressional hearings. But this also deserves attention even though it passed late Tuesday night after most were gone.

This week, the Senate passed the DEFIANCE Act—a bill to combat the spread of sexually explicit, AI-generated deepfakes—and we also passed another act on fentanyl, which I will get to in a minute. These two bills passed, as I said, late in the evening Tuesday but deserve significant attention.

AI plays a bigger role in our lives than ever before, and while it has many, many benefits, it is also easier than ever to create sexually explicit deepfakes without a person's consent. These fake explicit images can ruin a person's life, especially if you are a child or a teenager. They can circulate online for years, if not forever, with no

or little recourse to hold abusers accountable.

Make no mistake about it, this is not a fringe problem. Ninety percent of deepfake videos are nonconsensual, and 2023 saw more deepfakes generated than every other year combined. Bad people—some for mercenary purposes, some just kids who do bad things—have learned about this, and the idea is spreading. No one is immune from it—not kids in school; not Members of Congress; not even, as we have learned recently, the most famous celebrities in the world.

The DEFIANCE Act will give these victims justice by allowing them to take civil action against those who generate and distribute deepfakes using AI and other technologies.

As I have said before, this DEFIANCE Act is one example of the AI guardrails I often talk about. AI is remarkable technology. It can spur incredible innovation. Maybe it will even cure cancer, things like that. But at the same time, we must be vigilant and pass guardrails to prevent its worst abuses from causing people great harm.

I am very hopeful that the House will pass this bill quickly. It got broad support here in the Senate.

I want to thank Senator DURBIN for leading the effort relentlessly on the DEFIANCE Act. I have been proud to support this bill every step of the way and encourage its passage. Tuesday night, we finally got it done in the Senate.

House, move quickly. Save people from the scourge of this horrible, horrible action.

#### PREVENTING THE FINANCING OF ILLEGAL SYNTHETIC DRUGS ACT

Mr. President, on Tuesday night, we also passed, as I mentioned, another significant bill, another crucial bill to combat the scourge of drug trafficking: the Preventing the Financing of Illegal Synthetic Drugs Act. This bill will get to the root of the financing behind deadly and destructive drugs like fentanyl and methamphetamine.

I want to thank every Senator who supported this bill, particularly our two amazing Senators from Nevada, CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO and JACKY ROSEN. They worked very hard to see that this bill passed.

This drug trafficking bill is the latest example of a concerted effort in the Senate to combat America's drug crisis.

Last fall, I met with Chinese President Xi, along with my colleagues—bipartisan—and we urged him and the Chinese Government to do more to crack down on Chinese companies that make precursor chemicals and send them to Mexico where the gangs turn them into fentanyl.

A few months ago, I led the Senate in passing the national security supplemental, which included the FEND Off Fentanyl Act.

We are making good progress in the scourge of fentanyl, which had tens of thousands of our young people die and

some of our law enforcement officers as well. So the American people should take note. There have been some very important things happening in the Senate recently to combat drug trafficking. This bill has already passed the House. It should go to the President's desk and be signed quickly—another marker, another action in our fight to end the horrible scourge of fentanyl, which has taken so many young lives.

#### WORLD TRADE CENTER HEALTH PROGRAM

Mr. President, I was just at a press conference on something else that we had to do to make America better. That is the World Trade Center Health Program.

We all know that in the aftermath of 9/11, many of our brave first responders suffered severe health complications, lifelong injuries, serious cancers. Many of them—far too many of them—are no longer with us. I remember them as they trod the halls to try to pass this legislation even though they were suffering from cancer.

My friend Ray Pfeifer, I think of him all the time. He is gone now, looking down upon us, smiling that we are moving forward.

I fought hard to establish and fund the World Trade Center Health Program and to help our 9/11 heroes get care at no cost to them or their families. That program has struggled with funding. We had to renew it year after year after year because there were some here in the Senate, some in the House, who said: I don't want to fund it permanently. But now we are attempting to fund it permanently.

Sadly, the program has struggled with funding over the years. But today we have good news, very good news. I just returned from a press conference with my colleague Senator GILLIBRAND and members, Democrat and Republican, of the New York delegation in the House where we announced legislation to permanently fund the World Trade Center program. That is right—not coming back year after year and getting a little more and a little more, but permanent. We need to fund it permanently. There are people still getting cancers, first responders and others, who rushed to the towers after 9/11. But their cancers don't show up until 10 or 20 or 30 years later. We can't leave them behind.

This funding will make sure everyone—everyone—who has been exposed to the toxins after 9/11 will get the treatment they need. And because the program screens early, we catch more people, we save more lives, and, frankly, it costs less to keep them alive.

I am proud to have secured nearly \$1.7 billion for this program over the last 2 years—\$1 billion 2 years ago, then \$700 million—just to keep extending the program because it was running out of money because more people were getting these cancers and other illnesses. It was clear to all of us we need to do more. By providing permanent funding to this program, our legislation will make sure our 9/11 heroes

never, ever have to worry again about getting the care that they need. They won't have to constantly traipse down on subways from New York and elsewhere to lobby Congress and go to those with somewhat hardened hearts and show them why it is needed.

Let's pass this bill. Let's make it permanent. I promise to those first responders, to Ray Pfeifer and all those who have been lost and fought for this, that I will do all I can to make sure this permanent bill becomes law by the end of the year.

PRESIDENT BIDEN

Mr. President, on President Biden, last night, the American people saw why Joe Biden will go down as one of our Nation's most consequential, most decent, most patriotic Presidents.

Over the last 3 years, he has amassed a record of accomplishment that has few equals in the history of the Senate. We, in the Senate here—many times bipartisan, sometimes not—worked hard with the President to create one of the great legislative records in the year 2022.

When President Biden entered office, America was in crisis. But today it is stronger, more prosperous, has a more hopeful future because of his steadfastness, his strength, his vision.

So this morning, I wish to say yet again: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you. You have shown what the world looks like to put our country over self. You have restored dignity and honesty and integrity at the White House. I think of the song in Hamilton, "we're going to teach them how to say goodbye," that George Washington sang in the play about knowing when to stay and when to leave. Well, at this moment, Joe Biden is standing right next to George Washington and showing America he understood that message.

It has been an honor to work with the President to enact the most ambitious legislative agenda since the Great Society. With President Biden, we made tens of millions of Americans' lives better, and we will keep working with him until his term is complete.

TRIBUTE TO LAVERNE ALLEN

Mr. President, finally, as colleagues know, I rarely go anywhere without my either famous or notorious—depending on your viewpoint—flip phone. That means I will occasionally—just occasionally—forget to leave my phone in the cloakroom, as the rules say, when I am here on the Senate floor. And occasionally—just occasionally—it will ring in the middle of my remarks. You have heard that happen. Whenever it happens, the first thing I do is look up at LaVerne Allen, one of our wonderful Senate doorkeepers, as she is staring at my phone and very gently, but firmly, shaking her head as I quickly try to turn it off. LaVerne is one of the people in the Senate who can readily put me in my place.

But I am sad to say that after over 40 years—40 great years—LaVerne's time with the Senate will be coming to an

end next month. And here, we often celebrate elected officials who dedicate their entire careers to public service, but today, that light shines on LaVerne.

As a doorkeeper, she has helped maintain the order and decorum that defined the Senate for over 200 years. We are all, on both sides of the aisle—I am sure the Republican leader will attest—grateful for her work.

But I am glad to hear LaVerne will be moving on to bigger and better things. She will be spending more time with her son in Japan, where he is stationed in the Navy.

LaVerne, from the bottom of my heart and the hearts of all my colleagues, thank you, thank you, thank you. We will miss you. Best of luck in your next journey.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

TRIBUTE TO LAVERNE ALLEN

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, this morning, as the majority leader just pointed out, marks an important day for a longtime member of the Senate family who will depart for greener pastures next month. After 41 years of service, LaVerne Allen, a familiar and friendly face to so many of our colleagues past and present, is retiring from Senate Doorkeepers.

LaVerne has seen the Senate from many different angles. She has worn many different hats, from the card desk to the reception room. And for years now, she has welcomed Senators, staff, and visitors right here to the Senate Chamber.

Alongside the brave men and women of the Capitol Police, our doorkeepers control access to this historic institution. Here on the floor, they keep us safe. Up in the Galleries, they give citizens a chance to watch democracy in action.

After more than four decades, LaVerne has certainly earned a break from all of us. I understand that she is looking forward to some well-deserved R&R and, eventually, some exciting international travel to visit family.

So today, on behalf of the entire Senate, I want to congratulate LaVerne on her retirement, thank her for her years of devotion and service to this institution.

PRIME MINISTER NETANYAHU

Mr. President, on an entirely different matter, yesterday I was proud to attend a joint meeting of Congress and listen to Prime Minister Netanyahu's message from Israel to America. He reminded us of our Nation's deep friendship, of the savagery of our shared enemies, of the sacrifices brave Israelis are making to combat them on behalf of the entire free world, and of the enduring importance of American leadership.

It was a powerful address. I wish more of our colleagues had heard it.

But those who needed to hear it the most were otherwise occupied. Vice President HARRIS was on the campaign trail. Most of the Hamas apologists in Congress boycotted it. And, of course, a mob of far-left terrorist sympathizers was too busy vandalizing our Nation's Capital to tune in.

The lawless behavior of friendly radicals in our own country over the past 36 hours only underscores the challenge facing the world's only Jewish State.

When the Jewish people try to live in peace in their homeland, they are murdered in their beds. When Jewish students try to go to class, their classmates and professors lock arms to block their way. And when the leader of Israel comes to Washington, the same useful idiots and terrorist fifth columns clear their schedules to sow chaos.

On Tuesday night, criminals vandalized the hotel where Prime Minister Netanyahu was staying, scattered crickets across hallways, covered a dinner table with maggots, and pulled the fire alarm. Outside, unhinged Hamasniks screamed: We're going to kill all of you.

Then, after vandalizing private property, radical organizers called another play: vandalizing Federal property; tearing down and burning the American flag that flew over Columbus Circle and Union Station; defacing public monuments with terrorist screeds; and, unless someone doubt their seriousness, burning the Prime Minister in effigy.

Mr. President, yesterday was the 26th anniversary of horrific shootings of U.S. Capitol Police Officer Jacob Chestnut and Detective John Gibson in the line of duty. That day will always be a sobering reminder of the sacrifices of law enforcement and the price of protecting this sacred institution.

It is an especially difficult day of reflection for the brave men and women who follow in Officer Chestnut's and Detective Gibson's footsteps. And yet, officers of the Capitol Police had to spend it dispersing violent anti-Israel and anti-Semitic agitators.

I am grateful for the vigilance of the Capitol Police and partner Agencies on the job yesterday. Law enforcement knows better than anyone that, when it comes to radical attention-seekers, there is nothing new under the sun: not their tactics, and certainly not the slap on wrist they receive from soft-on-crime prosecutors.

This week, it is anti-Semites painting Hamas slogans on public property. But last year, as our colleagues may recall, it was leftwing climate protesters who took their cues from the Taliban and tried to destroy priceless works of art over at the Smithsonian.

One such case was a woman who tried to destroy a one-of-a-kind French sculpture in the National Gallery. She succeeded in damaging it and was sentenced this spring to 60 days in prison. And thank goodness she got that much. Prosecutors had only asked for 30

days—never mind that the sentencing guidelines recommend 5 years, given the gravity of her actions.

We know by now that street criminals aren't the only ones the Biden administration and criminal prosecutors like to let off easy. It is the wealthy ecoterrorists and the campus Marxists as well.

But I am still amazed at how allergic liberal prosecutors are to exercising their authority with an even hand. The DOJ has been more than willing to pursue maximum sentences for the Capitol rioters on January 6—and rightly so. My view has always been that when extremists aspire to sow chaos and violate our Nation's Capital, the prosecutor should throw the book at them—throw the book at them—no matter their motivation—no matter their politics.

But will they pursue the lawless radicals inspired by October 7 with equal vigor? Will the District's own government exercise the authority Congress has given it to maintain order and discourage lawless behavior? Don't hold your breath.

In the meantime, as our country reflects with new attention on the roots of political violence, I hope we will also reflect on our deep friendship with the only pluralistic democracy in the Middle East and support its fight against terror.

How do we show we are serious? By equipping our friends with more of the tools they need to defeat aggression, by investing heavily in our own arsenal and industrial capacity, and by getting off our hands and passing the National Defense Authorization Act.

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.

The Republican whip.

#### PROTESTS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, as I begin this morning, I want to take a moment to address the events that transpired yesterday just a few short blocks from where we are standing.

The summer months are busy tourist months here in our Nation's Capital, and for some, the view from Union Station is the very first sight they have of Washington, DC. Those who emerged from Union Station yesterday afternoon, however, were confronted not with the beauty of the historic station but with a scene of lawlessness. Violent protesters tore down American flags that fly in front of Union Station, lit at least one of them on fire, and raised Palestinian flags in their place. Others defiled the monuments in front of the station with messages, including " Hamas is comin'" and "Globalize the Intifada." Now imagine being a Jewish

person walking to work past those slogans.

We have a proud tradition of public protest in the United States, but there is a difference between exercising free speech rights and the vandalism and violence that we saw yesterday.

In addition to what we saw in front of Union Station and elsewhere, an anti-Israel protestor or protestors released hundreds of maggots and mealworms into the hotel where the Prime Minister and a lot of other people were staying. This is not part of the proud tradition of American political discourse; this is thuggery—pure thuggery.

I am frankly appalled by how little we have heard in response from Democrats. The President addressed the Nation last night. Could he not have added a few words on this disturbing display? What about the Vice President?

Every single public official and every single American should be united in condemning this violence and vandalism as well as rhetoric that elevates terrorism and foments anti-Semitism. We are better than this, and it is time we started acting like it.

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Mr. President, I am pleased to say that during a summer in which Democrats have focused on show votes, we are actually going to vote this week on a substantial piece of legislation called the Kids Online Safety Act. Senator BLACKBURN has done a tremendous amount of work to deliver a bill that will take real steps to mitigate the harm that social media can do to children, and I am grateful for her leadership on this issue.

The package before us also includes legislation from Senator CASSIDY to update the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, and I applaud him for his work.

I am pleased also that my bipartisan Filter Bubble Transparency Act, which I introduced with Senator BLACKBURN and others, has been included in the final legislation. The Filter Bubble Transparency Act requires social media companies and other internet platforms to notify users that the content they are seeing has been selected for them by hidden algorithms which create a unique universe of information for each user—a phenomenon that is often referred to as the filter bubble. Platforms would also be required to give users a choice to switch to a version of the platform that is filter bubble-free. I am hopeful that, along with the rest of the Kids Online Safety Act, this will provide a meaningful way to address some of the more problematic aspects of the internet.

As I said, it is good to be voting on something substantial here in the Senate. We have done essentially nothing for 2 months other than vote on guaranteed-to-fail legislation that Democrats hope will somehow help them win votes in November.

#### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. President, voting on the Kids Online Safety Act is not enough. We have a lot more work we should be doing, starting with action on one of the most important pieces of legislation we consider each year: the National Defense Authorization Act.

The Israeli Prime Minister's speech in Congress yesterday—a speech that a number of my Democrat colleagues and Vice President HARRIS chose to boycott—was a timely reminder of the dangerous world we face: Iran-backed terrorist organizations like Hezbollah, Hamas, and the Houthis fomenting terror and instability in the Middle East; an emboldened Russia engaged in a ground war against Ukraine on the doorstep of our NATO allies; an increasingly aggressive China and an increasingly endangered Taiwan.

The unfortunate truth is that we are not as prepared as we should be to confront these threats. We have service branches struggling with recruitment. We have ships that can't sail and planes that can't fly because of maintenance issues. We have shortages of munitions.

Our colleague Senator WICKER, the ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, recently put forward a blueprint for rebuilding our military. He points out that our defense budget as a share of the economy has fallen to near historic lows—hardly in line with the threats we face today—and he proposes increasing the defense budget over the next few years alongside important reforms to put our military in a position of strength not just now but well into the future. It is a call we need to heed.

Last fall, the Strategic Posture Commission offered a disturbing assessment:

Today the United States is on the cusp of having not one, but two nuclear peer adversaries, each with ambitions to change the international status quo, by force, if necessary: a situation which the United States did not anticipate and for which it is not prepared.

[A] situation which the United States did not anticipate and for which it is not prepared.

That is a pretty disturbing analysis, and it underlines the absolute imperative of addressing our military readiness today, which brings me to this year's National Defense Authorization Act.

I am grateful that our colleagues on the Armed Services Committee have put forward a bill that, while it does not authorize all the investment our military needs, does take steps to address the challenges we are facing. This year's NDAA authorizes full funding for the European and Pacific Deterrence Initiatives and takes steps to strengthen our partnerships to counter Russia and China. It takes important steps to modernize our military and authorize financing for the technologies and weapons of tomorrow. It authorizes the purchase of new ships, combat vehicles, and aircraft to update our aging fleets.

I am particularly pleased to report that this bill includes full funding for the next steps of the B-21 mission, including necessary support facilities.

The Air Force calls the B-21 Raider—its new long-range strategic bomber—the future backbone of its bomber force, and I am incredibly proud that this mission will be hosted at South Dakota's own Ellsworth Air Force Base. One of my top priorities here in Congress is ensuring that the Air Force—and Ellsworth in particular—has everything it needs for this critical advancement in our Nation's readiness.

The Senate Armed Services Committee passed this year's National Defense Authorization Act on June 13. Well over a month later, the Democrat leader still hasn't found time for this critical legislation, nor is there any indication of when he will. It says a lot about the Democrats' priorities. But I hope that the Democrat leader will take a moment to consider that while he puts our defense on the back burner, our enemies are not delaying their ambitions or their aggressive activities. I hope he will bring this important and consequential legislation to the floor in the very near future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). The majority whip.

#### DEFIANCE ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, whether you are a parent or a grandparent or just have children around you whom you dearly love, there is one thing that is going on in every household that should give you concern—genuine concern—about the safety of your kids. It is this. Have you ever seen your kids staring into the screen and wondering what they are doing? Are they speaking to a friend? Are they playing a game? Are they looking up some information? You hope it is something that is innocent, but you are never sure.

What we found in the Senate Judiciary Committee is that many kids are lured into the programs and messages of these pieces of technology, and their lives are changed for the worse.

This afternoon, we are going to vote on moving two measures which move to protect kids from the abuses which happen on the internet. It is long overdue.

The Senate Judiciary Committee has five bills that we reported out with unanimous votes—that doesn't happen in the Senate Judiciary Committee; unanimous votes, all the Democrats and all the Republicans—to protect children from the abuses which occur.

I have a measure called Children's Sexual Abuse Material—CSAM—that says basically that if your child was exploited by the internet and you tell the social media platform that is broadcasting it to stop and desist and they refuse to do it, they are liable in civil court; they can be held liable by a lawsuit. That is a good way to enforce a provision to protect the children. In the meantime, we are moving with other measures, and I would like to

speak about one that just passed this week.

We made a significant step earlier this week to address the problem of nonconsensual, sexually explicit deepfakes spreading online. Women and girls from all walks of life—from Taylor Swift, to Megan Thee Stallion, to high school girls in my home State of Illinois—have been victims of this form of image-based sexual abuse. Sadly, none of them have legal recourse against the perpetrators because the law is not keeping up with the technology.

Now this is starting to change. This week, the Senate passed my DEFIANCE Act, bipartisan legislation that will finally provide remedy for victims of nonconsensual, sexually explicit deepfakes. You have read about it in the newspapers when it comes to the celebrities, which I mentioned earlier. It happens every day across America.

This landmark legislation cannot become law soon enough. This form of image-based sexual abuse has skyrocketed in recent years. One researcher found that the number of non-consensual, pornographic, deepfake videos available online has increased 900 percent since 2019. Another found that over 24 million people visited a group of just 34 websites dedicated to nonconsensual, deepfake pornography in September 2023 alone. In total, non-consensual, deepfake, pornographic videos have been viewed almost 4 billion times—4 billion.

This explosive growth has been driven by advances in technology; namely, generative artificial intelligence. What used to take technological expertise and a lot of time can now be done with the push of a button. Countless apps can swap someone's face onto another person's body or can digitally remove someone's clothing so they appear to be nude.

Deepfake apps are often advertised as harmless entertainment, but when explicit images are produced and shared without the consent of the person depicted, the harm is very real. Imagine losing control over your own likeness and identity—how powerless victims feel when they can't remove the illicit content, can't prevent it from being reproduced repeatedly, and can't prevent new images from being created.

My partner on this legislation is Congresswoman ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ, who introduced a companion bill in the House. Like far too many women, she has been the victim of non-consensual, sexually explicit deepfakes. She has described how this image-based sexual abuse has resurfaced trauma and haunts her thoughts even to this day. Once these deepfakes are seen, they cannot be unseen. As she put it, "Deepfakes are a way of digitizing violent humiliation against other people."

The design and function of the internet amplify the scale and spread of this type of exploitation. Survivors of non-consensual, sexually explicit deepfakes

are often forced to relive their trauma and face ongoing harm that increases exponentially over time due to the viral flow of information on the internet and the difficulty of removing harmful content.

Tragically, our laws have not kept pace with technology, leaving victims with virtually no legal remedy. Time and again, victims are told that nothing can be done to help them because existing laws simply do not apply to deepfakes.

Thankfully, now the Senate has taken a step toward fixing this blatant disregard for the trauma suffered by individuals who are victimized by this crime. By passing this DEFIANCE Act, we have brought victims one step closer to taking back some power over their identity and giving them a day in court.

Our work is far from being done. I call on the House of Representatives to move on this issue immediately, to follow the Senate's lead and quickly take up and pass the DEFIANCE Act. In doing so, Congress will reflect the will of the vast majority of Americans who are demanding that Congress pass new laws to address nonconsensual, sexually explicit deepfakes.

According to a recent survey conducted by the University of Maryland, an overwhelming 85 percent of Republicans and 87 percent of Democrats support prohibiting these nonconsensual, sexually explicit deepfakes. Our constituents are concerned about what is happening online. Democrats and Republicans alike agree that Congress must establish guardrails to protect society from these changes in technology.

I want to thank Congresswoman OCASIO-CORTEZ for her leadership on this issue and her courage in speaking up. She has been an indispensable partner in crafting and advancing this bill.

I would like to thank the Senate cosponsors of this legislation, including some of my Republican colleagues like Senator GRAHAM, the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, Democratic Majority Leader SCHUMER, Senators HAWLEY, KLOBUCHAR, KING, and LEE.

This bill would not have come to fruition without the input of survivor advocates, including the Sexual Violence Prevention Association, the National Center on Sexual Exploitation, the National Women's Law Center, the National Network to End Domestic Violence, and many others. Their lived experience and leadership have shaped this bill and brought to it this stage of passage.

I also want to thank some of the other organizations that endorsed the bill: the Center for Democracy and Technology, the National Organization for Women, #MyImageMyChoice, RAINN, PACT, and Rights4Girls.

When the DEFIANCE Act is signed into law—if it is brought up and passed in the House—victims will finally—finally—have the ability to hold liable

those who produce, disclose, solicit, or possess sexually explicit deepfakes while knowingly or recklessly disregarding that the person depicted did not consent to the conduct.

Congress has waited long enough. It is past time to give victims of non-consensual, sexually explicit deepfakes the tools they need to fight back.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I come to the floor today, and I congratulate the chairman of the Judiciary Committee for this important legislation that has been passed out of the Judiciary Committee. I encourage him to continue their efforts to hold large social media companies accountable for the way that information is used against American citizens, and I thank him for his good work.

I, too, want to come to the floor today and talk about the Kids Online Safety and Privacy Act that I hope my colleagues will advance today on a cloture motion so we can get on this legislation and hopefully speedily pass it through the U.S. Senate.

It has been more than 3 years now where families from all across America have come to the Nation's Capital and said that they have lost children to suicide; they have had children harassed and bullied and had to leave school and move to a different location. They have had the safety and security of their children threatened, as my colleague just mentioned, some of the bullying and activities that take place.

So today is about advancing forward on privacy legislation aimed at protecting our children by giving new tools to the Federal Trade Commission, with new authority to take up this cause and to clearly outline what we in the U.S. Senate think needs to be done today to better protect children.

I mentioned the 3 years and the number of families that have come to the Nation's Capital because they have been here many times and walked away many times discouraged because the same big media platforms have then, after they have left, come here and tried to lobby Members on the fact that they can't accept these ideas.

But today, hopefully we will be victorious in giving a few very particular tools to help us, to help our families, and to help children try to address this growing crisis.

As we have met with many of these families, it was very clear that we needed to give them something that they can fight back with. So two pieces of the Kids Online Safety and Privacy Act include two important pieces of legislation from the Commerce Committee.

The first is Children and Teens' Online Privacy Protection Act, led by my colleagues Senator MARKEY and Senator CASSIDY. I want to thank them for their leadership on this important issue. It has really been a long time in

coming, particularly with Senator MARKEY who led on original legislation to protect children under the age of 13 from targeted advertising.

Many people will remember when we tried to say we were going to ban advertising on TV specifically to kids; we have tried to follow that up with the internet. And today, we are taking another step.

The three things that this important legislation does is that it raises that age from 12 to 16 of those kids who will be protected so that they cannot be targeted for advertising and it creates a new knowledge standard. So many of these companies got away with saying, "Well, you can't prove I knew they were kids. So, I could just keep doing what I'm doing."

We need more responsibility from the social media companies. And so, we are changing that knowledge standard from actual knowledge, which meant you had to prove—the FTC had to prove—that the company knew that it was actually targeting kids. Monitoring their kids' privacy is a tough task for parents who are trying to raise families, juggle jobs, do all of these things.

So that knowledge standard now has changed to fairly implied based on objective circumstances. So basically, it is saying to these social media companies, you cannot get away with just saying, "I didn't know."

You have to do a better job of understanding exactly where these advertisers are coming from, who they are targeting, and if you are helping to target these kids, but we are not going to let you target kids 16 and under. This is such an important issue because spending on digital advertising in the United States is expected to reach \$740 billion this year—\$740 billion.

It is a massive change in what has been revenue for our newspapers, our broadcasters, media, and news organizations that have all had to live by in a community, making sure that information was accurate, making sure that it was not abusive, or basically trying to increase a response by using more hate speech. No, no, no.

So all that advertising that went to our newspapers and TV stations and it is basically pulling the plug out from under them, is now in this massive online advertising world, in which, yes, there can be a lot of misinformation and a lot of using your own information to target you and to try to increase price.

Hopefully, we will get to legislation—comprehensive privacy legislation—with my colleague Representative CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS at some point in time on this. But what we are seeing is that public health showed that social media platforms earned nearly \$11 billion of that \$740 billion, \$11 billion targeting children.

We know that we don't like this. We know there is no reason for them to do this. We know that it creates perplexing challenges, and that is a staggering amount of money.

So, I so appreciate Senators MARKEY and CASSIDY, for basically giving us a new way to hold these social media companies accountable, saying that you do know that you are targeting these kids and also to basically raise the age to 16 and then allowing both attorneys general and the Federal Trade Commission to enforce this legislation.

The second piece that is included here, and both of these bills were passed out of the Commerce Committee, I think almost 2 years ago now. So we are glad and we appreciate Senator SCHUMER bringing them to the floor. So, we are glad that they are finally seeing floor action.

The kids' online safety bills, by Senators BLUMENTHAL and BLACKBURN, also very focused on giving parents tools to help fight back from social media companies or just change things that their young teens or parents want to change.

One of my constituents, a young girl from Bellingham, tried to set up her TikTok account to stop showing her videos about eating disorders. They find out, now, derived information about all of us, and if you clicked on anything, they can just take that information and constantly send you data.

In this case, she must have said something, did something, but all they wanted to do was basically continue to harass her with eating disorder videos.

Now, the Presiding Officer, the President, probably remembers we took action in getting a better resolution. We don't want any foreign actors creating malign actions against the United States through a platform, and our Department of Justice has shown that is exactly what is happening in some instances.

Those foreign actors could be pushing, or bots taking over, once that foreign actor has put information out there, basically saying, yes, let's just pummel the heck out of these teenagers with videos that will make them doubt themselves, make them basically second-guess or feel under the scrutiny of their colleagues and friends at school.

This legislation by Senators BLACKBURN and BLUMENTHAL will hold social media accountable for prioritizing their engagement in keeping kids safe. It requires platforms to use tools so that parents can control features. This helps either the parent or the child go in and change that and say: I don't want to have any of these ads placed towards my children. And it ensures that parents can report harms, and it requires companies to respond to those harms.

Now, my frustration with where we are with the FTC is I am sure the FTC has a big, fat file that has a lot of complaints about what has been done to 12-year-olds online. We are now increasing this to a higher age of up to 16 years old, but we need better enforcement by the FTC to look at these accounts, and



hold these companies accountable, and call them when they have data and information from parents about their not responding to help set up and change these social media accounts so they can better protect their children.

This is such an important piece of legislation before us today. It can't save the lives of people we have already lost, but it can help parents, and it can help all of us as a society rein in some of these controls.

The final piece I want to mention, Mr. President, is Senator THUNE's Filter Bubble Transparency Act, which is also included. This is Senator THUNE's attempt to try to get at what we call a blackbox algorithm where you don't even know what the algorithm is and what it is doing.

We had testimony before the Senate Commerce Committee by a Facebook whistleblower who basically said that the algorithm that the company chose to use was actually increasing hate speech online. And the reason why is because then it got more viewers and then it sold more advertising.

That was an important witness and whistleblower to come before the committee because it told us that we have to now understand, in a more important way, how much these kinds of ill effects can be targeted toward individuals without us knowing exactly what is going on.

So I think this is an important step, including Senator THUNE's language in here on filter bubbles. As I mentioned earlier, we have to do more, we have got to get a national privacy piece of legislation to protect all of us against the misuse of our own personal data by businesses and others who want to do us harm and put a stop to this acceleration at all costs of using our data for some juggernaut industry that probably hopes to reach \$1 trillion. But what will it do to us Americans in the meantime?

So I urge my colleagues to take these very prudent steps today to pass these kids' online privacy bills, give parents better tools, give all of us better protection, and upgrade these important aspects to the Federal Trade Commission and to attorneys general so they can be good policemen on the beat.

I thank the President, and I yield the floor.

**THE PRESIDING OFFICER.** The Senator from Delaware.

**Mr. CARPER.** Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for up to 15 minutes and that Senator YOUNG be recognized to speak after that for up to 5 minutes prior to the scheduled vote.

**THE PRESIDING OFFICER.** Without objection, it is so ordered.

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF GI BILL

**Mr. CARPER.** Mr. President, good morning.

Last month, as some of us recall, marked the 80th year since President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, better known as the GI bill, into law—80 years.

In the eight decades since the GI bill was enacted, it has helped millions of veterans, including myself, to pursue an education, to become homeowners, and to live the full American dream. The GI bill truly transformed not only our economy but a lot more than that.

I was glad to recently lead a bipartisan resolution recognizing the importance of this legislation with Senator JERRY MORAN, Senator JON TESTER, and Senator JOHN BOOZMAN. As I have shared here many times before, the GI bill is often called the greatest legislation ever enacted in the history of the United States, including here in this Chamber.

First, the GI bill successfully enabled millions of servicemembers, including myself, to transition back to civilian life after serving our country at home and, in many cases, abroad.

Second, it uplifted millions of American families, and it reinvigorated our economy.

Third, it allowed for benefits awarded to our veterans to be passed on to their family members.

Fourth, it has paved the way for subsequent critical legislation that serves those who have served our country in times of war and in times of peace.

The effects of all four of these achievements are felt to this day, and I would like to take a few minutes, if I may at this time, to elaborate on the impact of each of those four.

First and foremost, the GI bill helped my parents' generation return to civilian life following World War II. This generation was well acquainted with hard times. Many of these folks had been raised during the previous world war and were just starting to rebuild their lives when the Great Depression ravaged the American economy, leaving one of every four Americans jobless. But despite hardship at home, these brave Americans answered the call to serve our Nation in World War II. One of those brave Americans was my father.

My father had been a chief petty officer in the Navy—a high school graduate from a West Virginia coal mining town. He and his brother and my brothers-in-law all served in World War II—several as chief petty officers in the Navy and others as sergeants in the Army or in the Marine Corps.

When the war was over, my dad came back to West Virginia and used the GI bill to learn how to fix wrecked cars. Most people don't think of the GI bill as something to be used to fix wrecked cars, but he did. That turned into a job for him in a place back in a West Virginia coal mining town. He fixed wrecked cars at Burleson Oldsmobile.

One day when he was working at Burleson Oldsmobile, having learned how to fix wrecked cars and do bodywork through the GI bill, he was visited by a claims adjuster from Nationwide Insurance. Nationwide, it turned out, had insured the wrecked car that my dad was working on that day at Burleson Oldsmobile. The fellow from

Nationwide Insurance engaged my father in conversation about how was the progress coming along in terms of repairing the wrecked car.

And they talked for a bit, and at the end of the conversation, he said to my dad: You know, you seem to have a lot on the ball for a guy who's fixing wrecked cars here at Burleson Oldsmobile. My dad went on to explain how he had been a chief petty officer in the Navy. For those who know the military, the top noncommissioned officer in the Navy is a chief petty officer. That is what my dad was and several of my uncles as well. That conversation with the claims adjuster from Nationwide Insurance that day actually led to a job where my dad became a claims adjuster for Nationwide Insurance.

Years later, my dad helped to run the national training program for claims adjusters for Nationwide Insurance—a guy with a high school degree who had a chance to serve in World War II and to benefit from the GI bill—to have a great career and to be able to provide for his family along with literally hundreds of thousands of other veterans.

But my dad is just one example of millions of Americans whom this legislation helped to set on paths to success.

My dad also illustrates the second reason the GI bill is among the greatest pieces of legislation ever passed: It has lifted up millions of hard-working Americans and helped build the middle class as we know it in this country today.

With a stroke of a pen, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed into law one of America's most ambitious investments in our workforce in our Nation's history. It has paid dividends to generations past and will, for decades to come, to generations in the future.

Among other things, the original GI bill provided a college education to add—listen to this—450,000 engineers, 240,000 accountants, 238,000 teachers, 122,000 dentists, 91,000 scientists, 67,000 doctors, and 1 or 2 folks who could fix wrecked cars at a place like Burleson Oldsmobile back in West Virginia.

Just like my dad, countless others used their GI benefits to learn a trade or to learn a skill, and it enabled them to lift themselves and their families up firmly into the middle class. It was clear then, as it is now, that the GI bill is, perhaps, one of the most worthwhile economic investments in our Nation's history.

According to a 1988 report from the Joint Economic Committee, it was estimated that, for every dollar that the United States has invested in our veterans through the GI bill over the years, roughly \$7 has been returned in economic growth for our Nation.

Almost never do we see legislation have the power to singlehandedly transform our economy and continue to do so not just for a couple of years but for decades. The GI bill exceeded and continues to exceed all expectations.

As many of my colleagues know, I have personally benefited from the opportunities provided by the GI bill. I would not be standing here today in this place, speaking on this floor, without the benefits provided me as a Vietnam veteran coming back from my third tour in Southeast Asia and eventually moving to Delaware and enrolling in business school at the University of Delaware. That education, along with my time as a Navy ROTC midshipman through Ohio State earlier in time, has enabled me to serve Delaware as their treasurer, as their Congressman—Congressman-at-large—as their Governor, and now, for the last 23 years, as their U.S. Senator.

The third reason the GI bill is truly extraordinary is that this legislation and subsequent legislation, like the current Post-9/11 GI Bill, allows for benefits to be passed on to family members of veterans who do not use or need the benefits themselves.

For my generation, when we came back from Southeast Asia during the Vietnam war, if we took advantage of the GI bill, that was fine. I did. But if we had a spouse, a spouse could not take advantage of it. If we had children—dependent children—they could not take advantage of the GI bill. That has all changed.

And for a GI who doesn't use the GI benefit today, if they have a spouse, their spouse can use it. Spouses can use it. If they have children, their children can use the GI bill. What a benefit—what a benefit not just for the GI but also for the spouse and their family members.

Today's GI bill allows countless veterans across our country to take advantage of these generous educational benefits or pass them down to their families.

Moreover, the Post-9/11 GI Bill includes a program called the Fry Scholarship—"Fry" is spelled F-R-Y—that ensures surviving spouses and children of fallen servicemembers have access to the hard-earned benefits of their family member who served and made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

We have seen the impact of this legislation firsthand in my home State of Delaware, with families like those of the late-SSgt Christopher Slutman, a Marine veteran. A native Delawarean, Staff Sergeant Slutman bravely served as a New York firefighter and as a U.S. marine in Afghanistan. However, 5 years ago, he was tragically killed in combat, leaving behind his wife and their three daughters: McKenna, Kenley, and Weslynn.

Thanks to the Post-9/11 GI Bill, which extended the benefits of the GI bill to veterans who served after September 11, 2001, Staff Sergeant Slutman was entitled to a wide range of educational benefits. And after his tragic passing, Staff Sergeant Slutman's GI bill benefits were ultimately allowed to be passed down to his three daughters, thanks to the Fry Scholarship, which was one of the pro-

visions I was proud to support in the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Last, but certainly not least, the GI bill is among the "greatest legislation" ever enacted because it has served as an excellent model for how we can continue to provide resources for our Nation's veterans.

Throughout my years in the Senate—and it has been quite a few years, almost 24—I have worked to advance critical legislation that delivers on the promise to serve those who have served our Nation.

In addition to the Post-9/11 GI Bill and the Forever GI Bill, I was proud to lead passage of a bipartisan amendment that finally closed something called the 90/10 loophole. For those who may not know, this loophole allowed bad actors in the for-profit college sector to take advantage of veterans' hard-earned GI benefits.

One veteran misled or mistreated is one too many, and I was proud that my Senate colleagues and I came together unanimously to pass the amendment that Senator MORAN and I authored to close this loophole. And we did.

We must also be on guard to root out the bad actors who try to take advantage of our veterans. That is why, just this week, I cohosted our annual veterans summit in Delaware with Senator CHRIS COONS and Representative BLUNT ROCHESTER, joined by Secretary of Veterans Affairs Denis McDonough, to raise awareness of the deceptive marketing tactics deployed by those we know as "claim sharks."

Claim sharks are unaccredited lawyers and consultants who try to take advantage of vulnerable veterans by offering to help them file claims with the Veterans Benefits Administration and then go on to take a significant percentage of the benefit that the veteran should have received.

At our summit a week ago, we spoke with dozens of veterans about the free resources—free resources—available to them through the VA to help them avoid falling for scams and ensure that they know about the full range of benefits they are entitled to.

More recently, I cosponsored bipartisan legislation to impose penalties on these "sharks" so that we can further protect our veterans. After all, our commitment to care for our veterans, including safeguarding their hard-earned benefits, is a sacred obligation and one that I worked hard with many of our colleagues—Democrat and Republican—to fulfill.

In closing, it is clear that without the foundation of the original GI bill, our ambition to craft and pass generations of subsequent legislation to help our veterans might not have been possible. For all of these reasons, the lasting legacy of the GI bill leaves no doubt that it is truly the "greatest legislation" ever passed, in this Chamber and in this Congress, in the history of our Nation.

From my family and me to the veterans of today in the Army, Navy, Air

Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and all of our branches, I am honored to lead this celebration of the 80th anniversary of the original GI bill. Here is to another 80 years and, hopefully, many more.

I will close with one thing. I used to think it was in the Bible that if you give a person a fish, you feed them for today; if you teach a person to fish, you feed them for a lifetime. As it turns out, that is not in the Bible. That is not in the Scriptures. For years I said it was.

Finally, I used that line in a speech back in Delaware. I said at the end of my speech that—I talked about our obligation to try to make sure that people have the ability to feed themselves and their families. As it turned out, there was a preacher in the audience when I said those words. He spoke to me after my speech, after the program was over. He said: Those words are not in the Scriptures. Those words are not in the Scriptures—the idea that we have an obligation to teach a person to fish so they can feed themselves and their families and all.

He said: That is really not in the Bible.

I said: Well, it ought to be. It ought to be.

We have an obligation to help people, not just to give people something. But if they are hungry and they need help, we have an obligation to help. But the real obligation we have is to make sure that, ultimately, they can help themselves; that we can help them help themselves.

One of the great things about the GI bill is that it enables our service men and women to help themselves as they go forward in the future with their lives and to help their families.

It is a great piece of legislation, and we celebrate it here today for the 80th year since its original enactment in this Chamber.

With that, I am going to yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

REMEMBERING JIM MORRIS

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the life and legacy of Jim Morris. Jim Morris is one of the most influential civic leaders in Indiana's history, and he passed away earlier this month.

I first met Jim Morris about 20 years ago. It was when I returned home to Indiana, after spending time in the military and after a brief stint as a staffer here on Capitol Hill. The only thing I remember about that initial meeting was that it wasn't particularly memorable.

Jim Morris wasn't the kind of man who would bowl you over with his charisma or his magnetism. This wasn't his style. It was never about him. But, over time, the weight of continuous heartfelt interactions with Jim could change a person. Indeed, you might say they changed an entire city.

Jim Morris died July 12. He was 81. He had a 60-year career of service, all

told, to the city of Indianapolis, the State of Indiana, and even to the world.

Though Jim would bark at the title “model,” in my mind he was, in many ways, a model American citizen.

Jim grew up in Terre Haute. He attended Indiana University. It was there that he fell in love twice, once with the school itself and once with his beloved wife Jackie. And that endured.

In 1967, not long after graduation, he became chief of staff to a young mayor of Indianapolis named Richard Lugar. Since that moment, almost nothing great in our capital city happened without Jim’s involvement. He helped launch a university in downtown Indianapolis, until recently known as IUPUI. He was involved with the building of the Indianapolis Zoo, the Indianapolis Colts, and the Indiana Pacers. They all had Jim’s fingerprints on them.

Jim understood that the key to healthy organizations and healthy communities was to connect and empower others and ensure that seriousness of purpose was met with civil discourse.

In 2002, Jim took that approach global when he was appointed to lead the United Nations World Food Programme. He served as executive director of the program for 5 years, caring for and delivering aid to men, women, and children around the world who experienced a level of poverty that is difficult for us to imagine.

These monumental headline-grabbing accomplishments were only a part of who Jim Morris was, though. Indeed, his true legacy was far deeper, more personal, and, I dare say, more beautiful.

He always counseled friends to expand their work to its widest possible sphere of impact, to help more people, or—as he sometimes put it—to find someone who could use a boost.

He practiced what he preached. Indeed, countless Hoosiers have been affected by the small acts of altruism: funding local food banks, building neighborhood basketball courts, and similar generosity that we will never know about.

His servant’s heart, no doubt, stemmed from his deep and abiding faith in God. He was an active member in the Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis. He didn’t boast about many of his accomplishments. Instead, he lived a life worthy of the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 20: “Whoever wants to become great among you, must be a servant”—a servant.

I think about our “forgettable” first meeting often. I could be wrong, but Jim probably would have made a poor candidate for public office today. But, you see, that was a choice.

For me, Reverend Henry summed it up at Second Presbyterian, last Friday, in his memorial meditation to Jim. He said that Jim Morris chose—he chose—hope over despair, connection over division, gentleness over meanness, courtesy over discourtesy.

There is power in that choice. Jim Morris chose to be a decent man. He knew, and we must never forget, that no man can truly be great if he is not good. Now, more than ever, we need good men and women like Jim Morris in every corner of our Nation—men and women who become great through selfless service to their communities and endeavor to make life better for the rest of us.

I yield the floor.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Kashi Way, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

#### VOTE ON WAY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Way nomination?

Mr. CARPER. 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 New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The result was announced—yeas 79, nays 16, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 218 Ex.]

#### YEAS—79

Baldwin	Fischer	Reed
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Ricketts
Bennet	Graham	Risch
Blumenthal	Grassley	Romney
Booker	Hassan	Rosen
Boozman	Heinrich	Rounds
Braun	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Britt	Hirono	Schatz
Brown	Hoeven	Schumer
Budd	Johnson	Shaheen
Butler	Kaine	Sinema
Cantwell	Kelly	Smith
Capito	King	Stabenow
Cardin	Klobuchar	Tester
Carper	Lankford	Thune
Casey	Lujan	Tillis
Cassidy	Lummis	Van Hollen
Collins	Manchin	Warner
Coons	Markey	Warnock
Cornyn	Merkley	Warren
Cortez Masto	Moran	Welch
Cotton	Mullin	Whitehouse
Crapo	Murkowski	Wicker
Daines	Murphy	Wyden
Duckworth	Murray	Young
Durbin	Ossoff	
Fetterman	Peters	

#### NAYS—16

Blackburn	Hawley	McConnell
Cruz	Hyde-Smith	Paul
Ernst	Kennedy	
Hagerty	Marshall	

Rubio	Scott (FL)	Sullivan
Schmitt	Scott (SC)	Tuberville

NOT VOTING—5

Cramer	Menendez	Vance
Lee	Padilla	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). 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.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

The Senator from Nevada.

## SIGNING AUTHORITY

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the senior Senator from Ohio be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions from July 25, 2024, through July 26, 2024.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

## ELIMINATE USELESS REPORTS ACT OF 2024—Continued

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—AMENDMENT  
NO. 3085

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, if good intentions created good laws, there would be no need for congressional debate. I have no doubt that the authors of the bill on the floor genuinely want to protect children, but the bill they have written promises to be Pandora’s box of unintended consequences.

The Kids Online Safety Act, known as KOSA, would impose an unprecedented duty of care on internet platforms to mitigate certain harms associated with mental health, such as anxiety, depression, and eating disorders.

While proponents of the bill claim that the bill is not designed to regulate content, imposing a duty of care on the internet platforms associated with mental health can only lead to one outcome: the stifling of First Amendment-protected speech.

Today’s children live in a world far different from the one I grew up in, and I am the first in line to tell kids: Go outside and touch grass. With the internet, though, today’s children do have some advantages. They have the world at their fingertips, and that can often be a good thing. Just about any question can be answered through the internet by finding a scholarly article or a how-to video with a simple search. Doctors’ and therapists’ offices close at night and on weekends, but support groups are available 24 hours a day online, 7 days a week, for people who share similar concerns or who have had the same health problems. People can connect, share information, and help

each other more easily than ever before. That is the beauty of technological progress.

But the world can also be an ugly place. Like any other tool, the internet can be misused, and parents must be vigilant. Parents must be vigilant in protecting their kids online. It is perhaps understandable that those who sit in this body might seek a government solution to protect children from any harms that may result from spending too much time on the internet, but before we impose a drastic, first-of-its-kind, legal duty on online platforms, we should ensure that the positive aspects of the internet are preserved. That means we have to ensure that the First Amendment rights are protected and that these platforms are provided with clear rules so they can comply with the law. Unfortunately, this bill fails to do that in almost every respect.

As currently written, this bill is far too vague, and many of its provisions are completely undefined. The bill creates a Board that is empowered to regulate content that might affect mental health. Yet KOSA, the bill, does not explicitly define the term “mental health disorder.” Instead, it references the fifth edition of the “Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders” or “the most current successor edition.” So we are going to regulate items on the internet that might cause anxiety or might affect mental health based on a definition that evolves over time in a book, that we are never going to vote on again. It is going to be decided by whoever writes the DSM sixth, seventh, and eighth versions for mental health.

Written this way, not only would someone looking at the law not know what the definition is, but even more concerning, this definition could change without any input from Congress. When the diagnostic manual changes, the law will then be changed according to what the new definition of “mental health” is. The scope of one of the most expansive pieces of Federal tech legislation could drastically change overnight. Congress may not even realize it until after it has already happened. If the diagnostic manual on mental health changes the definition, the law changes, and Congress will have had no input on what the definition of “mental health” is.

None of my colleagues would be comfortable with a definition that effectively delegates—or should be comfortable with a definition that effectively delegates Congress’s legislative authority to an unaccountable third party.

Second, the bill would impose an unprecedented duty of care on internet platforms to mitigate certain harms. It sounds good. They want to mitigate harms such as anxiety, depression, and eating disorders. But the legislation doesn’t define what it considers harmful to minors, and everyone will have a different belief as to what causes harm, much less how online platforms should

go about protecting minors from that harm.

The sponsors of the bill will tell you this is not out of a desire to regulate content, but the requirement that platforms mitigate undefined harms to mental health belies the bill’s effect to regulate online content. How can you mitigate the effects of things that might cause anxiety, because they all involve content? This bill will be setting up a Board to regulate the content of the internet.

Imposing a duty of care on online platforms to mitigate harms associated with mental health can only lead to one outcome: the stifling of constitutionally protected speech.

For example, if online services use endless scrolling to promote Shakespeare’s works or algebra problems or the history of the Roman Empire, would any lawmaker consider that to be harmful? I doubt it, and that is because the website design does not do the harm.

So then you say: We are going to address the design of the website and not the content, but the only way you can mitigate the so-called harm is by mitigating the content. It is content, not design, that this bill will regulate.

Last year, Harvard Medical School’s magazine published a story called “Climate Anxiety; The existential threat posed by climate change is deeply troubling to many young people.” So this bill is going to regulate anxiety. What makes your kid anxious? Well, climate change makes a lot of kids anxious. Are we going to regulate the discussion of climate change for minors?

This article mentioned that among a cohort of more than 10,000 people between the ages of 16 and 25, 60 percent of them are described as being very worried about the climate, and nearly half said they have anxiety affecting their daily functioning because they are worried about the climate. Are we going to protect them by censoring and removing content about climate change?

The world’s most famous climate activist, Greta Thunberg, famously suffers from climate anxiety. Should platforms have stopped her from seeing things about climate warming or cooling or whatever the conjecture is this year? Should they remove that because it makes Greta Thunberg anxious? She has admitted that, as a teenager, Greta wouldn’t eat. She didn’t eat for nearly a year. She lost weight. Some say her growth was stunted. Should we remove climate change discussion from teenagers because it creates anxiety? This bill has the potential to do that.

Under this bill, Greta Thunberg would have been considered a minor, and she could have been deprived from engaging in the online debates that made her famous but also made her anxious.

Anxiety and eating disorders are two of the undefined harms that this bill expects internet platforms to prevent and mitigate. Are those sites going to

allow discussion and debate about the climate? Are they even going to allow the discussion of a person’s story about overcoming an eating disorder? That certainly could make people anxious.

What if you hear the story of someone with anorexia, and it makes you think that you are an anorexic? Instead of getting the moral that it was a bad idea to engage in this sort of psychological problem, it may cause you to be anxious because you now have to address the situation. Could that be regulated? Under this bill, it could.

What will happen is the fear of liability, the fear of lawsuits, the fear of what will happen under the penalties of this bill are going to cause people to censor themselves. Online platforms will be forced or feel themselves forced or coerced to censor themselves.

There is a question: Will pictures of thin models be tolerated lest it result in an eating disorder for the people who see them? There is a discussion of this all over. Now everybody sees, you know, the obese models who are now hired for Sports Illustrated in order to not cause anxiety. Well, if that is done voluntarily by a magazine, by all means, but if we are going to coerce these online platforms and say “you can’t show people who are too thin,” what is too thin? That is one of the results that could happen from this bill.

What about violent images of war? I think even adults are made anxious by that, but what of kids? Should we restrict images of war? There is a war going on in Gaza, and there are a lot of young people with opinions on that. Should we say, “Well, young people shouldn’t be allowed to see images of Gaza because it might make them anxious”?

Should we silence discussions about gun rights from either side—from the right or the left—because it might cause people anxiety? I would think that if you had been in a school where there was a school shooting, every time you would read about it, it would probably cause you anxiety. Should this be something that parents should try to address? or colleges? psychiatrists? By all means, parents should be involved in what their kids do online, but once the government sets it up, it depends on who is on the Board.

If the Democrats are in power—and they aren’t really fond of the Second Amendment—if they are in power, my guess is the people they appoint to the Board will believe that gun ownership or gun use is wrong and causes anxiety and shouldn’t be on children’s sites. Conversely, when the Republicans are in charge—and we are more for allowing the Constitution to be applied through the Second Amendment to gun ownership—we probably would want to police people telling kids they are not allowed to. It works both ways. There is enough to hate this bill from the right and the left because the government shouldn’t be making these blanket decisions.

What of online discussions of sexuality? Would pro-gay or anti-gay discussion cause anxiety in teenagers? I would think it might. This bill would allow the children's online safety to regulate things that cause anxiety. If a discussion of sexuality causes anxiety, it would be eligible under this bill for mitigation.

They didn't want to use "censorship" because it sounds bad, but that is what they want to do. They are appointing a committee called the children's online safety council, which will be able to censor things that cause anxiety: climate change, sexuality.

What about pro-life messaging? Should pro-life discussions cause anxiety in teenage mothers considering abortion? I am guessing that whole scenario from either the pro-life or the pro-abortion, you know, perspective is full of anxiety. But are we going to protect the teenage mom who might be offended that a pregnancy center is offering her a way out or is offering her a lifeline to have her child, because maybe somebody else thinks that she should have an abortion? Maybe she decides one way or another, but it is anxiety. That is probably full of more anxiety than most of us can imagine, but are we going to ban teenagers from seeing that?

This is insane. This bill is not well thought out. This bill is Pandora's box for censorship. In truth, this bill opens the door to nearly limitless content regulation as people can and will argue that most any piece of content could contribute to some form of mental health disorder.

In addition, financial concerns may cause online forums to eliminate all anxiety-inducing content for all users, regardless of age, if the expense for policing teenagers is prohibitive. So think about it. If we make this onerous process that adds a great deal of cost to the people developing the websites and they have to be liable and the State attorneys general can sue them, which this bill allows, maybe they say, "Gosh, is it worth my while having any discussion of anxiety-producing content?" which basically means things that are controversial. "Maybe we should stay away from that." Maybe there will be a self-policing effect to this bill where people are going to say, "I am not going to do it for my adult users because I don't want to be sued."

The bill gives the unlimited right and cause of action for every State attorney general. Some of them are on the far left, some of them are on the far right, and you can imagine each of them has their own pet cause to want to sue to say: You should take this content down.

This bill does not merely regulate the internet; it threatens to stifle important and diverse discussions that are essential to a free society. And who is empowered to help make these decisions? The task is entrusted to a newly established speech police. This bill would create a kids' online safety

council—aka speech police—to decide what constitutes harm to minors and what platforms would have to do to address the harm.

So the harms are broadly defined—mental health, anxiety, gambling, alcohol—but then the specifics of how it is going to be regulated are left to this new regulatory body. This is what many on the right have referred to as giving the power to bureaucrats.

There was a famous case called the Chevron case where they said the government should give deference to anything created by government. That is under review now, but this is the same problem. You are giving power to this new group that can censor that is virtually unlimited and ill-defined. These are the types of decisions that should be made by parents and families, not unelected bureaucrats serving as a censorship committee.

Those are not the only deficiencies of this bill. The bill seeks to protect minors from beer and gambling ads on certain online platforms—not everywhere, just in some places. So we are going to put this duty on some platforms that your kid can't watch gambling ads and can't watch beer ads, but on other platforms, we won't. So there will be a differential to financial cost. Some places won't have to pay anything, and other places will have to pay an amount to figure out how to set up a website that doesn't let kids watch golf with gambling commercials.

The bill seeks to protect kids from beer and gambling ads on certain online platforms, such as Facebook or Hulu. But if those same minors turn their phone off and turn their TV on, they can jolly well watch as much PGA with the announcer saying: FanDuel says gamble on Bryson DeChambeau this week or Rory McIlroy.

This is a bizarre bill. We are going to make it illegal to talk about certain things online or to advertise online for gambling or beer, but your kid can simply turn the TV on and watch PGA, which is full of ads.

You can have a variety of opinions on whether we should have gambling ads on TV, but they are perfectly legal. So we are going to punish certain groups on the internet and still say your kid can just turn the TV on—that is bizarre. It is just completely meaningless and bizarre.

Your kid can watch the Super Bowl with about a thousand beer commercials on it. And I haven't really heard of a lot of people jumping up and down and saying we should ban the Super Bowl or we should say the Super Bowl can't have beer ads. But that is what this says.

So with all the stuff your kid can watch on TV, he is now going to be limited—not on the whole internet, because you can go to PGA.com, and it has got an exemption because it is primarily news on sports. So they carved out all of these exemptions, and then there are going to be certain areas you can't go to on the internet. So this is a

punishment bill for certain aspects of the internet, not all of the internet, because there are a lot of exceptions, and not for TV.

This is a crazy notion. Yet you are going to see it pass overwhelmingly today because of the title: Kids Online Safety Act. Who could oppose that?

There are some tragic stories of people who have committed suicide or died because of things that happened on the internet. No one is here to discount that. But it has to be thoughtful, how we fix it.

Is removing all discussion of climate change, abortion, gambling ads, and beer ads going to do anything that would have addressed the life of any of the children who tragically lost their lives? I think not.

This is a hand-fisted bill that will not fix the problem but will be the first big bill to regulate speech online. It doesn't make any sense.

Should we prevent online platforms from showing kids the same content they can and do see on TV? Should sports viewership be effectively relegated to the preinternet age? You can watch golf on TV; you can't watch golf on a streaming service.

Even if it were possible to shield minors from every piece of content that might cause anxiety, depression, or eating disorders, it still is not enough to comply with KOSA—KOSA is the bill—because KOSA requires websites to treat differently individuals that the platform knows or should have known are minors. As you can realize, it is not easy to tell what someone's age is online.

The standard had been that if there were rules for minors, you had to know they were a minor, and you had to know you were broadcasting adult content to a minor. But it is kind of hard to enforce. So they are going to change the standard from "you knew it was a minor" to "you should have known it was a minor."

This means that the media platforms that earnestly try to comply with the law could be punished because the government thinks it "should have known" a user was a minor. This dumbing down of the standard will broaden the fear of this bill, broaden the impact of this bill, and lead to countless lawsuits.

This bill, then, does not just apply to minors. A "should have known" standard means that this bill is an internetwide regulation. Every website will have to figure out who and how old they are so they don't get in the way of the speech police or they don't get in the way of being sued by the attorney general from that State.

This is opening pandora's box. It is not going to be just sites that might have kids. It is every website, every streaming service that is now going to have to police themselves at a cost and live in fear of these people coming after them.

Adults and minors alike better get comfortable with providing a form of

ID every time they wish to visit a website. This knowledge standard destroys the notion of internet privacy and interactivity.

I raised several questions about this bill today, but no one—not even the sponsors of this bill—can answer these questions honestly because they don't know the answers. They are creating something that is going to create the regulation of the internet.

This is the problem of most of the legislation in Washington. They are not creating the censorship standards. They are creating an autonomous body that will regulate things that cause anxiety. They haven't told us what causes anxiety.

So I have given you examples. They are not in the bill because the bill doesn't tell what this new body is going to regulate. It says things that cause anxiety, things that might involve gambling or beer or eating disorders. It could be any of those things. But they are just going to tell you that we are going to let this body decide.

So the Senate is not going to decide what they are going to censor today. They are going to create a committee today that then will be the censorship committee, and, at a later date, we will decide what they want to censor. This is an insane encroachment on the First Amendment.

The inability to answer these questions is a result of several vague provisions in this bill, and once enacted into law, these questions will not be answered by elected representatives. They will be answered by unelected bureaucrats who are on this council, who will make the decision as to what will be censored.

There are good reasons to think that the courts will strike this bill down. They would have a host of reasons to do so. Vagueness pervades the bill. The most meaningful terms are undefined, making compliance with the bill nearly impossible. Even if we discount the many and obvious First Amendment violations inherent in this bill, the courts will likely find this bill void for vagueness. We can only hope so.

But we should not rely on the courts to save America from this poorly drafted bill. The Senate can reject this bill today and force the sponsors to at least provide greater clarity of the bill.

This bill, KOSA, is a Trojan horse. It purports to protect our children by claiming limitless ability to regulate speech and depriving them of the benefits of the internet, which include engaging with like-minded individuals, expressing themselves freely, as well as participating in debates among others with different opinions.

Government mandates and censorship will not protect children online. The internet may pose new problems, but there is an age-old solution to this issue. Free minds and parental guidance are the best means to protect our children online.

Opposition to this bill is bipartisan, from advocates on the right to the left.

A pro-life organization, Students for Life Action, commented on this bill stating:

Once again, a piece of federal legislation with broad powers and vague definitions threatens pro-life speech. . . . those targeted by a weaponized federal government will always include pro-life Americans, defending mothers and their children—born and [unborn].

Students for Life Action concluded their statement by saying:

Already the pro-life generation faces discrimination, deplatforming, and short and long term bans on social media on the whims of others. Students for Life calls for a No vote on [this bill] to prevent viewpoint discrimination from becoming federal policy at the FTC.

So you could say: I don't really care. I am on the other side of that issue. I am a liberal, and I am pro-abortion. I don't care what pro-life students say.

Well, maybe you should care what the ACLU has to say about this. The ACLU brought more than 300 high school students to Capitol Hill to urge Congress to vote no on this bill because, to quote the ACLU, "it would give the government the power to decide what content is dangerous to young people, enabling censorship and endangering access to important resources, like gender identity support, mental health materials, and reproductive healthcare."

So here you have it. You have people on one side who are pro-life, like myself, who are worried that pro-life language will be stifled because it might cause anxiety on teenagers. But you have people on the other side, such as the ACLU, who would have—I believe when they refer to "reproductive healthcare" they are talking about abortion. They are worried that people in favor of abortion would be stifled as well.

This bill is opposed from the right and the left by anybody who is thoughtful about freedom of speech, about freedom of association, about freedom of discussion of ideas online.

In the next few minutes, I will ask unanimous consent to have an amendment to this bill. What you will notice is, while the supporters of this bill will come forward and say, "It doesn't do that; it doesn't do that," one thing that is for certain is they won't allow amendments to this. So there will be no amendments to this bill.

The reason I am asking for an amendment from the floor is because they have already said privately they will not allow amendments.

One reason they won't allow amendments is, when I read the content of my amendment, people would be aghast that anybody could vote against it. And a vote against it would be deeply damaging for people running for office, Republican or Democrat.

The bill contains too many flaws as is. Even my one amendment wouldn't fix this bill, but at least put people on the record who don't believe that there should be restrictions for limiting religious or social speech.

The Senate should tackle the most glaring problem with this bill: that it will silence political, social, and religious speech.

My amendment seeks to address this concern, shared by many in the pro-life movement, as well as anyone who values the principles of free speech. My amendment merely states that no regulations that will be put forward by this magical and mysterious new censorship police that will be in the future—who we don't know who they are, and we don't know what they will be regulating—but if my amendment were to pass, they will not be allowed to regulate, and it will not apply to political, social, and religious speech. Another name for that would be constitutionally protected speech.

My amendment is intended to address the legitimate concern that the bill threatens free speech online. If the supporters of this legislation really want to leave content alone, they will allow the amendment. So the fact that they will deny me this amendment effectively tells Americans they don't want any dissent, and they acknowledge that this is a bill of censorship.

They don't want anything to mitigate or lessen the ability for the committee to censor you. So they will not allow this amendment. They won't even allow a vote on it because they are afraid to be on record. Really, the sponsors of the bill are here today, and they will rebut my words. I would like them to state publicly for all of us how they would vote on the amendment and why they are blocking the amendment.

If the supporters of this legislation really do want to leave content alone, they will welcome and vote for my amendment to protect political, social, and religious speech.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that if cloture is invoked on the motion to concur with further amendment in the House amendment to S. 2073, amendment No. 3022 be set aside, and it be in order for me to call up my amendment No. 3085. I further ask that, at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader, there be 30 minutes of debate, equally divided between the proponents and opponents of my amendment; finally, that following the use or yielding back of that time, the Senate vote on my amendment No. 3085 with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). Is there objection?

The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I have listened to my colleague from Kentucky, and in the interest of time, I think the very simple answer and the reason for my objection is: Read the bill. Read the bill.

If you read the bill, you will see, for example, there is no empowering of attorneys general to enforce this measure; there is no vagueness in these provisions. They were crafted narrowly to target specific evils—real evils—that destroy lives.



And if he thinks that this bill, as he has termed it, is “crazy” and “bizarre,” he should tell the parents and the young people who have come to us over these past years—to Senator BLACKBURN and myself—with harrowing stories of the destructive harm to their children’s lives, and young people telling us about those harms to their own lives.

The principle of this bill is very simple: It does not empower those unelected bureaucrats—which, again, unfortunately, our colleague from Kentucky has misread. It empowers young people and parents. It gives them choices. It enables them to take back control over their own lives. It enables the strongest settings of safety by default. It requires companies to disable product features that are destructive. It gives young people and parents tools to opt out, to choose not to be a part of algorithm recommendations that fuel destructive mental health harms. It gives them safeguards to shield themselves against online predators and options to protect their own information.

Young people and parents deserve these kinds of choices to make on their own. That is the principle of the bill.

And so this mischaracterization is regrettable, but I know that my colleagues are going to see through it—they are going to see that this bill is very specific, not vague; narrowly targeted, not broad—to protect children and give parents and kids choices that enable them to take back control over their own lives.

And let me just say, there is no censorship in this bill—none, zero. It is about product design, much as it would be about a car that is unsafe and is required to have seatbelts and airbags.

We wouldn’t credit an argument by a car manufacturer that somehow it is a First Amendment right of expression to eliminate those car seats and airbags that protect lives. It would be ludicrous. It would be laughable, and so are these objections that have been made by my colleague from Kentucky.

I am proud of the work that we have done on a bipartisan basis over these years. This bill is the result of bipartisan, careful, methodical, time-consuming work by Senator BLACKBURN and myself listening to those parents and young people but also—and let me be very blunt here—listening to the Big Tech companies. They have come to us, and they have said, in effect: Trust us. Trust us. We will take care of it.

We have seen this movie before. We know how it ends: No action. “Trust us” is no longer tolerable, and one reason it is no longer tolerable is we have looked under the hood. We have seen how the car works. We have seen it from their own documents, their own files, their own written product designs. And we have seen their business model, which is repetitive, toxic stuff driven at kids and more eyeballs meaning more advertisers, meaning more dollars if those kids are online for longer periods of time without the

choices that we are giving them to disconnect.

We are no longer going to trust Big Tech to do the job. We are determined that we will make this product safer by empowering young people and their parents and creating a duty of care—not vague, not overbroad, but carefully crafted—to make sure that these companies have to prevent the kind of harms that they know are happening.

We know they are happening because the documents show it, and their own evidence, in effect, proves it. And we are not going to trust them anymore to comply with the law; we are going to require audits and transparency, access to the black box algorithms so that they are held accountable.

This bill is a major step toward online safety for children, and I am hopeful that my colleagues will, in fact, see through the inaccuracies in the arguments that have just been made here and that they will join Senator BLACKBURN and me, as 70 have done in co-sponsoring this measure, to say it is time for online safety.

I yield to my colleague from Tennessee, Senator BLACKBURN, who has been a steadfast and invaluable partner in this effort.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I thank my colleague, who has worked so diligently on this.

This legislation has been years in the making, as he has said. Basically, the amending process has gone on for 3 years. And as I mentioned, 70 Members of this body have joined to sponsor this legislation.

To the concerns that my colleague expressed, I want him to know this is not a speech bill. This is not a content bill. No agency can make rules on speech. Nonprofits are not covered in this bill. There is no rulemaking. News outlets are not covered in this. The government is given no new authority.

And when he mentioned websites and blogs, the Kids Online Safety Act only covers social media, social networks, multiplayer online video games, social messaging apps, video streaming services. It does not include blogs and personal websites.

Now, the question he was saying that the Kids Online Safety Act covers platforms that are run by nonprofits: Websites run by nonprofit organizations, which often host important and valuable education and support services, are not covered in the scope of this legislation. And these are important points to make.

And as Senator BLUMENTHAL said, reading the bill, you see this is a product design. The duty of care that is there, it requires social media companies to prevent and mitigate certain harms that they know their platforms and products are causing to young users as a result of their design choices, such as their recommendation algorithms, their addictive product features.

The specific covered harms include suicide, eating disorders, substance use disorders, and sexual exploitation. And these are the reasons for having this duty of care and having this included in the Kids Online Safety Act.

But, no, it is not a speech bill. It is not a content bill. It does not include rulemaking authority. It has no rulemaking authority in the legislation, and it does not give additional authority to the government, and it does not give more authority to State attorneys general or to the FTC.

So I think the fears are unfounded. This is a good product, good legislation. We have worked with our colleagues. We have heard from thousands—thousands—of kids and parents, pediatricians, teachers, principals, mental health professionals, and everyone has come to the table to say: It is time to hold Big Tech accountable for what is happening to our kids.

And I yield back to my colleague from Connecticut.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I just want to add—and I thank Senator BLACKBURN for her excellent summary and argument—about this reference to social speech: We are dealing here with social media companies. This proposed rule of construction, in effect, would destroy the bill. That is the intent here, and we are not going to let it happen.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, a few comments on the support the authors of the bill have come forward with.

The discussion is that State attorneys are not empowered when, in actuality, if you read the bill, the State attorneys are empowered. They are specifically referred to in the bill, and they are specifically empowered to sue if and when the Child Online Safety Committee promulgates rules to the FTC. This is specifically given to all these State attorneys, but also the rulemaking authority is given in the bill.

State attorneys general will also be allowed to sue even if no rule is made. This does empower State attorneys general across the Nation to sue over whether or not people are adequately suppressing or censoring speech based on anxiety. So that is a factual dispute we have with the authors.

One of the authors says: We can’t trust the online people. We can’t trust the people hosting these platforms.

Well, of course you can’t. That is why you are supposed to be parents. That is why you are supposed to be involved with your church and community and you are supposed to try to police. Everything is imperfect, but you are supposed to try. It isn’t the government.

So he says: We can’t trust them.

But, you know what, I have also heard another comment: Trust us; we are from the government. Trust us; we are going to give this Child Online Safety Committee unlimited, unchecked power to regulate anything that causes your teenager to feel anxiety—from climate change to sexuality to who knows what to eating disorders to thin models to gambling on the PGA or any website, or beer commercials. This is Pandora's box, and we need to be aware of what it actually does allow to occur.

The rule of construction, the amendment that is being blocked, is typical. This is a bill to block free speech. So in order to pass a bill to block free speech, you block the free speech on the floor of the Senate and disallow amendments.

Who in America would think it would be wrong to limit this bill and to protect political, social, and religious speech? That is what they are actually saying. They won't allow amendment on it, but they are not for exempting political, social, or religious speech. What does that mean? It means they conclude that the bill will allow regulation of political, social, and religious speech.

Mark my words: We will revisit this issue. The court is either going to strike this thing down or we are going to come back here in a year or two, and people are going to go: Oh, my God. Did anybody read the bill before they passed it?

They have 70 cosponsors because nobody reads the bills. Nobody thinks of the implications of the bill. The bill gives virtually unlimited purview to the Children's Online Safety Committee to determine what causes anxiety.

Everything causes anxiety in teenagers. Every controversial subject could potentially cause anxiety. This is a huge mistake to give this authority to unelected bureaucrats—who we don't know who they are yet or who will appoint them—who will make the decisions over what causes anxiety.

So while these people—I grant them good motives. I grant them wanting to do the best for people. I grant that there are terrible and tragic cases where children have committed suicide or otherwise, but this isn't the answer. The answer isn't to abbreviate or take away the precious rights guaranteed under the First Amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following Members be permitted to speak prior to the scheduled vote: Senator MARKEY for up to 5 minutes, Senator CASSIDY for up to 5 minutes, Senator KLOBUCHAR for up to 5 minutes, Senator SCHATZ for up to 10 minutes, Senator CRUZ for up to 5 minutes, Senator BLUMENTHAL for up to 5 minutes, Senator BLACKBURN for up to 10 minutes, and Senator SCHUMER for up to 5 minutes.

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

S. 2073

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise today in defense of the mental health of children and teenagers in the United States of America.

Our young people today are facing a devastating mental health crisis. I have said these statistics on the floor before, but they bear repeating because they come from the Centers for Disease Control in our country: One in three high school girls in the United States seriously considered suicide in 2021 and at least one in ten high school girls attempted suicide that year; among LGBTQ youth, the number is more like one in five attempted suicide. That is staggering, and it is unacceptable that Big Tech has knowingly contributed to these disturbing numbers.

And let's just move on. Take it from the U.S. Surgeon General who, just a few weeks ago, referred to the young mental health crisis as an "emergency" and identified social media as an "important contributor" to that crisis.

Over the next week, the U.S. Senate has a chance, finally, to do something about it, to stand up to Big Tech's lobbying machine and put an end to the invasive targeting and tracking of young people online.

Today we have a procedural vote to move ahead on the Kids Online Safety Act, which includes my legislation partnering with Senator CASSIDY, the Children and Teens' Online Privacy Protection Act, or COPPA 2.0. Our legislation cuts to the heart of this emergency by addressing Big Tech's financial incentives to keep kids and teens addicted to social media and allows kids, parents, and teens to say no to the endless tracking and targeting of young people online in our country, because as long as Big Tech can profit off of young people's addiction, they will find ways to do so.

And our job is to change those incentives, to change Big Tech's business model so that addicting kids and teens does not lead to fatter wallets and larger bonuses for Big Tech executives. The core problem facing children and teens is Big Tech's relentless and unyielding drive to accumulate more and more data on its users.

This data may seem vague and uncertain, but it is anything but vague and uncertain. It is a child's name, a child's email address, a child's location, their height, their weight, their health conditions, their fingerprints and facial scan, their likes, their dislikes, even their sexual orientation and gender identity. Why? Targeted advertising by Big Tech companies.

With more data, the platforms can develop more effective targeted ads; ads that are chosen to match the user's specific age, location, and interests; ads that are displayed at a certain time of day when the algorithm knows a user is most likely to click them; and soon, with the advent of artificial in-

telligence, perhaps ads that are even generated just for the individual user. That is the promise of AI.

All of this hyperpersonalized advertising requires huge amounts of data on an individual user. Data is the fuel for Big Tech's profit machine, the raw material that sustains Big Tech's business model. The formula is simple: More time on social media means more data to fuel the targeted advertising machine, which means more profits for Big Tech. More addiction equals more data equals more money for Big Tech. Very simple. And they target teenagers and children in our country in the same way that the tobacco industry targeted teenagers and children.

And it is a lot of money.

In 2022, the major Big Tech platforms earned nearly \$11 billion from U.S. users under the age of 18—\$11 billion. That is 11 billion reasons to build ever more sophisticated data profiles on younger users; 11 billion reasons to develop new addictive features; 11 billion reasons to keep your young people clicking, swiping, and liking all day long.

With the growth of artificial intelligence, Big Tech's appetite for data has never been greater. And that means the privacy of our young people has never been more at risk. The question, then, is how to change Big Tech's incentives to develop platforms that benefit children and teens rather than addict them. And if Big Tech no longer has an incentive to maximize the data collected on a young person, it will lose the incentive to develop ever-changing methods to addict that child or teen in the first place.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time expired.

Mr. MARKEY. May I ask for one additional minute?

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

Mr. MARKEY. Here is what the bill does. One, it will ban targeted advertising to children and teens. Two, it will create an eraser button to delete children and teens' data. And, three, stop the unnecessary data collection practices of online platforms.

With these updates, the Senate has an opportunity to pass the most comprehensive privacy law for young people in over 25 years and send a message to Big Tech that these days of invading and exploiting young people must come to an end.

We have to stop business as usual. That is what we are going to vote on today, to begin this process procedurally to get it out on the floor of the Senate substantively for an historic vote next week.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, think about how much has happened over the last several weeks. We have had one Presidential candidate survive an assassination attempt. Our current President is dropping out of the race. We

have had protesters burning an American flag and raising a Palestinian flag as the United States' closest ally gave a speech to Congress yesterday. That is how much has happened in several weeks.

Guess what hasn't happened in 25 years? An update of how to protect children on their online experience. That has not changed in 25 years, even when so much happens in just a few weeks. So rules from 25 years ago cannot effectively govern social media sites that did not exist 25 years ago, were not conceived of 25 years ago.

We have waited too long to update these rules, but today we have a chance to fix. The current armor protecting children's internet activity passed into law in 1998. Babies born that year are well into their professional careers. People were concerned about Y2K, and Nick Saban had not become LSU's football coach.

Of course, the 1998 rules do not prohibit Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok from collecting personal information on young teenagers without consent because that was not envisioned 25 years ago.

Today, the internet is an integral part of a child's life. The information a child has access to has drastically expanded, exposing children to risks that they may not have the maturity to navigate independently.

The internet has so many good things and can be a great learning tool for our children. But we can't ignore the dangers—the adult content, the pornography, the cyber bullying, the violence, the predatory behavior, the overall impact upon our children's mental health. Our children should not be left to face these challenges alone. Under current law, the law passed in 1998—good for the time, but not for now—only children less than age 13 were covered, leaving a whole population of teenagers unprotected.

With 95 percent of teenagers between 13 and 17 using social media, their protections should be expanded. By expanding these protections, by banning targeted advertising, by limiting data collection, and strengthening parental control, COPPA 2.0 enables safer online experiences and guards against exposure to manipulation and exploitation. This, in lockstep with the Kids Online Safety Act, or KOSA, will give the parents the peace of mind to know their child is safer than they were before.

These bills empower parents. They empower children. They are bipartisan no-brainers, which is why they have overwhelming bipartisan support in both Chambers of Congress.

Look, I am a doctor, a father, a grandfather. But I am not the only grandfather and father voting on these pieces of legislation. Anyone with children knows that they would do anything to protect those children. Congress has a chance to reflect that paternal and maternal instinct and take a serious step to protect our children. These bills will make a difference. I urge my colleagues to support.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today because the time to protect our kids from these online platforms is now, after decades of delay, thanks to our colleagues, Senators BLUMENTHAL, BLACKBURN, MARKEY, and CASSIDY, as well as Chair CANTWELL and Ranking Member CRUZ, Judiciary Committee Chair DURBIN and Leader SCHUMER, as well as Ranking Member GRAHAM. I serve on both committees. I have been a strong proponent of these bills as well as others.

For too long, social media companies have turned a blind eye when children join their platforms and build algorithms that push harmful content out to kids.

What have we seen? A recent study from the Mayo Clinic showed us—the study found kids have difficulty sleeping, unrealistic expectations about their bodies or their lives, exposure to online predators, subject to cyber bullying. The result of this is tragic results for teens.

I am thinking of Devin Norring from Hastings, MN. I have gotten to know his mom Bridgette. Struggling with migraines, he bought what he thought was Percocet online on Snapchat, but it wasn't really Percocet. It was laced with fentanyl. Right off Snapchat, he got that pill. He died.

Alexander Neville, like Devin, purchased a pill online that turned out to be counterfeit made with fentanyl. It killed him. He was only 14.

Carson Bride ended his life 4 years ago after he was viciously cyber bullied by his high school classmates who were using Snapchat's anonymous app. Not so anonymous for Carson Bride.

I met with their moms. They have come to the Capitol. They are here today. It is time to get this done with no delay. Why do they even need to be here? Because there weren't safeguards and rules already in place.

Why didn't these companies act when they learned of the danger? Let's be clear. They knew of the danger. This is about profits over safety.

When that Boeing plane door fell out, what happened? We grounded the fleet. We made sure it was safe. Why haven't we been doing this here?

It is time to act. It has been 26 years since Congress passed any meaningful kids' online privacy legislation. I am so honored that the chair of the Judiciary Committee is here, Senator DURBIN, who helped me and Senator CORNYN to get the SHIELD Act through this Chamber, which would prohibit the online distribution of explicit and intimate images, also known as revenge porn.

We just passed Senator DURBIN's DEFIANCE Act, with Senator HAWLEY and Senator GRAHAM and myself, to allow victims of explicit deepfakes to seek the justice that they deserve.

The Kids Online Safety and Privacy Act before us will expand existing laws

to protect children online. It also goes further to ensure a safe online environment for children by creating a legal duty for social media companies to take all necessary steps to protect kids from harmful features and algorithms on their platforms.

I will never forget the parent who once told me that she was relying on her older kids because she couldn't figure out how to stop her younger kid from putting up more and more apps, and she couldn't get around it. She said it was like water overflowing a sink, and she was out there by herself with a mop trying to mop it up. I thought that kind of said it all for how parents feel. We need to stand by their side.

In addition to the bills that are so important before us today, we need to pass the Cooper Davis and Devin Norring Act, which requires social media companies to report illegal drug sales on their platforms. To law enforcement, that bill is heading this way to the floor.

We need to finally take this on; not put our heads in the sand, not expect those parents to be out there with a mop while these big companies are profiting off of their kids. This is a moment, but this is only a beginning. There is so much more work to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, while there is no doubt our country has greatly benefited from the internet, for some families, it has come at a painful and even tragic cost.

Every parent I know is concerned about the online threats directed at our kids. Whether it is predators targeting children or online videos promoting self-harm, risky life choices, or undermining their lack of self-esteem, we all know someone who has had to grapple with the failure of Big Tech to take responsibility for the harms caused by its products.

Today, the Senate is beginning to put Big Tech on notice. The Kids Online Safety Act, or KOSA, and the Children and Teens' Online Privacy Protection Act, or COPPA 2.0, will both help keep children safer online and protect their privacy.

I want to thank Senators BLACKBURN, BLUMENTHAL, MARKEY, and CANTWELL for collaborating with me and my team over the past year to significantly improve both measures.

In KOSA, we added an express preemption provision that will help limit the litigation magnet from a patchwork of State laws.

We eliminated all FTC rulemaking authority, putting in place guardrails against government overreach.

Importantly, we also struck an important balanced approach on the obligation tech companies have with respect to determining whether a user online is a minor in both KOSA and COPPA 2.0. Instead of the current law's age-verification approach—an actual knowledge standard that has permitted

tech companies to rely on children absurdly claiming to have been born in 1882—tech companies will now have to bear more responsibility to enforce underage online accounts. This update is not a constructive knowledge standard, but it reflects, rather, a balance that puts greater responsibility on tech companies without imposing unfeasible requirements.

Nearly 30 years after the original COPPA's passage, the internet has changed, and I believe COPPA 2.0 meets the moment to update the current privacy issues effectively.

Congress should continue to build off the specific bipartisan provisions in COPPA 2.0 for children's privacy and enact a comprehensive data privacy bill. In the Commerce Committee, I intend to continue that work.

KOSA and COPPA 2.0 are important first steps in protecting children online, but we are not finished. More work remains to be done.

Senator KLOBUCHAR and I have together introduced the Take It Down Act, which targets bad actors who use AI to create and publish on social media sites fake, explicit imagery of real people—often teenage girls. The Take It Down Act gives them the justice they deserve by criminalizing the spread of so-called revenge porn and requiring Big Tech to remove the images immediately upon notice by the victim. It also applies to fake images made using AI, deepfake images that we are seeing more and more becoming a plague targeting young people and in particular young women.

Senator SCHATZ and I have also introduced the Kids Off Social Media Act, KOSMA, which builds upon KOSA by addressing specific harms to children from social media—especially in schools. Big Tech claims users under 13 aren't permitted, so KOSMA makes that explicit. It prohibits children under 13 from having social media accounts. It stops companies from targeting minors, and it requires schools to block social media in school.

I hope this body will meet parents where they are and say enough is enough. Let's also soon pass KOSMA because there is no good reason for an 8-year-old to be on Instagram or a teenager to be doom-scrolling Twitter in a classroom at taxpayers' expense.

Parents across the country agree: It is time Congress answered the call and held Big Tech accountable. I am proud to work alongside Republicans and Democrats. I am proud of the work the Commerce Committee has done to bring KOSA and COPPA 2.0 forward. I look forward to continuing this critically important work of protecting our kids online.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUTLER). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 708.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine.

### 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 senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 708, Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Peter Welch, John W. Hickenlooper, Margaret Wood Hassan, Jack Reed, Laphonza R. Butler, Richard Blumenthal, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tammy Baldwin, Christopher Murphy, Chris Van Hollen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Duckworth, Christopher A. Coons, Brian Schatz, Sheldon Whitehouse.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motion filed today, July 25, be waived.

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

## 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.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

### ELIMINATE USELESS REPORTS ACT OF 2024—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

S. 2073

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I know we are waiting for our colleague from Indiana to come to the floor, so as we do, today, we are moving to a cloture vote on the Kids Online Safety Act. This is something Senator BLUMENTHAL and I have worked on over the last 3 years, and we are grateful

that we are now to this day. We introduced this bill about 3 years ago, after a series of hearings where it became evident that platforms like Instagram knew they were causing rising rates of eating disorders, mental health issues among teenage girls, and yet they were downplaying these harms.

Since then, we have seen more and more evidence that Big Tech is focused on putting profit over children's safety. Children are the product when they are online. We have seen internal documents from these companies that show they know what they are doing to our kids.

We have worked tirelessly over the last 3 years to get this bill in shape. It will create new tools for parents to identify harmful behavior and to report abuse directly to those social media sites.

It will provide new controls for families to support their children, including to opt out of algorithmic recommendations.

It will require mandatory audits of the social media platforms to ensure that the platforms are mitigating harms to children.

Perhaps most importantly, it will create a duty of care for online platforms to prevent and mitigate specific dangers to minors, including the promotion of suicide, eating disorders, substance abuse, and sexual exploitation.

Without real and enforceable reforms, social media companies will only continue to pay lipservice to the issue of protecting children while putting profits over their safety.

I am grateful to my colleague Senator BLUMENTHAL and to Senator SCHUMER for his leadership in allowing the vote today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, while we are waiting, I understand, for one of our colleagues to come and do a live UC, I just want to echo my colleague Senator BLACKBURN's thanks to all of our friends and colleagues in this body for their support.

We have reached 70 cosponsors, and I anticipate with gratitude an overwhelming bipartisan majority in favor of this bill. I want to thank in particular Senator SCHUMER, who has provided leadership on this bill that I think is going to be long remembered. Certainly, it will be remembered by the parents and children who have driven advocacy for this measure. They may be in the gallery now. I don't know for sure. But I think on behalf of all of us, we owe them a great debt of thanks.

And, again, this bill addresses a long-standing problem for this Nation. We can no longer rely on the promises of Big Tech. We can no longer take at face value the promises of "trust me." "We will take care of it." We are giving choices, and we are empowering young people and their parents, providing

safeguards, tools to disconnect from the blackbox algorithms, more transparency for those algorithms, and a duty of care and accountability for social media—for the first time, a real duty of care and accountability for them so they have to prevent harms that are destroying lives, literally destroying lives. And I think we are on the road, and we are going to keep pursuing this measure as long and hard as it takes to impose that accountability on Big Tech.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, today, the Senate takes a groundbreaking step towards ensuring our kids' online safety in the age of social media. As we all know, social media has many benefits; but with the benefits also comes risk. Many kids experience relentless online bullying. Kids' private personal data can be collected and used nefariously. Predators can exploit or target kids.

And for kids who struggle with mental health, social media can magnify their anguish. I have met with the parents over and over again who have lost children in the flower of their lives because they were manipulated—nefariously, maliciously—by social media. We must stop that. And today, KOSA and COPPA represent something very urgent. These bills will provide the appropriate guardrails necessary to protect kids against online threats.

It is not an exaggeration to say these bills would be the most important updates in decades to Federal laws that protect kids on the internet, and it is a very good first step. And we did it with both sides working together, bipartisan, as this body ought to work—and I try to get it to work that way all the time. I want to thank my colleagues who championed these bills: Senators BLUMENTHAL and BLACKBURN, MARKEY and CASSIDY, Chair CANTWELL, Chair DURBIN, Senator KLOBUCHAR, and so many others who really led the charge.

Once the Senate clears today's procedural vote, KOSA and COPPA will be on a glidepath to final passage early next week. We should not delay a moment more. We should get the job done. Getting to this point wasn't easy. It has been a long and winding and difficult road. But we all kept going because we knew the results would be worth it.

Most importantly, I want to thank the true heroes of this effort: the parents whose kids tragically took their own lives because of what happened to them on social media. Some of the parents are here today. We salute you. It has been an honor to get to know these wonderful Americans over the past few months. We have met together; we felt pain together; we have cried together. What they have endured is incomprehensible. But amazingly and beautifully, instead of curing in darkness, as the scriptures say, these parents lit a candle. They turned their grief into grace.

Today the Senate tells these parents: We hear you. We are taking action.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 2073, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes, with amendment No. 3021.

Charles E. Schumer, Maria Cantwell, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jack Reed, Tammy Duckworth, Jeanne Shaheen, Tim Kaine, Mark R. Warner, Edward J. Markey, Gary C. Peters, John W. Hickenlooper, Angus S. King, Jr., Tammy Baldwin, Raphael G. Warnock, Cory A. Booker, Catherine Cortez Masto, Richard Blumenthal.

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 motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 2073, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes, with Amendment No. 3021, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), 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 North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "yea," the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) would have voted "yea," and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) would have voted "yea."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 86, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 219 Leg.]

#### YEAS—86

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

#### NAYS—1

Paul

#### NOT VOTING—13

Cramer	Marshall	Sanders
Hoeven	Menendez	Tillis
Kennedy	Moran	Vance
Lee	Padilla	
Lummis	Rounds	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). On this vote, the yeas are 86, the nays are 1.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Cloture having been invoked, the motion to refer and the amendments pending thereto fall.

The senior Senator from Connecticut.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time be deemed expired; further, if cloture is invoked on the Neumann nomination on Tuesday, July 30, that upon disposition of the nomination, the Senate vote on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 2073 with amendment No. 3021; further, that if cloture is not invoked on the Neumann nomination, the vote on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 2073 with amendment No. 3021 occur at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, July 30.

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

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. 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.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE SHEPPARD FAMILY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the

Sheppards of Eastern Kentucky, a family renowned in basketball and across the Commonwealth. This month, Laurel County will gather to honor the Sheppards and their impact on the community and dedicate a new monument to celebrate Laurel County's highest achieving basketball players. I would like to join my home State in recognizing Jeff, Stacey, Madison, and Reed Sheppard for their many accomplishments and contributions to Kentucky.

For decades, the Sheppard name has been a staple of Kentucky basketball. These days, most are familiar with the youngest, Reed—a No. 3 NBA draft pick and one of the Nation's top collegiate players while at the University of Kentucky—but his mom and dad, Stacey and Jeff, are both UK greats in their own right. Jeff played on two championship-winning seasons with the Cats and, in 1998, helped lead UK to one of its most unexpected victories in overtime against Stanford, securing the seventh NCAA title for the Big Blue Nation. Here on Kentucky's campus, Jeff met Stacey Reed, a fierce competitor on the women's basketball team and one of the university's best point guards.

Stacey and Jeff bonded over their faith and love of basketball and their shared experience as successful collegiate athletes. They soon married and moved their family back to Laurel County to raise their kids in Stacey's lifelong hometown. Madison and Reed eventually made their own names in basketball playing on their high school teams.

Like so many young athletes across the Commonwealth, Reed dreamed of one day wearing UK's blue and white uniform. His start on the team was met with unmatched enthusiasm in the Bluegrass, as one of the few native Kentuckians to suit up under Coach John Calipari. He quickly captured the attention of basketball fans across the Nation, named the Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Year and the National Freshman of the Year, the first player in Kentucky basketball history to earn this honor.

While basketball certainly runs in their blood, serving Kentucky is just as much a part of the Sheppard DNA. As young parents, Jeff and Stacey established the Backpack Program, an organization that prepares bagged lunches for hungry children across Laurel County. The Sheppard's charitable work for their church and their hometown and Stacey's perseverance in battling breast cancer set an enduring example of giving and helping others, of the power of community in times of need. When catastrophic floods swept through Eastern Kentucky in 2022, killing 45 people, Reed and his family joined together to help flood victims and raise money for relief efforts across the region. Today, the entire family continues to give back to Eastern Kentucky, whether volunteering their time, raising funds for those in

need, or mentoring the next generation of young ball players.

The Commonwealth has long been home to the biggest and best in basketball. But it is players like Jeff, Stacey, Madison, and Reed who bring passion and purpose to the sport that set our teams and our State apart. I am proud to join Kentuckians in congratulating the Sheppard family for receiving this well-deserved honor and in thanking them for all their contributions to the Commonwealth on and off the court.

#### TRIBUTE TO ASHLI WATTS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Ashli Watts, president and CEO of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and a leading voice in my home State's business community.

From an early age, Ashli had an affinity for public policy. Like me, she got her start in politics through a congressional internship on Capitol Hill. This early experience in our Nation's Capital cemented Ashli's interest in policy and public advocacy even further. Upon graduating from Campbellsville University, where she remains an active and involved alumna, Ashli went on to pursue her graduate degree in political science/public policy and administration at my alma mater, the University of Louisville.

Ashli put her public policy experience and education to good use on behalf of Kentucky's workers and job creators when she joined the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce in 2012, our State's largest business association. Her hard work and yearslong dedication eventually earned her the top post at the chamber in 2019.

Not long after taking the helm, the coronavirus pandemic turned daily life in America upside down and our Nation's business community flat on its back. The health and economic crisis that unfolded wrought widespread destruction on Main Street America, shuttering businesses and forcing millions out of work. During this time of upheaval, Kentucky's job creators fortunately had a strong advocate in Ashli. As chamber president and CEO, she worked to ensure employers in my home State were informed and that their priorities were always heard in Frankfort and Washington.

Ashli has certainly wasted no time working hard to improve Kentucky's business landscape and has never shied away from an opportunity to help her home State. Her leadership on issues ranging from tax reform to supporting our workforce to navigating the regulatory environment has laid a solid foundation for the future success of Kentucky's many businesses. Just recently, I was pleased to see her appointment to chair the U.S. Chamber's Committee of 100, which represents the top 100 chamber leaders in the Nation.

As the chamber's first female president, Ashli has also used her platform to highlight other female leaders in the

Commonwealth. She helped establish the chamber's first annual women's summit in 2020 to celebrate Kentuckians who are making a big impact at the local, State, and national levels. This yearly event has gained widespread recognition for its work to amplify the remarkable careers and accomplishments of Kentucky's women.

Mr. President, Spectrum News recently published an article highlighting Ashli's impact on my home State. I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the article be printed in the RECORD.

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

FRANKFORT, KY.—Being a chamber president has always felt like an accidental career for Ashli Watts. It's not that Watts, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce's first-ever female president and CEO, was unintentional in her professional ascension or that she fell into the role; in fact, her incredible journey to the top of the state's largest business association has always been guided by thoughtful intentionality.

An Elizabethtown native and lifelong Kentuckian, Watts always had an interest in politics and public policy. Following in the footsteps of her grandmother and mother, Watts attended Campbellsville University after high school, where she majored in political science and history. She learned her way around the Capitol during an internship at the legislature, a role that only strengthened her passion for politics.

"I always knew my career would probably be centered around politics or public policy but I didn't really know that there was a career that was available where you could influence policy, you could convene stakeholders, and you could make a difference and not have to put your name on a ballot," Watts said, recounting her path to the Chamber. "I think that's what I found with the chamber world."

Watts has been with the Chamber for almost 12 years now, starting out as a lobbyist. She successfully led the organization's efforts to pass major legislation for tax reform, workers compensation reform and right-to-work legislation. Her work gave her a front-row seat to the real-life effects of public policy. She helped to get felony expungement legislation passed in 2016, a bill that will always hold a special place in her heart.

Watts says, through their research, the Chamber learned past convictions were potentially preventing thousands of Kentuckians from getting their lives back on track. The organization identified felony expungement as a workforce issue, which proved to be transformative in getting the legislation passed.

"We realized that almost 80,000 Kentuckians had one single, non-violent Class D felony on their records that were really holding them back from the workforce. We were able to get it across the finish line, get it signed into law—and this is after other groups had been trying to do this for about 20 years," Watts said.

The personal stories Watts has heard since the bill's passage stick with her the most.

"[They've] been able to get better jobs and they've been able to gain better employment. They've been able to take their kids on field trips, where before they were not able to do that," Watts said. "Sometimes policy seems really wonky and in the weeds, but then you see really what impact you have. It really does make a big difference."



As the leader of one of Frankfort's most powerful lobbying groups, making a big difference is certainly something Watts knows a thing or two about. She was just 37-years-old in 2019 when she was named the Kentucky Chamber's president and CEO. Recently, she was appointed as the first female chair of the U.S. Chamber's "Committee of 100", which is the top 100 chamber leaders throughout the United States.

One of the first things Watts did as the Chamber's leader was to form the annual Women's Summit, an event celebrating Kentucky women who have found success on the state and national stage. Former Kentucky Gov. Martha Layne Collins, former U.N. Ambassador Kelly Craft, former Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao, and Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman are among the women who have been honored at the summit.

"We really want to just give voice to these women that are doing really remarkable things and making Kentucky shine," said Watts.

Watts also wants her eight-year-old son and 11-year-old daughter to see women can do remarkable things. After applying for the job during her maternity leave, Watts started working at the Chamber of Commerce when her daughter was just six weeks old. Instead of finding a work-life balance, she likes to think of it as "work-life integration."

"I do think it's really important, especially for my daughter, who's almost 12-years-old, to see that her mom can do really kind of big and really important things and still be a mom, and still host the sleepovers, and still take her to the carpool, and fix her hair for school dances—and then the next day I can be in Washington D.C. testifying," said Watts. "I think seeing that nice balance is really important for young women. So I'm hoping that I am a role model for my daughter."

Watts, who serves on the board of directors for Campbellsville University and as chair of the academic committee for her alma mater, believes it's especially important for leaders to give back to their communities and to their state, adding that it's what makes someone a well-rounded professional.

"I give [Campbellsville] a lot of credit for really making me who I am today. Giving me the kind of the strength that I needed and the education I needed to tackle this career," said Watts. "It's a really important way for me to give back to a university that has given back so much to me."

Watts also serves on boards for Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, University of Kentucky College of Public Health, University of Louisville President's Advisory Council, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association of State Chambers, and the American Chamber of Commerce Executives, where she was also named a 40 under 40 in 2020.

Watts attributes her own success to being present, intentional. She encourages young professionals to be cautious of the complacency that can come with virtual or hybrid work settings where they may not see their colleagues face-to-face.

"I do think it's really important for young people in particular to be present, be seen, be visible because sometimes if you're out of sight, you're a little bit out of mind and for me I really do think one of the keys to my success was that I was always here. I was always around if someone needed something or if I needed to go to a meeting," Watts said. "When you look around and see some offices that are empty or people working from home, sometimes that camaraderie and that relationship is not going to get built, so you really have to be intentional."

As a trailblazing leader and a major power broker for Kentucky businesses, Watts has created a career built on relationships and

trust—her presence and thoughtful intentionality guiding her to the top.

#### KIDS ONLINE SAFETY ACT

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, after months of negotiations, the Kids Online Safety Act, KOSA, has been improved, thanks to hard work by Commerce Chair CANTWELL and Leader SCHUMER. The changes that I, LGBTQ+ advocates, parents, student activists, civil rights groups and others have fought for over the last 2 years have made it less likely that the bill can be used as a tool for MAGA extremists to wage war on legal and essential information to teens. I want to take a moment to thank all of the advocates, parents, young people, and concerned citizens that have raised their views about KOSA with me, both in support of the bill and with concern about its implications.

Let me be clear, I strongly support elements of this bill, especially Senator MARKEY's Children and Teens' Online Privacy Protection Act, which will safeguard the personal information of young people online. Provisions regulating addictive design elements used by platforms to keep young people hooked are valuable safeguards that will make tech products safer. Unfortunately, KOSA's improvements, while constructive, remain insufficient. I fear this bill could be used to sue services that offer privacy-enhancing technologies like encryption or anonymity features that are essential to young people's ability to communicate securely and privately without being spied on by predators online. I also take seriously concerns voiced by the American Civil Liberties Union, Fight for the Future, and LGBTQ+ teens and advocates that a future MAGA administration could still use this bill to pressure companies to censor gay, trans, and reproductive health information.

For these reasons, I cannot vote for this legislation. However, if this bill is signed into law by the President, I look forward to working with my colleagues to conduct rigorous oversight of the FTC to ensure that my worst fears about this bill do not come true and that kids benefit from a safer internet.

Whatever happens to this bill, I look forward to working with my colleagues on other initiatives, including regulating harmful and manipulative platform designs, to tackle the vital topic of kids' safety online. I also remain convinced that this effort must go hand-in-hand with passing a strong baseline privacy law for all Americans.

#### TRIBUTE TO ALAN BAKER

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, August 7 marks the 95th birthday of Maine's Alan Baker, a truly remarkable journalist, community leader, and public servant. It will be a pleasure to join Alan's friends and family in celebrating a remarkable life of adven-

tures, accomplishments, and lasting contributions.

Alan's commitment to service began when he was growing up in Orrington, ME, during World War II. Spending more than 250 4-hour shifts in a tower above the town office to spot enemy aircraft targeting the vital Dow Army Airfield in nearby Bangor taught him the importance of individuals stepping forward in times of need.

After graduating from Bowdoin College in 1951, Alan launched a long and successful international career in publishing. He brought his work ethic, vision, and experience back to Maine in 1986 and joined the staff of the legendary Ellsworth American, one of the oldest newspapers in Maine. He purchased that newspaper 2 years later and later founded the Mount Desert Islander. Under his leadership, those two publications demonstrated the value of community newspapers by keeping readers informed and helping them to become involved citizens.

Alan was recognized with many industry awards over the course of his career, including the National Newspaper Association's James O. Amos Award for outstanding achievements in community journalism. In addition to being named Maine Journalist of the Year, he is a member of the Maine Press Association Hall of Fame.

Throughout his life, Alan led by example to encourage civic engagement. Following in his mother's footsteps, who served seven terms in the Maine State House, Alan ran for and won a seat as a citizen lawmaker in order to do his part and to better understand the legislative process. Despite his busy professional life, he has served his hometown on many community boards, from historic preservation to cemetery upkeep, and was named Orrington's Citizen of Year in 2017.

The remote island communities of Downeast Maine are beautiful yet challenging places to live. One of Alan's most significant contributions has been his strong and generous support for the work of the Maine Seacoast Mission. Founded in 1905, the non-denominational, nonprofit organization began delivering a minister to isolated communities where there were no churches and books where there were no libraries via a sloop called *Hope*. Today, the Mission's motor vessel *Sunbeam V* carries on that work and also serves as a mobile health clinic, bringing medical services to four islands. In 2017, the Mission presented Alan with its Sunbeam Award for his steadfast commitment to the island and coastal communities of rural Maine.

Alan Baker is an extraordinary journalist, a treasured friend, and a true asset to the State of Maine. May his birthday and the days to come be filled with joy.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. TIMOTHY DONOHUE

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Timothy

Donohue for his accomplishments as a scientist over the past 40 years. I am honored to recognize this momentous milestone and Dr. Donohue's numerous contributions to science.

Dr. Donohue began his path with a bachelors of life sciences from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in 1975, followed by a master's in microbiology from Pennsylvania State University in 1977, before receiving his Ph.D. in microbiology from Pennsylvania State University in 1980.

In 1986, Dr. Donohue began as an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Bacteriology. He rose to associate professor in 1991 and full professor in 1996. During this time, he has come to be an internationally recognized expert on bio- and genome-based conversion of renewable resources into valuable products. His research focuses on microbial metabolic and regulatory pathways, genomic and systems biology, and the strategies that microbes use to grow and generate chemicals and alternative fuels from renewable resources.

Currently, Dr. Donohue serves as the director of the Wisconsin Energy Institute and is the Ira L. Baldwin Professor of Bacteriology and the UW Foundation's Fetzer-Bascom Professor.

During his tenure, Dr. Donohue has earned countless achievements. He is the past president and secretary of the American Society of Microbiology, an honorary fellow at the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Academy of Microbiology, and recipient of the 2018 Promega Biotechnology research award given by the American Academy of Microbiology. He has also served on numerous Federal and international advisory panels and led federally funded graduate training programs.

Since 2007, Dr. Donohue has also served as the principal investigator and director of the Great Lakes Bioenergy, a U.S. Department of Energy funded Bioenergy Research Center led by the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The center conducts pioneering research that develops sustainable biofuels and bioproducts made from crops with the goal of creating biofuels and bioproducts that are economically viable and environmentally sustainable. The center's renewable fuel and chemicals research has trained over 1,000 scientists and engineers, made advancements in over 250 patent applications and 100 licensed technologies, and provided the scientific underpinnings for five start-up companies.

Dr. Donohue's continued work in this vital field and dedication to research and education will continue to make a positive impact for many years to come, and I am proud to recognize his lifelong commitment to the pursuit of science and discovery.

#### TRIBUTE TO TYLER COOPER

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to

express my appreciation to Tyler for his hard work as an intern in my office in Casper, WY. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office, as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Tyler is a native of Casper. He attends Casper College, where he studies political science. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Tyler for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

#### TRIBUTE TO PHILIP ELLIS

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, at the 112th Wyoming State Fair, Senator LUMMIS and I will have the pleasure of introducing Philip Ellis as a 2024 inductee into the Wyoming Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Philip Ellis is a fifth-generation rancher. He grew up near Chugwater, where he developed a passion for agriculture at a young age. Philip is a University of Wyoming graduate and the current owner and operator of the Marsh and Ellis Ranch.

Ellis has spent most of his life serving the Wyoming ag industry and his community. He had an extensive career in banking, as a young ag lender in Cheyenne and later as the board chairman of the Oregon Trail Bank in Guernsey. While in agricultural lending, Ellis learned how to manage multiple projects and build relationships. This helped him excel in State level agricultural leadership roles.

He has a long history of involvement in organizations supporting the beef industry. Over the years, he has advocated for the agricultural industry. He did this while serving on several policy committees and holding various State and national positions along the way. He continued to advance his leadership in roles at the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, where he served as president from 2003 to 2005. Ellis also served on the National Cattlemen's Beef Association board of directors and several policy committees.

In 2015, he rose to the position of president of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, where he served the beef industry on a national platform. In 2017, he received the Wyoming Stock Growers Association's Guardian of the Grasslands Award for his outstanding efforts in protecting the natural resources of Wyoming.

Philip's dedication and passion for the Wyoming agriculture and the beef industry makes him an outstanding choice for the Wyoming Agriculture Hall of Fame. It is a great honor to participate in Philip's induction. I congratulate Philip Ellis as a 2024 inductee into the Wyoming Hall of Fame.

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF WYOMING

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Petroleum Association of Wyoming. On August 21 through 23, the Petroleum Association of Wyoming will celebrate 50 years of operation during its annual Rockies Petroleum Conference in Laramie, WY.

In 1910, Wyoming Governor B.B. Brooks sought to protect the State's oil industry and organized an oil convention. In 1921, The Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Association was formed in Casper, WY, to advocate for oil-based trade and production in the Rocky Mountain States. Governor Brooks served as the first president, along with volunteer Secretary-Treasurer George Jarvis. In 1945, President Paul Stock was elected president.

In 1974, the Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Association's Wyoming division office and the Wyoming Oil Industry Committee joined forces to form the Petroleum Association of Wyoming. Wyoming's oil history dates back to 1832 when fur trader Capt. B. L. E. Bonneville traveled to the Wind River Valley. He found oil springs southeast of present-day Lander. The State's first oil well would be drilled there five decades later by Pennsylvania oilfield explorer Mike Murphy. Murphy sold mainly to the Union Pacific railroad, where the oil was used as a lubricant for railcar axles, and to tanners in Utah.

Wyoming's first oil refinery was built in Casper by the Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Company in 1895. It was located east of Center Street, near the Chicago and North Western railroad tracks. The refinery produced 100 barrels of oil per day. Several more refineries opened around the State in the decades following. By 1920, there were 16 refineries in Wyoming. Total production capacity was 88,000 barrels of crude oil per day. Today, four operating refineries are located in Casper, Sinclair, Evanston, and Newcastle. They have the capacity to refine 125,850 barrels per day. In 2023, Wyoming ranked eighth nationally in crude oil production with 96.8 million barrels. At its height in 2022, Wyoming had 27,951 producing oil and gas wells. Today, nearly 55 percent of Wyoming's surface lands are owned by the Federal or State government. Federal lands issues are a top priority for the Petroleum Association. The organization advocates for multiple uses for the safe and sustainable development of oil and gas resources. It works to educate landowners on their rights and responsibilities concerning mineral development.

In 2021, Wyoming's petroleum industry employed over 20,000 people with an annual payroll of \$3.6 billion plus. Oil and gas producers paid \$2.42 billion in taxes in 2023. This helps to fund numerous areas, including education, public infrastructure, and local governments. Today's association members range

from the majority of top producers to small mom-and-pop operations. These account for more than 90 percent of Wyoming's oil and natural gas production. My friends Bruce Hinchey, John Robitaille, and the late Rick Robitaille all served in executive positions with the association. They, along with current President Pete Obermueller and all past and present employees, put in countless hours with the Wyoming Oil & Gas Commission, State legislators, Governors, and the Federal delegation. These entities work together on permitting, BLM Environmental Impact Statements, environmental lawsuits, and so much more.

The Petroleum Association is led by these staff, board officers, board of directors, and management committee: President Pete Obermueller, Vice President and Director of Communications Ryan McConnaughey, Regulatory Affairs Director Colin McKee, Office Manager and Executive Assistant Rachel Sanborn, Chairman Shelley Shelby, Continental Resources, Vice Chairman Gabriel Sepulveda, Williams, and Secretary-Treasurer Peter Wold, Wold Oil Company, Joe Milczewski, Occidental Petroleum Corporation, Dan Zilmer, Merit Energy Company, Brett Schuman, Halliburton, Steve Degenfelder, Kirkwood Oil and Gas, LLC, Greg Pulliam, Exxon | XTO Energy, Inc., Paul Sander, Aethon Energy Company, Tim Muniz, Impact Exploration, Nick Platek, Hilcorp Energy, Frances MacDonald, Anschutz Exploration Corporation, Niko Welch, Vaquero Big Horn, Bryce Ballard, Ballard Petroleum Holdings, Chad McLawhorn, Contango Oil and Gas Company, Chris Fling, Primary Fuels, LLC, Kaylene Gardner, Crowheart Energy, Josh Demorrett, ConocoPhillips, David Bush, Black Hills Energy, Tom Kirkwood, Westco Operating, Inc., Macey Wallace, Ovintiv, Jasmine Allison, PureWest Energy, Jenna Mays, ExxonMobil, Dave True, True Oil, LLC, Kyle True, Diamond Oil, LLC, Hank True, Eighty-Eight Oil, LLC, Paul Ulrich, Jonah Energy, LLC, Teddy Carter, Devon Energy Corp, Tracy Opp, EOG Resources, Inc., Tom VanKlee, Oil Mountain Energy, and Eli Bebout, Nucor Oil and Gas.

It is an honor to celebrate the crucial work done by the association over the last 50 years. My hope is that oil and gas will remain a strong and viable industry for decades to come. Warmest congratulations to the Petroleum Association of Wyoming on your golden anniversary.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING TAMAYO PERRY

• Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, last month, Hawai'i tragically lost a true surfing legend in Tamayo Perry.

Tamayo was many things: a renowned surfer, an accomplished actor, a beloved lifeguard, a man of deep

faith, and a cherished neighbor. Born in the small town of Hau'ula on Oahu, Tamayo was an audacious waterman whose dexterity in surfing and understanding of the sea was second to none. He turned his passion into a profession at a young age through a combination of grit, focus, and commitment that enabled him to overcome any challenge he faced in the water. Accolades and awards soon followed at the Pipeline Masters and elsewhere as he competed against the world's very best surfers.

Later, following an accident that he described as a "near-fatal experience," he turned his own brush with death into a teachable moment for young surfers in Honolulu, instilling in them surfing etiquette and safety. His lessons have and will continue to help save countless lives.

As an actor, Tamayo was known for roles in movies like *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *Blue Crush*. But even as he found fame globally, he never lost touch with his roots in Hawai'i. Those who knew him back home saw someone with immense skill and drive, with positivity and grace to match. They saw someone who was extraordinarily generous and loving, right to the very end—and they loved him dearly in return. For them and his ohana, Tamayo's untimely death is devastating, eased only by knowing that he spent his final moments where he was happiest: in the water.

I join everyone in Hawai'i and around the world in mourning Tamayo's loss. May his memory be a blessing.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. AUBREY K. LUCAS

• Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, on behalf of the people of Mississippi, I honor the exceptional public service of Dr. Aubrey K. Lucas, whose lifelong commitment to education has significantly benefited the people of Mississippi.

Dr. Lucas is an expert in education, beginning with the three degrees he earned studying the subject: bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Ph.D. from Florida State University. After completing his studies, he began his lengthy career serving Mississippi universities.

From 1971 to 1975, Dr. Lucas served as the fourth president of Delta State University in Cleveland, MS. He improved the school's reputation and led efforts to get the institution reaccredited for teacher education. On his watch, Delta State College became Delta State University.

The next year, Dr. Lucas was installed as the sixth president of the University of Southern Mississippi, USM. The university flourished under his care. He served as president for 21 years, overseeing the creation of the Center of International Education and the Polymer Science Institute. He did it all with style, always recognizable on campus for his trademark bowtie. In

true Dr. Lucas fashion, he answered the call to serve as interim president of USM on two separate occasions after he had retired.

Over the years, countless Mississippians and students have benefited from Dr. Lucas's dedicated work. Governor Haley Barbour recognized Dr. Lucas with the Mississippi Medal of Service. More recently, the Mississippi Pinnacle Awards bestowed on him the Lifetime Achievement-Humanitarian Award, in honor of his lifetime of public service.

Dr. Lucas remains active in many civic and charitable organizations. He serves as chair of the Mississippi Arts Commission and of the board of directors of the Hattiesburg Area Community Foundation. It is for his achievements, legacy, and continued service that I praise Dr. Aubrey K. Lucas today in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.●

#### 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

As in executive session 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.)

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 10:04 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 227. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Pecos Division of the Western District of Texas, and for other purposes.

S. 1973. An act to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government.

S. 3706. An act to amend section 3663A of title 18, United States Code, to clarify that restitution includes necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by a person who has assumed the victim's rights.

S. 3249. An act to designate the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas, as the "Captain Elwin Shopteese V. Clinic".

S. 3285. An act to rename the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Butte, Montana, as the "Charlie Dowd VA Clinic".

S. 4548. An act to make a technical correction to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 by repealing section 5101 and enacting an updated version of the Foreign Extortion Prevention Act.

The enrolled bills, except S. 1973, were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of July 25, 2024, the enrolled

bill S. 1973 was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. BROWN).

### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, July 25, 2024, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 227. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Pecos Division of the Western District of Texas, and for other purposes.

S. 1973. An act to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government.

S. 3249. An act to designate the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas, as the "Captain Elwin Shopteese VA Clinic".

S. 3285. An act to rename the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Butte, Montana, as the "Charlie Dowd VA Clinic".

S. 3706. An act to amend section 3663A of title 18, United States Code, to clarify that restitution includes necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by a person who has assumed the victim's rights.

S. 4548. An act to make a technical correction to the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2024 by repealing section 5101 and enacting an updated version of the Foreign Extortion Prevention Act.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. SHAHEEN, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 4795. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-198).

By Mr. SCHATZ, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 4796. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-199).

By Mr. COONS, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 4797. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-200).

By Mr. MERKLEY, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 4802. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-201).

### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WYDEN for the Committee on Finance.

\*Jeffrey Samuel Arbeit, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

\*Cathy Fung, of California, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

\*Benjamin A. Guider III, of Louisiana, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

### 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. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BRITT, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 4770. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from contracting with companies engaged in a boycott of Israel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 4771. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand eligibility for health savings accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 4772. A bill to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 4773. A bill to improve the health of minority individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 4774. A bill to provide for the periodic issuance of up-to-date clinical guidance on addressing the health effects of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 4775. A bill to enhance the preservation, maintenance, and management of national historic trails and national scenic trails, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 4776. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2025 through 2029, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 4777. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require hospitals to fulfill certain obligations relating to discontinuation of services or closure; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 4778. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the exclusion for certain employer payments of student loans under educational assistance programs permanent; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. BUDD, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 4779. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to the system of compensation of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority that supports acts of terrorism; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 4780. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase the number of days of paid leave provided for certain military service by Federal employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 4781. A bill to improve access to the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 4782. A bill to promote the provision of exercise or fitness equipment, and exercise or fitness classes and instruction, that are accessible to individuals with disabilities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 4783. A bill to establish a program to recognize elementary schools and secondary schools that have implemented a policy to prohibit smartphone use by students during instructional hours and a program to recognize local educational agencies and State educational agencies that serve such schools; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. REED, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 4784. A bill to eliminate asset limits employed by certain federally funded means-tested public assistance programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 4785. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to restrict direct-to-consumer drug advertising; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 4786. A bill to cancel Federal oil and gas leases held by persons that manipulate the market price of oil or gas in violation of Federal law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 4787. A bill to establish a flower ordering program for gravesites under the purview of the American Battle Monuments Commission; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 4788. A bill to restrict Federal funding for events giving adversary foreign entities access to critical transportation infrastructure or military facilities; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 4789. A bill to require the imposition of sanctions with respect to the People's Republic of China if the People's Liberation

Army initiates a military invasion of Taiwan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 4790. A bill to require the Director of National Intelligence and other officials to declassify information relating to the failed assassination attempt on Donald J. Trump, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 4791. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the consideration of continuity of health care in determining best medical interest under the Veterans Community Care Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 4792. A bill to amend the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 to add communications equipment and services produced or provided by Shenzhen Da-Jiang Innovations Sciences and Technologies Company Limited and Autel Robotics to the list that the Federal Communications Commission is required to maintain under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 4793. A bill to improve defense cooperation between the United States and the Republic of India; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. COONS, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. Kaine):

S. 4794. A bill to require the Social Security Administration to make changes to the social security terminology used in the rules, regulation, guidance, or other materials of the Administration; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 4795. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. SCHATZ:

S. 4796. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. COONS:

S. 4797. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 4798. A bill to provide a combat status identifier equivalent for remotely piloted aircraft crew who conduct combat operations, and require a study to identify opportunities to provide more support services to, and greater recognition of, their combat accomplishments; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 4799. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to mandate discount window testing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

S. 4800. A bill to designate certain communities as resilient waterfront communities,

and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 4801. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude discharge of coerced indebtedness from gross income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 4802. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 4803. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 31143 State Highway 65 in Pengilly, Minnesota, as the "First Lieutenant Richard Arne Koski Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 4804. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to enforce certain requirements with respect to for-profit corporations that own health care systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. LUMMIS (for herself, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. RICKETTS):

S. 4805. A bill to require each agency to evaluate the permitting system of the agency to consider whether a permit by rule could replace that system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 4806. A bill to exclude certain amounts relating to compensating victims of the Texas Panhandle fires, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 4807. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to address the economic and workforce impacts of substance use disorder; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BUDD (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 4808. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income de minimis gains or losses from certain sales or exchanges of virtual currency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. 4809. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for equity investments by angel investors; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4810. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce from authorizing commercial octopus aquaculture operations in the United States, the exclusive economic zone, and the waters of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. BUTLER (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4811. A bill to require guidance to improve access to mental health and substance use prevention services for children, adolescents, and young adults; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. BUTLER (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4812. A bill to establish a pilot program to address behavioral health needs among

children, adolescents, and young adults, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 4813. A bill to establish a grant program within the Department of Labor to support the creation, implementation, and expansion of registered apprenticeship programs in cybersecurity; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 4814. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide assistance for cities hosting international sporting events taking place in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 4815. A bill to prohibit the mass cancellation of student loans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TUBERVILLE:

S. 4816. A bill to provide for the establishment of the Alabama Underwater Forest National Marine Sanctuary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 4817. A bill to amend title I of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to authorize the establishment of, and provide support for, State-based universal health care systems that provide comprehensive health benefits to State residents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. SCHMITT, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 4818. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from granting parole to certain dangerous aliens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. HIRONO):

S. Res. 771. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of August 26 through August 30, 2024, as the second annual "National Community Health Worker Awareness Week"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. Kaine, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KING, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. BENNET):

S. Res. 772. A resolution recognizing the importance of independent living and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities made possible by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and calling for

further action to strengthen and expand opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate in work and community life; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. BUTLER):

S. Res. 773. A resolution supporting the ideals of Bump Day to ensure, through advocacy, awareness, and action, that every mom, regardless of where she lives, the color of her skin, or her ability to pay, gets the care she needs to deliver a safe pregnancy and birth, and a healthy future for herself and the baby she loves; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. Res. 774. A resolution designating June 15, 2024, as "World Elder Abuse Awareness Day" and the month of June 2024 as "Elder Abuse Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 91

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) 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. 413

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 413, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the rate of the excise tax on the repurchase of corporate stock, and for other purposes.

S. 429

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 429, a bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an abandoned wells research, development, and demonstration program, and for other purposes.

S. 652

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 652, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group health plan or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan to provide an exceptions process for any medication step therapy protocol, and for other purposes.

S. 930

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 930, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide public safety officer benefits for exposure-related cancers, and for other purposes.

S. 1005

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr.

WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1005, a bill to amend the Energy Conservation and Production Act to improve the weatherization assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 1007

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 1007, a bill to establish in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the Department of State a Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTQI+ Peoples, and for other purposes.

S. 1094

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1094, a bill to provide a temporary safe harbor for publishers of online content to collectively negotiate with dominant online platforms regarding the terms on which content may be distributed.

S. 1125

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1125, a bill to authorize an electronic health record modernization program of the Department of Veterans Affairs and increase oversight and accountability of the program to better serve veterans, medical professionals of the Department, and taxpayers, and for other purposes.

S. 1193

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1193, a bill to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 1206

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1206, a bill to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to protect civil rights and otherwise prevent meaningful harm to third parties, and for other purposes.

S. 1409

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1409, a bill to protect the safety of children on the internet.

S. 1573

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1573, a bill to reauthorize the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act.

S. 2176

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2176, a bill to prohibit

commercial sexual orientation conversion therapy, and for other purposes.

S. 2363

At the request of Mr. HICKENLOOPER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2363, a bill to promote and expand high-quality youth apprenticeship programs and provide support and incentives to help employees establish such programs.

S. 2379

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2379, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for certain cognitive impairment detection in the Medicare annual wellness visit and initial preventive physical examination.

S. 2402

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2402, a bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to establish a career pathways grant program.

S. 2757

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2757, a bill to limit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from modifying the rate of payment or reimbursement for transportation of veterans or other individuals via special modes of transportation under the laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

S. 3021

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3021, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permanently extend certain in-home cardiopulmonary rehabilitation flexibilities established in response to COVID-19, and for other purposes.

S. 3279

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3279, a bill to promote equity in advanced coursework and programs at elementary and secondary schools.

S. 3290

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3290, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish improvements and structural alterations as part of home health services for disabled veterans.

S. 3679

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3679, a bill to reauthorize the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, and for other purposes.



S. 3821

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3821, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the payment method for oxygen and oxygen related equipment, supplies, and services, to increase beneficiary access to oxygen and oxygen related equipment, supplies, and services, and for other purposes.

S. 3849

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3849, a bill to promote United States leadership in technical standards by directing the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Department of State to take certain actions to encourage and enable United States participation in developing standards and specifications for artificial intelligence and other critical and emerging technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 3981

At the request of Mr. HICKENLOOPER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3981, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a program of research, training, and investigation related to Down syndrome, and for other purposes.

S. 4279

At the request of Mr. ROMNEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4279, a bill to require the Department of State and the Department of Defense to engage with the Government of Japan regarding areas of cooperation within the Pillar Two framework of the AUKUS partnership, and for other purposes.

S. 4356

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4356, a bill to facilitate the implementation of security measures undertaken by the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

S. 4380

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4380, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to promote matriculation, and increase in the graduation rates, of individuals with disabilities within higher education.

S. 4436

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 4436, a bill to improve the safety of infant formula through testing of infant formula for microorganisms and toxic elements, and for other purposes.

S. 4499

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4499, a bill to reauthorize grants to the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, the Boy Scouts of America, the National 4-H Council, and the National FFA Organization to establish pilot projects to expand the programs carried out by the organizations in rural areas and small towns, and for other purposes.

S. 4621

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4621, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the application of the income tax on cash tips through a deduction allowed to all individual taxpayers.

S. 4629

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4629, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), and marital status in the administration and provision of child welfare services, to improve safety, well-being, and permanency for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning foster youth, and for other purposes.

S. 4680

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4680, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Jens Stoltenberg, in recognition of his contributions to the security, unity, and defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

S. 4722

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4722, a bill to prohibit the United States from collaborating with certain foreign countries of concern on fundamental research intended to support the military, intelligence, or security capabilities of the United States, to strengthen the security and integrity of the United States scientific and research enterprise, and for other purposes.

S. 4723

At the request of Ms. BUTLER, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4723, a bill to limit the separation of families at or near ports of entry.

S. 4731

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4731, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide for food-based interventions.

S. 4760

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms.

COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4760, a bill to establish requirements for investigations of certain complaints of discrimination.

S.J. RES. 82

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 82, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Food and Drug Administration relating to "Medical Devices; Laboratory Developed Tests".

S.J. RES. 85

At the request of Mr. RICKETTS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 85, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat".

S.J. RES. 98

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 98, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Agriculture relating to "Use of Electronic Identification Eartags as Official Identification in Cattle and Bison".

S.J. RES. 103

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 103, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to "Safeguarding and Securing the Open Internet; Restoring Internet Freedom".

S. CON. RES. 38

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 38, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Operation Legend was successful in reducing and combating violent crime in the largest cities of the United States and that a future presidential administration committed to enforcing and maintaining law and order should consider implementing a similar policy.

AMENDMENT NO. 2323

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2323 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction,

and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2330

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2330 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2390

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2390 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2505

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2505 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2738

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2738 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2785

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2785 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2810

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2810 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025

for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2842

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2842 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2853

At the request of Mr. HICKENLOOPER, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2853 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2921

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2921 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2959

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2959 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2995

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2995 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 3076

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3076 intended to be proposed to S. 2073, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 3145

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3145 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 771—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF AUGUST 26 THROUGH AUGUST 30, 2024, AS THE SECOND ANNUAL “NATIONAL COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER AWARENESS WEEK”

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

## S. RES. 771

Whereas a community health worker is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member, or has an unusually close understanding, of the community served;

Whereas this trusting relationship enables the worker to serve as a liaison, link, or intermediary between health and social services and the community, facilitate access to services, improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery, build individual and community capacity, and increase health knowledge and self-sufficiency through a range of activities such as outreach, community education, informal counseling, social support, and advocacy;

Whereas community health workers are a unique workforce, recognized in 25 States with a professional certification;

Whereas community health workers are a community-based workforce that builds relationships and capacity for health and well-being in underserved areas;

Whereas community health workers are a historic and diverse workforce that goes back hundreds of years in the United States and reflects the diversity of the Nation;

Whereas community health workers have been known by many different titles, including community health representatives, promotores de salud, aunties, and outreach workers;

Whereas community health workers are a cross-sector workforce that connects community members to health care and other social services, reducing barriers to health and well-being;

Whereas community health workers are a proven workforce with decades of research documenting effectiveness in maternal and child health, chronic disease interventions, immunization, oral health, HIV, primary care, and many other disciplines, and have a documented return on investment for many programs;

Whereas sustainable funding of community health workers supports fair market wages and enhanced recruitment and retention of the workforce;

Whereas community health workers fulfill a wide range of roles, including—

- (1) providing cultural mediation among individuals, communities, and health and social service systems;
- (2) offering culturally appropriate health education and information;
- (3) offering care coordination, case management, and system navigation;
- (4) providing coaching and social support;
- (5) advocating for individuals and communities;
- (6) building individual and community capacity;
- (7) providing direct service, including basic screening tests, such as weight and blood pressure screening, basic services, such as diabetic foot checks, and meeting basic needs;
- (8) implementing individual and community assessments;
- (9) conducting outreach; and
- (10) participating in evaluation and research; and

Whereas community health worker networks are statewide, regional, or local community-based organizations, including community health worker associations and coalitions with leadership or membership that is comprised of 50 percent or more of community health workers, promotores, or community health representatives, and whose mission and activities focus on workforce development, mentoring, member mobilization, and advocacy: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

- (1) supports the goals and ideals of the second annual National Community Health Worker Awareness Week;
- (2) recognizes the significant contributions of community health workers to health and social care systems and communities across the United States;
- (3) encourages collaboration at the local, State, and Federal levels to raise awareness of the important role of community health workers; and
- (4) supports the work of community health workers to reduce health disparities by improving health in underserved communities.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 772—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENT LIVING AND ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES MADE POSSIBLE BY THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 AND CALLING FOR FURTHER ACTION TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN WORK AND COMMUNITY LIFE**

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. KAINÉ, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms.

STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KING, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

**S. RES. 772**

Whereas, in enacting the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), Congress recognized that “historically, society has tended to isolate and segregate individuals with disabilities, and, despite some improvements, such forms of discrimination against individuals with disabilities continue to be a serious and pervasive social problem”;

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 recognizes the rights of individuals with disabilities to fully participate in their communities through independent living, equality of opportunity, and economic self-sufficiency;

Whereas, 34 years after the date of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and 25 years after the date of the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999), individuals with disabilities are faced with systemic ableism in the labor market, are pushed into poverty by lower rates of employment, and have higher costs of living associated with their disabilities;

Whereas, 34 years after the date of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990—

- (1) nearly a quarter of the population of individuals with disabilities live below the poverty line;
- (2) individuals with disabilities continue to face high rates of unemployment and barriers to accessible workplaces;
- (3) women with disabilities continue to regularly face barriers to reproductive healthcare, including inaccessible and inequitable services;
- (4) some telecommunication, electronic, and information technologies continue to be developed without the goal of making those technologies fully accessible for all individuals of the United States; and
- (5) many businesses, public and private organizations, transportation systems, and services remain inaccessible to many individuals with disabilities;

Whereas the continuation of segregated institutional settings has hindered the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in communities, schools, and workplaces, undermining the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

Whereas individuals with disabilities, especially those of color, have been disparately impacted by the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the number of individuals with disabilities has increased due to Long COVID;

Whereas individuals with disabilities are more at risk for loss of life, loss of independence, or violation of civil rights than the general population during disaster, response, and recovery;

Whereas individuals of color with disabilities experience disproportionately greater barriers to high quality and accessible healthcare, education, housing, and competi-

tive integrated employment opportunities, infringing on their right to fully participate in their communities under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 represents the floor, and not the ceiling, of efforts needed to dismantle barriers to full participation, equal opportunity, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency; and

Whereas fulfilling the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 requires individuals, families, communities, and government to work together to guarantee that individuals with disabilities have the opportunity to thrive in their communities and in their lives: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes the importance of independent living, equal opportunity, full participation, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities made possible by the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.);
- (2) encourages the people of the United States to celebrate the advancement of inclusion and equality of opportunity made possible by the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;
- (3) pledges to continue to work on a bipartisan basis to identify and address the remaining barriers that undermine the national goals of equality of opportunity, independent living, economic self-sufficiency, and full participation for individuals with disabilities, including by focusing on individuals with disabilities who remain segregated in institutions;
- (4) pledges to work with States to improve access to home- and community-based services for individuals with disabilities, with a focus on increasing access to employment;
- (5) calls on the Department of Labor to develop policies and practices and to provide technical assistance that enables individuals with disabilities to become economically self-sufficient;
- (6) calls on the Office of Disability Employment Policy of the Department of Labor to coordinate with employers and all levels of government to develop and influence policies and practices that increase the number and quality of employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities;
- (7) calls on the Federal Communications Commission to provide information, resources, and technical assistance to enable individuals with disabilities to have full and equitable access to communications and telecommunications services and technologies;
- (8) calls on the Department of Health and Human Services to provide information, resources, and technical assistance related to home- and community-based services and to enable individuals with disabilities to live independently;
- (9) calls on the Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide accessible and inclusive homes and communities that increase the options available for accessible, inclusive, and equitable housing for individuals with disabilities;
- (10) calls on the Department of Transportation to create accessible transit and airports and increase the hiring, promotion, and retention of individuals with disabilities in the transportation workforce; and
- (11) calls on the Federal Emergency Management Agency to continue to implement a whole community approach and to increase inclusivity and accessibility in emergency preparedness.

SENATE RESOLUTION 773—SUPPORTING THE IDEALS OF BUMP DAY TO ENSURE, THROUGH ADVOCACY, AWARENESS, AND ACTION, THAT EVERY MOM, REGARDLESS OF WHERE SHE LIVES, THE COLOR OF HER SKIN, OR HER ABILITY TO PAY, GETS THE CARE SHE NEEDS TO DELIVER A SAFE PREGNANCY AND BIRTH, AND A HEALTHY FUTURE FOR HERSELF AND THE BABY SHE LOVES

Mr. COONS (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. BUTLER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 773

Whereas Bump Day is an annual global campaign that celebrates beautiful bumps and healthy pregnancies while raising awareness about and calling for action to address the urgent need for better, more accessible, more respectful, and more responsive maternal healthcare, promoting healthy pregnancies, safe births, and healthy babies in the United States and ending the crisis of maternal mortality and morbidity;

Whereas, each year since 2022, more than 800 women in the United States die from pregnancy-related and childbirth-related complications;

Whereas each year approximately 70,000 women in the United States suffer near-fatal complications or serious lifelong health consequences, including permanent disability, from pregnancy-related and childbirth-related complications;

Whereas stillbirth affects approximately 1 in 175 births, and each year approximately 21,000 babies are stillborn in the United States, with many of those deaths considered preventable;

Whereas 80 percent of all maternal deaths in the United States are preventable;

Whereas women in the United States are more likely to die from childbirth-related or pregnancy-related complications than women in all other high-income countries, and, as of the date of adoption of this resolution, the United States is the only high-income country in the world where maternal mortality is increasing;

Whereas 1 in 7 infants in the United States are born to a woman receiving inadequate prenatal care;

Whereas nearly 7 percent of infants in the United States are born to a woman who received late or no prenatal care;

Whereas pregnant women in the United States who do not receive prenatal care during pregnancy are 3 to 4 times more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications;

Whereas Black, American Indian, and Alaska Native women in the United States are 2 to 3 times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes compared to White women;

Whereas early screening for and management of diabetes and hypertension can reduce the risk of serious pregnancy and postpartum complications for both a mom and her baby;

Whereas screening for, and treatment of, periodontal disease before and during pregnancy can reduce the risks of pregnancy and postpartum complications, such as preeclampsia and preterm birth;

Whereas nearly half of all maternal deaths in the United States occur in the immediate postpartum period, with 21 percent occurring between 1 and 6 weeks postpartum and 12 percent occurring during the remaining portion of the postpartum year;

Whereas, according to recommendations from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, most of the maternal deaths described in the preceding whereas clause could be prevented with increased access to and coverage for postpartum care as needed;

Whereas 1 in 5 women in the United States experience perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (referred to in this preamble as “PMAD”), with suicide being a leading cause of preventable maternal deaths, and untreated PMADs costing the United States \$14,200,000,000 annually;

Whereas intimate partner violence (referred to in this preamble as “IPV”) is a leading cause of maternal death, and women are more likely to experience IPV during pregnancy than at any other time in their lives;

Whereas untreated substance use disorders in pregnant women can lead to long-term, potentially fatal complications for the baby, including low birth weight, preterm birth, placental abruptions, and sudden unexplained infant death syndrome;

Whereas doula support has been shown—

(1) to improve pregnancy, birth, and postpartum outcomes;

(2) to lower pregnancy-related and childbirth-related costs by lowering rates of cesarean birth, epidural anesthesia, and other interventions; and

(3) to reduce the impact of racial bias on pregnant and postpartum women of color;

Whereas research demonstrates that midwife care contributes to better maternal health outcomes, lowers risks of unnecessary cesarean births and postpartum mood disorders, and reduces racial and geographic pregnancy-related disparities;

Whereas incarcerated pregnant and postpartum women face heightened risks for maternal and infant mortality and complications, as well as maternal mood disorders, and should be provided quality, comprehensive care;

Whereas the rate of maternal mortality and morbidity in rural and other underserved areas in the United States is disproportionately high due to challenges in accessing the comprehensive, affordable, and quality maternal healthcare that all moms deserve;

Whereas more than half of all rural counties in the United States do not have access to hospital-based obstetric services;

Whereas increasing access to broadband, telehealth, mobile maternity care, home blood pressure monitoring, and information relating to urgent maternal warning signs could improve maternal outcomes;

Whereas awareness of urgent maternal warning signs, symptoms during pregnancy, postpartum, prompt diagnosis, and treatment can prevent mortality and morbidity;

Whereas the engagement and inclusion of a father in prenatal and postnatal care can improve maternal and infant outcomes;

Whereas every expectant mom deserves the respectful, responsive care and support she needs to deliver a safe pregnancy, healthy birth, and healthy future to herself and her baby; and

Whereas Wednesday, July 24, 2024, and all subsequent third Wednesdays in July would be an appropriate day for the celebration of Bump Day: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the goal of Bump Day of raising awareness about the need for improved maternal healthcare in the United States and globally, and of ending all preventable maternal deaths;

(2) recognizes the critical role of health workers and the importance of growing the maternal health workforce, including midwives, mental health providers, and doulas,

and of increasing telehealth and mobile care in achieving safe, healthy pregnancies, and deliveries in the United States;

(3) recognizes the benefits of evidence-based group prenatal and postpartum care approaches;

(4) recognizes the vital role that fathers and other supportive partners play in promoting the health and well-being of expectant mothers and newborns, including by—

(A) supporting healthy pregnancies and safe births;

(B) contributing to improved health outcomes for mothers and babies; and

(C) encouraging and supporting breastfeeding initiation and success; and

(5) reaffirms continued leadership by the United States to combat preventable maternal deaths in the United States and globally.

SENATE RESOLUTION 774—DESIGNATING JUNE 15, 2024, AS “WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY” AND THE MONTH OF JUNE 2024 AS “ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. GRASSLEY for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 774

Whereas, in 2021, approximately 55,000,000 residents of the United States, or about 1 in every 6 individuals, had attained the age of 65, and by 2060, nearly 95,000,000 individuals in the United States, or about 1 in every 4 individuals, will be over the age of 65, according to estimates by the Bureau of the Census;

Whereas, in 2029, it is anticipated that older adults will outnumber children for the first time, according to the Bureau of the Census;

Whereas elder abuse remains a challenging problem and can come in many different forms, often manifesting as physical, sexual, or psychological abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, and social media abuse;

Whereas elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation have no boundaries and cross all racial, social, class, gender, and geographic lines, according to the Elder Justice Coalition;

Whereas about 1 in 10 adults over the age of 60 are subjected to abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation each year, according to the National Institute on Aging;

Whereas the annual loss by victims of financial abuse is estimated to be at least \$36,500,000,000, according to the National Council on Aging;

Whereas most reported cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults take place within private homes, and approximately 90 percent of the perpetrators in elder financial exploitation cases are family members or other trusted individuals, according to the National Adult Protective Services Association;

Whereas research suggests that elderly individuals in the United States who experience cognitive impairment, physical disabilities, or isolation are more likely to become the victims of abuse than those who do not experience cognitive impairment, physical disabilities, or isolation;

Whereas other risk factors for elder abuse can include low social support, poor physical health, and experience of previous traumatic events, according to the National Center on Elder Abuse;

Whereas close to half of elderly individuals who suffer from dementia will experience abuse or neglect during their lifetime, according to the Department of Justice;

Whereas only 1 in 24 cases of elder abuse is reported, according to the New York State Office of Children and Family Services;

Whereas, on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, the United States mourns the loss of elderly individuals who perished in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has led to the emergence of new scams against older adults, including those related to vaccines;

Whereas, during the last 4 years, Congress passed and the President signed 2 measures that make nearly \$400,000,000 available for implementation of the initiatives under the Elder Justice Act of 2009 (subtitle H of title VI of Public Law 111-148; 124 Stat. 783), the largest funding stream related to such initiatives in the history of the Act; and

Whereas Congress, in passing the Elder Justice Act of 2009 (subtitle H of title VI of Public Law 111-148; 124 Stat. 783), the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (34 U.S.C. 21701 et seq.), the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2; 135 Stat. 4), and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 1182), recognized the importance of protecting older people of the United States against abuse and exploitation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 15, 2024, as “World Elder Abuse Awareness Day” and the month of June 2024 as “Elder Abuse Awareness Month”;

(2) recognizes—

(A) judges, lawyers, adult protective services professionals, law enforcement officers, social workers, health care providers, advocates for victims, and other professionals and agencies for their efforts to advance awareness of elder abuse;

(B) the important work of the Elder Justice Coordinating Council, which has continued through the previous 2 Presidential administrations and involves 15 different Federal agencies;

(C) the essential work done by adult protective services personnel, who regularly come to the assistance of victims, investigate reports of abuse, and actively prevent future victimization of older people in the United States, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic as the social isolation of elderly individuals, due to stay-at-home orders, only increased the risk of abuse and neglect; and

(D) the importance of supporting State long-term care ombudsman programs, which help prevent elder abuse and neglect in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, where infection prevention and control deficiencies pose persistent challenges;

(3) applauds the work of the Elder Justice Coalition and its members, whose efforts to increase public awareness of elder abuse have the potential to increase the identification and reporting of this crime by the public, professionals, and victims, and can act as a catalyst to promote issue-based education and long-term prevention; and

(4) encourages—

(A) members of the public and professionals who work with older adults to act as catalysts to promote awareness and long-term prevention of elder abuse—

(i) by reaching out to local adult protective services agencies, State long-term care ombudsman programs, and the National Center on Elder Abuse; and

(ii) by learning to recognize, detect, report, and respond to elder abuse;

(B) private individuals and public agencies in the United States to continue work together at the Federal, State, and local levels to combat abuse, neglect, exploitation, crime, and violence against vulnerable

adults, including vulnerable older adults, particularly in light of limited resources for vital protective services; and

(C) those Federal agencies with responsibility for preventing elder abuse to fully exercise such responsibilities to protect older adults, whether such older adults are living in the community or in long-term care facilities.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3170. Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. PETERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3171. Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2073, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3172. Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3173. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3174. Mr. OSSOFF submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3175. Mr. ROMNEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2073, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3176. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3177. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3178. Mr. RICKETTS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3179. Mr. KELLY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3180. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 3170.** Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. PETERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

### SEC. 1095. WORKFORCE DATA ACT.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Workforce Data for Analyzing and Tracking Automation Act of 2024” or the “Workforce DATA Act”.

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **AUTOMATION.**—The term “automation” means using technology to produce a good or service previously produced by human work.

(2) **BOARD; SUBCOMMITTEE.**—The term “Board” or “Subcommittee” means the advisory board or subcommittee established or formed under subsection (d)(1).

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Labor.

(c) **STUDY BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES, ENGINEERING, AND MEDICINE ON MEASURING THE IMPACT OF AUTOMATION ON THE WORKFORCE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall request the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to enter into an arrangement with the Secretary for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a consensus study on how to measure the impact of automation on the workforce, including job creation, job displacement, job retention, and the shifting of skills in demand due to automation.

(2) **CONTENTS.**—The study under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) include a review of workforce data programs used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, as of the date of enactment of this Act, for measuring the impact of automation on the workforce;

(B) identify and review other potential data sources for measuring such impact;

(C) identify appropriate statistical methods for using and integrating other data sources to supplement or enhance the workforce data programs described in subparagraph (A); and

(D) advise the Bureau of Labor Statistics on research needed to acquire, evaluate, and incorporate additional data sources to adequately measure and assess, on an ongoing basis—

(i) industry sectors and occupations significantly impacted by automation;

(ii) jobs and occupations created or substantially changed as a result of automation;

(iii) occupational shifts in labor demand, including the number of workers displaced (or with a change in earnings) due to automation, and the demographics of such workers, such as the race, gender, age, level of education, location, employment status, and earnings of such workers;

(iv) the consequences of displacement due to automation, including the consequences of workers becoming subsequently unemployed, exiting from the workforce, entering retraining, changing positions within a company, and experiencing a change in earnings;

(v) changes to workforce skills in demand as a result of automation; and

(vi) additional data recommended by the Board or Subcommittee under section (d)(3)(A)(i)(III).

(3) **REPORT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress, and make publicly available, a report on the results of the study under paragraph (1).

(4) **PLAN FOR BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.**—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Secretary submits the report to Congress under paragraph (3), the Secretary shall make publicly available a plan for how the Bureau of Labor Statistics shall respond to the findings of the study contained in such report.

(d) **INPUT ON IMPACT OF AUTOMATION FROM WORKFORCE ADVISORY BOARD OR SUBCOMMITTEE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish an advisory board, or form a subcommittee of an advisory board that exists on the date of enactment of this Act, to provide recommendations on addressing the impact of automation on the workforce.

(2) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Board or Subcommittee shall consist of nationally representative members, including the balanced participation of—

(A) State boards, as defined in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102);

(B) labor organizations;

(C) industry representatives;

(D) nonprofit entities, or community-based organizations, with experience researching the impact of automation on the workforce;

(E) academic experts in the field of workforce development, labor economics, and program evaluation; and

(F) any other stakeholders the Secretary determines appropriate.

(3) **DUTIES.**—

(A) **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL DATA.**—

(i) **INITIAL EVALUATION.**—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Board or Subcommittee shall—

(I) identify additional types of data related to the impact of automation on the workforce that would inform actions of business and labor stakeholders;

(II) identify administrative data needed to guide policy formation related to easing impacts of automation; and

(III) for purposes of the assessment under subsection (c)(2)(D), provide recommendations to the Secretary and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine based on the additional data identified under subclauses (I) and (II).

(ii) **ANNUAL UPDATES.**—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the recommendations are provided under clause (i), and each year thereafter, the Board or Subcommittee shall evaluate the additional data identified under such subparagraph, and provide updated recommendations to the Secretary based on such evaluation.

(B) **RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS MEASUREMENTS.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and each year thereafter, the Board or Subcommittee shall—

(I) evaluate strategies for workforce development, based on measurements of impact on the workforce due to automation determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and on other relevant evidence; and

(II) provide recommendations to the Secretary and to Congress based on such evaluation.

(ii) **PUBLIC ACCESS.**—The Secretary shall disseminate the strategies recommended under clause (i) to relevant stakeholders and make such strategies available to the public.

(4) **NONAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.**—Chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply to the Board or Subcommittee.

**SA 3171.** Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2073, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 107, after line 9, add the following new title:

#### **TITLE IV—MAKING SOCIAL MEDIA SAFER FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS**

##### **Subtitle A—Kids Off Social Media Act**

##### **SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.**

This subtitle may be cited as the “Kids Off Social Media Act”.

##### **SEC. 402. DEFINITIONS.**

In this subtitle:

(1) **PERSONALIZED RECOMMENDATION SYSTEM.**—The term “personalized recommendation system” means a fully or partially automated system used to suggest, promote, or rank content, including other users or posts, based on the personal data of users.

(2) **CHILD.**—The term “child” means an individual under the age of 13.

(3) **COMMISSION.**—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(4) **KNOW OR KNOWS.**—The term “know” or “knows” means to have actual knowledge or knowledge fairly implied on the basis of objective circumstances.

(5) **PERSONAL DATA.**—The term “personal data” has the same meaning as the term “personal information” as defined in section 1302 of the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 6501).

(6) **SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “social media platform” means a public-facing website, online service, online application, or mobile application that—

(i) is directed to consumers;

(ii) collects personal data;

(iii) primarily derives revenue from advertising or the sale of personal data; and

(iv) as its primary function provides a community forum for user-generated content, including messages, videos, and audio files among users where such content is primarily intended for viewing, resharing, or platform-enabled distributed social endorsement or comment.

(B) **LIMITATION.**—The term “social media platform” does not include a platform that, as its primary function for consumers, provides or facilitates any of the following:

(i) The purchase and sale of commercial goods.

(ii) Teleconferencing or videoconferencing services that allow reception and transmission of audio or video signals for real-time communication, provided that the real-time communication is initiated by using a unique link or identifier to facilitate access.

(iii) Crowd-sourced reference guides such as encyclopedias and dictionaries.

(iv) Cloud storage, file sharing, or file collaboration services, including such services that allow collaborative editing by invited users.

(v) The playing or creation of video games.

(vi) Content that consists primarily of news, sports, sports coverage, entertainment, or other information or content that is not user-generated but is preselected by the platform and for which any chat, comment, or interactive functionality is inci-

dental, directly related to, or dependent on the provision of the content provided by the platform.

(vii) Business, product, or travel information including user reviews or rankings of such businesses, products, or other travel information.

(viii) Educational information, experiences, training, or instruction provided to build knowledge, skills, or a craft, district-sanctioned or school-sanctioned learning management systems and school information systems for the purposes of schools conveying content related to the education of students, or services or services on behalf of or in support of an elementary school or secondary school, as such terms are defined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(ix) An email service.

(x) A wireless messaging service, including such a service provided through short message service or multimedia messaging protocols, that is not a component of, or linked to, a social media platform and where the predominant or exclusive function of the messaging service is direct messaging consisting of the transmission of text, photos, or videos that are sent by electronic means, where messages are transmitted from the sender to the recipient and are not posted publicly or within a social media platform.

(xi) A broadband internet access service (as such term is defined for purposes of section 8.1(b) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation).

(xii) A virtual private network or similar service that exists solely to route internet traffic between locations.

(7) **TEEN.**—The term “teen” means an individual over the age of 12 and under the age of 17.

(8) **USER.**—The term “user” means, with respect to a social media platform, an individual who registers an account or creates a profile on the social media platform.

##### **SEC. 403. NO CHILDREN UNDER 13.**

(a) **NO ACCOUNTS FOR CHILDREN UNDER 13.**—A social media platform shall not permit an individual to create or maintain an account or profile if it knows that the individual is a child.

(b) **TERMINATION OF EXISTING ACCOUNTS BELONGING TO CHILDREN.**—A social media platform shall terminate any existing account or profile of a user who the social media platform knows is a child.

(c) **DELETION OF CHILDREN’S PERSONAL DATA.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), upon termination of an existing account or profile of a user pursuant to subsection (b), a social media platform shall immediately delete all personal data collected from the user or submitted by the user to the social media platform.

(2) **CHILDREN’S ACCESS TO PERSONAL DATA.**—To the extent technically feasible and not in violation of any licensing agreement, a social media platform shall allow the user of an existing account or profile that the social media platform has terminated under subsection (b), from the date such termination occurs to the date that is 90 days after such date, to request, and shall provide to such user upon such request, a copy of the personal data collected from the user or submitted by the user to the social media platform both—

(A) in a manner that is readable and which a reasonable person can understand; and

(B) in a portable, structured, and machine-readable format.

(d) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in subsection (c) shall be construed to prohibit a social media platform from retaining a record of the termination of an account or



profile and the minimum information necessary for the purposes of ensuring compliance with this section.

**SEC. 404. PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF PERSONALIZED RECOMMENDATION SYSTEMS ON CHILDREN OR TEENS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) PROHIBITION ON USE OF PERSONALIZED RECOMMENDATION SYSTEMS ON CHILDREN OR TEENS.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a social media platform shall not use the personal data of a user or visitor in a personalized recommendation system to display content if the platform knows that the user or visitor is a child or teen.

(2) EXCEPTION.—A social media platform may use a personalized recommendation system to display content to a child or teen if the system only uses the following personal data of the child or teen:

(A) The type of device used by the child or teen.

(B) The languages used by the child or teen to communicate.

(C) The city or town in which the child or teen is located.

(D) The fact that the individual is a child or teen.

(E) The age of the child or teen.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not be construed to—

(1) prevent a social media platform from providing search results to a child or teen deliberately or independently searching for (such as by typing a phrase into a search bar or providing spoken input), or specifically requesting, content, so long as such results are not based on the personal data of the child or teen (except to the extent permitted under subsection (a)(2));

(2) prevent a social media platform from taking reasonable measures to—

(A) block, detect, or prevent the distribution of unlawful or obscene material;

(B) block or filter spam, or protect the security of a platform or service; or

(C) prevent criminal activity; or

(3) prohibit a social media platform from displaying user-generated content that has been selected, followed, or subscribed to by a teen account holder as long as the display of the content is based on a chronological format.

**SEC. 405. DETERMINATION OF WHETHER AN OPERATOR HAS KNOWLEDGE FAIRLY IMPLIED ON THE BASIS OF OBJECTIVE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT AN INDIVIDUAL IS A CHILD OR TEEN.**

(a) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—For purposes of enforcing this subtitle, in making a determination as to whether a social media platform has knowledge fairly implied on the basis of objective circumstances that a user is a child or teen, the Commission or the attorney general of a State, as applicable, shall rely on competent and reliable evidence, taking into account the totality of circumstances, including whether a reasonable and prudent person under the circumstances would have known that the user is a child or teen.

(b) PROTECTIONS FOR PRIVACY.—Nothing in this subtitle, including a determination described in subsection (a), shall be construed to require a social media platform to—

(1) implement an age gating or age verification functionality; or

(2) affirmatively collect any personal data with respect to the age of users that the social media platform is not already collecting in the normal course of business.

(c) RESTRICTION ON USE AND RETENTION OF PERSONAL DATA.—If a social media platform or a third party acting on behalf of a social media platform voluntarily collects personal data for the purpose of complying with this subtitle, the social media platform or a third party shall not—

(1) use any personal data collected specifically for a purpose other than for sole compliance with the obligations under this subtitle; or

(2) retain any personal data collected from a user for longer than is necessary to comply with the obligations under this subtitle or than is minimally necessary to demonstrate compliance with this subtitle.

**SEC. 406. ENFORCEMENT.**

(a) ENFORCEMENT BY COMMISSION.—

(1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of this subtitle shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

(2) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall enforce this subtitle in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this subtitle.

(B) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—Any person who violates this subtitle shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(3) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

(b) ENFORCEMENT BY STATES.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION.—Subject to paragraph (3), in any case in which the attorney general of a State has reason to believe that an interest of the residents of the State has been or is threatened or adversely affected by the engagement of a social media platform in a practice that violates this subtitle, the attorney general of the State may, as parens patriae, bring a civil action against the social media platform on behalf of the residents of the State in an appropriate district court of the United States to—

(A) enjoin that practice;

(B) enforce compliance with this subtitle;

(C) on behalf of residents of the States, obtain damages, restitution, or other compensation, each of which shall be distributed in accordance with State law; or

(D) obtain such other relief as the court may consider to be appropriate.

(2) RIGHTS OF FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—

(A) NOTICE TO FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The attorney general of a State shall notify the Commission in writing that the attorney general intends to bring a civil action under paragraph (1) before the filing of the civil action.

(ii) CONTENTS.—The notification required under clause (i) with respect to a civil action shall include a copy of the complaint to be filed to initiate the civil action.

(iii) Clause (i) shall not apply with respect to the filing of an action by an attorney general of a State under this paragraph if the attorney general of the State determines that it not feasible to provide the notice required in that clause before filing the action.

(B) INTERVENTION BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—Upon receiving notice under subparagraph (A)(i), the Commission shall have the right to intervene in the action that is the subject of the notice.

(3) EFFECT OF INTERVENTION.—If the Commission intervenes in an action under paragraph (1), it shall have the right—

(A) to be heard with respect to any matter that arises in that action; and

(B) file a petition for appeal.

(4) INVESTIGATORY POWERS.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prevent

the attorney general of a State from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general by the laws of the State to—

(A) conduct investigations;

(B) administer oaths or affirmations; or

(C) compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary or other evidence.

(5) PREEMPTIVE ACTION BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—In any case in which an action is instituted by or on behalf of the Commission for a violation of this subtitle, no State may, during the pendency of that action, institute a separate civil action under paragraph (1) against any defendant named in the complaint in the action instituted by or on behalf of the Commission for that violation.

(6) VENUE; SERVICE OF PROCESS.—

(A) VENUE.—Any action brought under paragraph (1) may be brought in—

(i) the district court of the United States that meets applicable requirements relating to venue under section 1391 of title 28, United States Code; or

(ii) another court of competent jurisdiction.

(B) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—In an action brought under paragraph (1), process may be served in any district in which the defendant—

(i) is an inhabitant; or

(ii) may be found.

**SEC. 407. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.**

The provisions of this subtitle shall preempt any State law, rule, or regulation only to the extent that such State law, rule, or regulation conflicts with a provision of this subtitle. Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to prohibit a State from enacting a law, rule, or regulation that provides greater protection to children or teens than the protection provided by the provisions of this subtitle. Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to—

(1) affect the application of—

(A) section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g, commonly known as the “Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974”) or other Federal or State laws governing student privacy; or

(B) the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 (15 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.) or any rule or regulation promulgated under such Act; or

(2) authorize any action that would conflict with section 18(h) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(h)).

**SEC. 408. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This subtitle shall take effect 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

**Subtitle B—Eyes on the Board Act of 2024**

**SEC. 409. SHORT TITLE.**

This subtitle may be cited as the “Eyes on the Board Act of 2024”.

**SEC. 410. UPDATING THE CHILDREN’S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT TO INCLUDE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1721 of the Children’s Internet Protection Act (title XVII of Public Law 106-554) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) through (h) as subsections (g) through (i), respectively; and

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

“(f) LIMITATION ON USE OF SCHOOL BROADBAND SUBSIDIES FOR ACCESS TO SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) COMMISSION.—The term ‘Commission’ means the Federal Communications Commission.

“(B) SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.—The term ‘social media platform’—

“(i) means any website, online service, online application, or mobile application that—

“(I) serves the public; and

“(II) primarily provides a forum for users to communicate user-generated content, including messages, videos, images, and audio files, to other online users; and

“(ii) does not include—

“(I) an internet service provider;

“(II) electronic mail;

“(III) an online service, application, or website—

“(aa) that consists primarily of content that is not user-generated, but is preselected by the provider; and

“(bb) for which any chat, comment, or interactive functionality is incidental to, directly related to, or dependent on the provision of content described in item (aa);

“(IV) an online service, application, or website—

“(aa) that is non-commercial and primarily designed for educational purposes; and

“(bb) the revenue of which is not primarily derived from advertising or the sale of personal data;

“(V) a wireless messaging service, including such a service provided through a short messaging service or multimedia service protocols—

“(aa) that is not a component of, or linked to, a website, online service, online application, or mobile application described in clause (i); and

“(bb) the predominant or exclusive function of which is direct messaging consisting of the transmission of text, photos, or videos that—

“(AA) are sent by electronic means from the sender to a recipient; and

“(BB) are not posted publicly or on a website, online service, online application, or mobile application described in clause (i);

“(VI) a teleconferencing or video conferencing service that allows for the reception and transmission of audio or video signals for real-time communication that is initiated by using a unique link or identifier to facilitate access;

“(VII) a product or service that primarily functions as business-to-business software or a cloud storage, file sharing, or file collaboration service; or

“(VIII) an organization that is not organized to carry on business for the profit of the organization or of the members of the organization.

“(C) TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION MEASURE.—The term ‘technology protection measure’ means a specific technology that blocks or filters access to a social media platform.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—

“(i) CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.—An elementary or secondary school that is subject to paragraph (5) of section 254(h) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254(h)) (referred to in this paragraph as ‘section 254(h)’) may not receive services at discount rates under section 254(h) unless the school, school board, local educational agency, or other authority with responsibility for administration of the school—

“(I) submits to the Commission the certification described in subparagraph (B); and

“(II) ensures that the use of the school’s supported services, devices, and networks is in accordance with the certification described in subclause (I).

“(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in clause (i) may be construed to prohibit—

“(I) district-sanctioned or school-sanctioned learning management systems and school information systems used for purposes of schools conveying content related to the education of students; or

“(II) a teacher from using a social media platform in the classroom for educational purposes.

“(B) CERTIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO STUDENTS AND SOCIAL MEDIA.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—A certification under this subparagraph is a certification that the applicable school, school board, local educational agency, or other authority with responsibility for administration of the school—

“(I) is enforcing a policy of preventing students of the school from accessing social media platforms on any supported service, device, or network that includes—

“(aa) monitoring the online activities of any such service, device, or network to determine if those students are accessing social media platforms; and

“(bb) the operation of a technology protection measure with respect to those services, devices, and networks that protects against access by those students to a social media platform; and

“(II) is enforcing the operation of the technology protection measure described in subclause (I) during any use of supported services, devices, or networks by students of the school.

“(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subparagraph may be construed to require the applicable school, school board, local educational agency, or other authority to track an individual website, online application, or mobile application that a student is attempting to access (or any search terms used by, or the browsing history of, a student) beyond the identity of the website or application and whether access to the website or application is blocked by a technology protection measure because the website or application is a social media platform.

“(C) TIMING OF IMPLEMENTATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a school to which this paragraph applies, the certification under this paragraph shall be made—

“(I) with respect to the first program funding year under section 254(h) after the date of enactment of the Eyes on the Board Act of 2024, not later than 120 days after the beginning of that program funding year; and

“(II) with respect to any subsequent funding year, as part of the application process for that program funding year.

“(ii) PROCESS.—

“(I) SCHOOLS WITH MEASURES IN PLACE.—A school covered by clause (i) that has in place measures meeting the requirements necessary for certification under this paragraph shall certify its compliance with this paragraph during each annual program application cycle under section 254(h), except that, with respect to the first program funding year after the date of enactment of the Eyes on the Board Act of 2024, the certification shall be made not later than 120 days after the beginning of that first program funding year.

“(II) SCHOOLS WITHOUT MEASURES IN PLACE.—

“(aa) FIRST 2 PROGRAM YEARS.—A school covered by clause (i) that does not have in place measures meeting the requirements for certification under this paragraph—

“(AA) for the first program year after the date of enactment of the Eyes on the Board Act of 2024 in which the school is applying for funds under section 254(h), shall certify that the school is undertaking such actions, including any necessary procurement procedures, to put in place measures meeting the requirements for certification under this paragraph; and

“(BB) for the second program year after the date of enactment of the Eyes on the Board Act of 2024 in which the school is applying for funds under section 254(h), shall certify that the school is in compliance with this paragraph.

“(bb) SUBSEQUENT PROGRAM YEARS.—Any school that is unable to certify compliance with such requirements in such second program year shall be ineligible for services at discount rates or funding in lieu of services at such rates under section 254(h) for such second year and all subsequent program years under section 254(h), until such time as such school comes into compliance with this paragraph.

“(III) WAIVERS.—Any school subject to subclause (II) that cannot come into compliance with subparagraph (B) in such second program year may seek a waiver of subclause (II)(aa)(BB) if State or local procurement rules or regulations or competitive bidding requirements prevent the making of the certification otherwise required by such subclause. A school, school board, local educational agency, or other authority with responsibility for administration of the school shall notify the Commission of the applicability of such subclause to the school. Such notice shall certify that the school in question will be brought into compliance before the start of the third program year after the date of enactment of the Eyes on the Board Act of 2024 in which the school is applying for funds under section 254(h).

“(D) NONCOMPLIANCE.—

“(i) FAILURE TO SUBMIT CERTIFICATION.—Any school that knowingly fails to comply with the application guidelines regarding the annual submission of a certification required by this paragraph shall not be eligible for services at discount rates or funding in lieu of services at such rates under section 254(h).

“(ii) FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CERTIFICATION.—Any school that knowingly fails to ensure the use of its computers in accordance with a certification under subparagraph (B) shall reimburse any funds and discounts received under section 254(h) for the period covered by such certification.

“(iii) REMEDY OF NONCOMPLIANCE.—

“(I) FAILURE TO SUBMIT.—A school that has failed to submit a certification under clause (i) may remedy the failure by submitting the certification to which the failure relates. Upon submittal of such certification, the school shall be eligible for services at discount rates under section 254(h).

“(II) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—A school that has failed to comply with a certification as described in clause (ii) may remedy the failure by ensuring the use of its computers in accordance with such certification. Upon submittal to the Commission of a certification or other appropriate evidence of such remedy, the school shall be eligible for services at discount rates under section 254(h).

“(E) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to consider a school, school board, local educational agency, or other authority with responsibility for the administration of a school in violation of this paragraph if that school, school board, local educational agency, or other authority makes a good faith effort to comply with this paragraph and to correct a known violation of this paragraph within a reasonable period of time.

“(3) ENFORCEMENT.—The Commission shall—

“(A) not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Eyes on the Board Act of 2024, amend the rules of the Commission to carry out this subsection; and

“(B) enforce this subsection, and any rules issued under this subsection, as if this subsection and those rules were part of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.) or the rules issued under that Act.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 254(h) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254(h)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5)(E)—

(A) in clause (i), in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “1721(h)” and inserting “1721(i)”; and

(B) in clause (ii)(I), by striking “1721(h)” and inserting “1721(i)”; and

(2) in paragraph (6)(E)—

(A) in clause (i), in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “1721(h)” and inserting “1721(i)”; and

(B) in clause (ii)(I), by striking “1721(h)” and inserting “1721(i)”.

**SEC. 411. EMPOWERING TRANSPARENCY WITH RESPECT TO SCREEN TIME IN SCHOOLS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 254(h)(5)(B) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254(h)(5)(B)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) has adopted a screen time policy that includes guidelines, disaggregated by grade, for the number of hours and uses of screen time that may be assigned to students, whether during school hours or as homework, on a regular basis.”

(b) CERTIFICATION AND REPORTING.—Beginning in the first funding year that begins after the date of enactment of this Act, each school seeking support under section 254(h) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254(h)) (without regard to whether the school submits an application directly for that support or such an application is submitted on behalf of the school by a consortium or school district) shall, as a condition of receiving that support—

(1) certify that the school will comply with the requirements of this section and the amendments made by this section for the year covered by the application; and

(2) provide to the Federal Communications Commission (referred to in this section as the “Commission”) a copy of the screen time policy of the school to which the certification relates.

(c) COMMISSION REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall amend the rules of the Commission to carry out this section and the amendments made by this section.

**SEC. 412. INTERNET SAFETY POLICIES.**

Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254) is amended—

(1) in subsection (h)(5)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(i)—

(i) in subclause (I), by inserting “and copies of the Internet safety policy and screen time policy to which each such certification pertains” before the semicolon at the end; and

(ii) in subclause (II)—

(I) by striking “Commission” and all that follows through the end of the subclause and inserting the following: “Commission—

“(aa) a certification that an Internet safety policy and screen time policy described in subclause (I) have been adopted and implemented for the school; and”; and

(II) by adding at the end the following:

“(bb) copies of the Internet safety policy and screen time policy described in item (aa); and”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(G) DATABASE OF INTERNET SAFETY AND SCREEN TIME POLICIES.—The Commission shall establish an easily accessible, public database that contains each Internet safety policy and screen time policy submitted to the Commission under subclauses (I) and (II) of subparagraph (A)(i).”; and

(2) in subsection (l), by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) AVAILABILITY FOR REVIEW.—A copy of each Internet safety policy adopted by a li-

brary under this subsection shall be made available to the Commission, upon request of the Commission, by the library for purposes of the review of the Internet safety policy by the Commission.”

**Subtitle C—Severability**

**SEC. 413. SEVERABILITY.**

If any provision of this title or an amendment made by this title is determined to be unenforceable or invalid, the remaining provisions of this title and amendments made by this title shall not be affected.

**SA 3172.** Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in subtitle H of title X, insert the following:

**SEC. 10. EXTENSION OF SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000.**

(a) SECURE PAYMENTS FOR STATES AND COUNTIES CONTAINING FEDERAL LAND.—

(1) SECURE PAYMENTS.—Section 101 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7111) is amended, in subsections (a) and (b), by striking “2023” each place it appears and inserting “2026”.

(2) DISTRIBUTION OF PAYMENTS TO ELIGIBLE COUNTIES.—Section 103(d)(2) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7113(d)(2)) is amended by striking “2023” and inserting “2026”.

(b) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT SPECIAL PROJECTS ON FEDERAL LAND.—

(1) COMMITTEE COMPOSITION WAIVER AUTHORITY.—Section 205(d)(6)(C) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7125(d)(6)(C)) is amended by striking “2023” and inserting “2026”.

(2) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.—Section 208 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7128) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking “2025” and inserting “2028”; and

(B) in subsection (b), by striking “2026” and inserting “2029”.

(c) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO EXPEND COUNTY FUNDS.—Section 305 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7144) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “2025” and inserting “2028”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “2026” and inserting “2029”.

(d) RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE PILOT PROGRAM EXTENSION.—Section 205(g) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7125(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by striking “2023” and inserting “2026”; and

(2) in paragraph (6), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “the date described in paragraph (5)” and inserting “October 1, 2023”.

(e) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—

(1) RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—Section 205 of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7125) is amended—

(A) in subsection (c)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “concerned,” and inserting “concerned”; and

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking “the date of the enactment of this Act” and inserting “October 3, 2008”; and

(B) in subsection (d)(4), by striking “to extent” and inserting “to the extent”.

(2) USE OF PROJECT FUNDS.—Section 206(b)(2) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7126(b)(2)) is amended by striking “concerned,” and inserting “concerned”.

**SA 3173.** Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following:

**SEC. 1266. REPORT ON NATIONAL SECURITY IMPACTS OF TECHNOLOGY PROTECTIONISM BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of State, shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report detailing the national security implications of the discrimination by the Republic of Korea against United States technology companies, which works to the advantage of technology firms of the People's Republic of China.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a determination as to whether—

(A) legislation of the Republic of Korea known as the “Online Platform Monopoly Regulation Act” would impact United States national security by discriminating against United States technology companies;

(B) such legislation would allow technology firms of the People's Republic of China that pose national security risks to the United States to gain market share in the Republic of Korea; and

(C) dominance over the digital sectors of the Republic of Korea by technology firms of the People's Republic of China would impact the information security of the United States Armed Forces based in the Republic of Korea; and

(2) a determination of the manner in which the passage of such legislation and the mitigation of its national security impacts should be accounted for in the Special Measures Agreement, and other United States defense funding intended for the protection of the Republic of Korea.

**SA 3174.** Mr. OSSOFF submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

**SEC. 1095. RURAL EMERGENCY HOSPITAL FIX.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) RURAL EMERGENCY HOSPITAL FIX.—Section 1861(kkk)(3) of the Social Security Act

(42 U.S.C. 1395x(kkk)(3)) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “October 1, 2020, or” after “as of”.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may implement the amendment made by paragraph (1) by program instruction or otherwise.

(b) OFFSET.—

(1) EXTENDING THE ADJUSTMENT TO THE CALCULATION OF HOSPICE CAP AMOUNTS UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.—Section 1814(i)(2)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395f(i)(2)(B)) is amended—

(A) in clause (ii), by striking “2033” and inserting “2034”; and

(B) in clause (iii), by striking “2033” and inserting “2034”.

(2) MEDICARE IMPROVEMENT FUND.—Section 1898(b)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395iii(b)(1)) is amended by striking “\$0” and inserting “\$227,000,000”.

**SA 3175.** Mr. ROMNEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2073, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 61, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “age of 13” and inserting “age of 17”;

**SA 3176.** Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. PENALTIES FOR COCAINE-RELATED OFFENSES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT.—Section 401(b)(1) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(b)(1)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in clause (ii), in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “5 kilograms” and inserting “4 kilograms”; and

(ii) in clause (iii), by striking “280 grams” and inserting “1,600 grams”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (ii), in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “500 grams” and inserting “400 grams”; and

(ii) in clause (iii), by striking “28 grams” and inserting “160 grams”.

(2) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES IMPORT AND EXPORT ACT.—Section 1010(b) of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 960(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “5 kilograms” and inserting “4 kilograms”;

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking “280 grams” and inserting “1,600 grams”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (H), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “500 grams” and inserting “400 grams”;

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking “28 grams” and inserting “160 grams”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (H), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon.

(b) ATTORNEY GENERAL CERTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For a defendant sentenced before the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to the court that sentenced the defendant a certification regarding whether, in the opinion of the Attorney General, the sentence of the defendant should be reduced, as if the amendments made by subsection (a) were in effect at the time the offense was committed. In making a certification under this paragraph, the Attorney General shall consider the factors in section 3553(a) of title 18, United States Code.

(2) RESENTENCING.—If the Attorney General submits a certification under paragraph (1) indicating that, in the opinion of the Attorney General, the sentence of the defendant should be reduced, as if the amendments made by subsection (a) were in effect at the time the offense was committed, the court that imposed the sentence of the defendant may impose such a reduced sentence.

(c) FEDERAL RESEARCH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in coordination with the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall review and submit to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on—

(A) the average individual dosage amount of both powder cocaine and cocaine base;

(B) the lethality of both powder cocaine and cocaine base as measured by individual dosage;

(C) the impact on lethality that polysubstance use, specifically as to synthetic drugs such as fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances, has on both powder cocaine and cocaine base users;

(D) the addictiveness of both powder cocaine and cocaine base;

(E) the violence attributed to or associated with both powder cocaine and cocaine base, which may include but is not limited to, criminal charges, statutory enhancements, criminal history, and recidivism data; and

(F) the impact on addictiveness that polysubstance use, specifically as to synthetic drugs such as fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances, has on both powder cocaine and cocaine base users.

(2) REPORT BY UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the United States Sentencing Commission shall submit to Congress and publicly issue a report regarding cocaine offenses and offenders.

(B) CONTENTS.—The report under subparagraph (A) shall include—

(i) an analysis of data available to the Commission on Federal cocaine offenses and offenders;

(ii) an updated description of the forms of cocaine, methods of use, effects, dependency potential, effects of prenatal exposure, and prevalence of cocaine use;

(iii) an updated description of trends in cocaine trafficking patterns, price, and use;

(iv) a review of State sentencing policies and an examination of the interaction of State penalties with Federal prosecutorial decisions;

(v) a review of recent Federal case law developments relating to Federal cocaine sentencing; and

(vi) recommendations to Congress.

**SA 3177.** Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

**SEC. 1095. CHILD LABOR ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2024.**

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Child Labor Accountability Act of 2024”.

(b) AMENDMENT TO THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT OF 1938.—Section 12(a) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 212(a)) is amended by striking “thirty” and inserting “90”.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON CHILD LABOR LAW VIOLATIONS.—Section 4 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 204) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON CHILD LABOR LAW VIOLATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Child Labor Accountability Act of 2024, and annually thereafter, the Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney General and the head of any other relevant Federal agency, shall submit a report to Congress that—

“(A) contains summary data on violations of the provisions of section 12 or 13(c), relating to child labor, in the year preceding the date of submission of the report, including—

“(i) the number of complaints of potential violations of such provisions received by the Secretary in such year;

“(ii) the number of—

“(I) investigations of potential violations of such provisions that are ongoing as of the date of submission of the report; and

“(II) investigations of potential violations of such provisions that have concluded in such year;

“(iii) with respect to violations of such provisions in such year—

“(I) the total number of such violations;

“(II) the number of such violations disaggregated by the industry in which such violation occurred;

“(III) the number of such violations disaggregated by the provision of law that was violated;

“(IV) the average and median number of child employees involved in such violations;

“(V) the total number of child employees involved in such violations, disaggregated by characteristics including—

“(aa) the age of such child employee; and

“(bb) the sex of such child employee; and

“(VI) the number of such violations that caused the death or serious injury of any child employee involved in such violation;

“(iv) the total, average, and median amount of penalties assessed under section 16(e)(1)(A) in such year;

“(v) with respect to criminal penalties under section 16(a) for violations of section 15(a)(4)—

“(I) the number of individuals charged under such section for such a violation in such year, disaggregated by characteristics including—

“(aa) the age of such individual;

“(bb) the sex of such individual; and

“(cc) the relationship of such individual to any child employee involved in the relevant violation of section 15(a)(4); and

“(II) the number of individuals convicted under such section for such a violation in such year, disaggregated by characteristics including—

“(aa) the age of such individual;

“(bb) the sex of such individual; and

“(cc) the relationship of such individual to any child employee involved in the relevant violation of section 15(a)(4); and

“(vi) any other information determined relevant by the Secretary;

“(B) includes information on any activities in such year by the Secretary of Labor, in cooperation with State, Tribal, and local law enforcement, to identify, investigate, and prosecute violations of the provisions of section 12 or 13(c), relating to child labor;

“(C) describes trends with respect to such violations in such year; and

“(D) includes recommendations to Congress for combating such violations.

“(2) DEFINITION OF CHILD EMPLOYEE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘child employee’ means an employee who is younger than 18 years of age.”.

**SA 3178.** Mr. RICKETTS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following:

**SEC. 1266. IMPROVING MULTILATERAL COOPERATION TO IMPROVE THE SECURITY OF TAIWAN.**

(a) **SHORT TITLES.**—This section may be cited as the “Building Options for the Lasting Security of Taiwan through European Resolve Act” or the “BOLSTER Act”.

(b) **CONSULTATIONS WITH EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS REGARDING SANCTIONS AGAINST THE PRC UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.**—The head of the Office of Sanctions Coordination at the Department of State, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control at the Department of the Treasury, shall engage in regular consultations with the International Special Envoy for the Implementation of European Union Sanctions and appropriate government officials of European countries, including the United Kingdom, to develop coordinated plans and share information on independent plans to impose sanctions and other economic measures against the PRC, as appropriate, if the PRC is found to be involved in—

(1) overthrowing or dismantling the governing institutions in Taiwan;

(2) occupying any territory controlled or administered by Taiwan as of the date of the enactment of this Act;

(3) taking significant action against Taiwan, including—

(A) creating a naval blockade or other quarantine of Taiwan;

(B) seizing the outer lying islands of Taiwan; or

(C) initiating a cyberattack that threatens civilian or military infrastructure in Taiwan; or

(4) providing assistance that helps the security forces of the Russian Federation in executing Russia’s unprovoked, illegal war against Ukraine.

(c) **REPORT ON THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF PRC MILITARY ACTION AGAINST TAIWAN.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit

a report to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives that contains an independent assessment of the expected economic impact of—

(1) a 30-day blockade or quarantine of Taiwan by the PLA; and

(2) a 180-day blockade or quarantine of Taiwan by the PLA.

(d) **SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION AND EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS REGARDING INCREASING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the United States, Europe, and Taiwan are like-minded partners that—

(A) share common values, such as democracy, the rule of law and human rights; and

(B) enjoy a close trade and economic partnership;

(2) bolstering political, economic, and people-to-people relations with Taiwan would benefit the European Union, individual European countries, and the United States;

(3) the European Union can play an important role in helping Taiwan resist the economic coercion of the PRC by negotiating with Taiwan regarding new economic, commercial, and investment agreements;

(4) the United States and European countries should coordinate and increase diplomatic efforts to facilitate Taiwan’s meaningful participation in international organizations;

(5) the United States and European countries should—

(A) publicly and repeatedly emphasize the differences between their respective “One China” policies and the PRC’s “One China” principle;

(B) counter the PRC’s propaganda and false narratives about United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2758 (XXVI), which claim the resolution recognizes PRC territorial claims to Taiwan;

(C) increase public statements of support for Taiwan’s democracy and its meaningful participation in international organizations;

(D) facilitate unofficial diplomatic visits to and from Taiwan by high-ranking government officials and parliamentarians;

(E) establish parliamentary caucuses or groups that promote strong relations with Taiwan;

(F) strengthen subnational diplomacy, including diplomatic and trade-related visits to and from Taiwan by local government officials;

(G) strengthen coordination between United States and European business chambers, universities, think tanks, and other civil society groups with similar groups in Taiwan;

(H) promote direct flights to and from Taiwan;

(I) facilitate visits by civil society leaders to Taiwan; and

(J) increase economic engagement and trade relations; and

(6) Taiwan’s inclusion in the U.S.-EU Trade and Technology Council’s Secure Supply Chain working group would bring valuable expertise and enhance transatlantic cooperation in the semiconductor sector.

(e) **SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING CONSULTATIONS WITH EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS ON SUPPORTING TAIWAN’S SELF-DEFENSE.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) preserving peace and security in the Taiwan Strait is a shared interest of the United States and Europe;

(2) European countries, particularly countries with experience combating Russian aggression and malign activities, can provide Taiwan with lessons learned from their “total defense” programs to mobilize the military and civilians in a time of crisis;

(3) the United States and Europe should increase coordination to strengthen Taiwan’s cybersecurity, especially for critical infrastructure and network defense operations;

(4) the United States and Europe should work with Taiwan—

(A) to improve its energy resiliency;

(B) to strengthen its food security;

(C) to combat misinformation, disinformation, digital authoritarianism, offensive cyber operations, and foreign interference;

(D) to provide expertise on how to improve defense infrastructure;

(E) to increase public statements of support for Taiwan’s security;

(F) to facilitate arms transfers or arms sales, particularly of weapons consistent with an asymmetric defense strategy;

(G) to facilitate transfers or sales of dual-use items and technology;

(H) to facilitate transfers or sales of critical nonmilitary supplies, such as food and medicine;

(I) to increase the military presence of such countries in the Indo-Pacific region;

(J) to engage in joint training and military exercises that may be necessary for Taiwan to maintain credible defense, in accordance with the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.);

(5) European naval powers, in coordination with the United States, should increase freedom of navigation transits through the Taiwan Strait; and

(6) European naval powers, the United States, and Taiwan should establish exchanges and partnerships among their coast guards to counter coercion by the PRC.

**SA 3179.** Mr. KELLY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle K of title V, insert the following:

**SEC. 599C. CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS OF PROHIBITION ON FORMER MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES ACCEPTING EMPLOYMENT WITH CERTAIN FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.**

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Members of the Armed Forces gain skills, knowledge, and training through their service that are integral to the mission of the United States military.

(2) The specialized skillsets gained through service in the United States Armed Forces are the product of unique United States Government training.

(3) Public reports have revealed the People’s Republic of China has employed, or contracted through intermediaries, former United States military personnel and former military personnel of countries that are allies of the United States to train Chinese military personnel on specialized skills.

(4) The closest allies of the United States, including the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand, are taking steps to stop their former military personnel from training the armed forces of foreign adversaries, including instituting policy and legal reviews and consideration of criminal penalties to prevent that type of post-military service activity.

(5) Allowing individuals to be employed or engaged in the provision of training to foreign adversaries in specialized skillsets

gained through service in the United States Armed Forces poses a significant risk for exploitation by foreign adversaries against United States interests.

(b) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that it is in the national security interests of the United States that former members of the Armed Forces be prohibited from taking employment or holding positions that provide substantial support to the military of a foreign government that is an adversary of the United States, such as the Government of the People's Republic of China or the Government of the Russian Federation, to prevent the exploitation of specialized United States military competencies and capabilities by those governments.

(c) **CRIMINAL PENALTY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 207 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(m) **PROHIBITION ON FORMER MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES ACCEPTING POST-SERVICE EMPLOYMENT WITH CERTAIN FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A covered individual who violates the prohibition under section 989(a) of title 10 by knowingly and willfully occupying a covered post-service position shall be punished as provided in section 216(a)(2) of this title.

“(2) **PROOF OF STATE OF MIND.**—In prosecution under paragraph (1), the Government is required to prove that the defendant knew, for a period of not less than 30 days before occupying a covered post-service position or, if already occupying such a position, before leaving the position, that—

“(A) the entity with which the defendant occupied the covered post-service position was providing advice or services relating to national security, intelligence, military, or internal security to a foreign government; and

“(B) the foreign government was described in section 989(h)(2)(A) of title 10.

“(3) **JURISDICTION.**—An offense under paragraph (1) shall be subject to extraterritorial Federal jurisdiction.

“(4) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this subsection, the terms ‘covered individual’ and ‘covered post-service position’ have the meanings given those terms in section 989 of title 10.”

(2) **EFFECTIVE PERIOD.**—Subsection (m) of section 207 of title 18, United States Code, as added by paragraph (1), applies with respect to a violation described in that subsection that occurs, in whole or in part—

(A) after the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) on or before December 31, 2029.

(d) **AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 989 OF TITLE 10.**—

(1) **WAIVER.**—Subsection (b)(1)(B) of section 989 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “is necessary” and all that follows and inserting “would not result in a detrimental impact to the current or future national security interests of the United States.”

(2) **NOTICE.**—Subsection (c)(1) of such section is amended by inserting “, including violations punishable under section 207(m) of title 18” after “violations of the prohibition”.

(3) **REFERRALS FOR PROSECUTION.**—Subsection (d) of such section is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) refer the case to the Attorney General for prosecution under section 207(m) of title 18.”

**SA 3180.** Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title VII, add the following:

**SEC. 710. LIMITATION ON COPAYMENTS FOR OUTPATIENT VISITS FOR MENTAL OR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNDER TRICARE PROGRAM.**

(a) **LIMITATION ON MENTAL OR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COPAYMENTS.**—

(1) **LIMITATION.**—Chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1075a the following new section:

**“§ 1075b. TRICARE program: limitation on copayments for certain mental or behavioral health visits**

“(a) **LIMITATION ON COPAYMENTS.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the Secretary of Defense may not charge to a covered individual a copayment in an amount greater than the amount described in subsection (b) for an outpatient visit for mental health or behavioral health under the TRICARE program, regardless of whether such outpatient visit is furnished by a specialty care provider.

“(b) **AMOUNT DESCRIBED.**—The amount described in this subsection with respect to a covered individual is the amount of a copayment that would be charged to the covered individual under the TRICARE program for an outpatient visit for primary care services during the year in which the covered individual is being charged pursuant to subsection (a).

“(c) **COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.**—In this section, the term ‘covered individual’ means an individual enrolled under the TRICARE program, regardless of the beneficiary category of the individual with respect to such program or the duty status of the individual.”

(2) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections for such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1075a the following new section:

“§ 1075b. TRICARE program: limitation on copayments for certain mental or behavioral health visits.”

(3) **APPLICABILITY.**—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply with respect to outpatient visits for mental or behavioral health occurring on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) **TEMPORARY LIMITATION ON OTHER SPECIALTY CARE COPAYMENTS.**—

(1) **TEMPORARY LIMITATION.**—During the one-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense may not increase the amount of a copayment charged to a covered individual for any service described in paragraph (2) beyond the amount that the Secretary would have charged to the covered individual for such service during fiscal year 2021.

(2) **SERVICES DESCRIBED.**—A service described in this paragraph is a service—

(A) that is furnished to a covered individual by a specialty care provider under the TRICARE program; and

(B) that is not covered under section 1075b of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(3) **APPLICABILITY.**—The limitation on copayments specified in paragraph (1) shall

apply with respect to specialty care received on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) **REPORT ON EFFECTS OF LIMITATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report on how the limitation under section 1075b of title 10, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)), has affected, or may affect, the health care system of the Department of Defense.

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) any findings by the Secretary as to whether the limitation under section 1075b of title 10, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)), may result in an increase in copayments charged for services described in subsection (b)(2) after the period specified in subsection (b)(1) concludes; and

(B) recommendations by the Secretary on how to avoid such an increase, as applicable.

(d) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **COVERED INDIVIDUAL.**—The term “covered individual” has the meaning given that term in section 1075b of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(2) **TRICARE PROGRAM.**—The term “TRICARE program” has the meaning given that term in section 1072 of such title.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, I have six requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

**COMMITTEE ON 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, July 25, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet in open executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., to consider nominations.

**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS**

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 11 a.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS**

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.



## COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 2 p.m., to conduct a business meeting.

## PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to the following member of my staff, Kelly Powers, during the pendency of today, July 25, 2024.

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

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to the following members of Senator MERKLEY's staff: Christina Suggs and Cheryl Anderson, during the pendency of today's session.

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

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be granted floor privileges until August 9, 2024: Krrishh Kamal, Haley Leipzig, Daniel James, William DuVall, and Chad Schumacher.

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

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following intern and law clerk be granted floor privileges until August 2, 2024: Eugenie Davis and Michael Lettieri.

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

WORLD ELDER ABUSE  
AWARENESS DAYELDER ABUSE AWARENESS  
MONTH

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 774, which is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 774) designating June 15, 2024, as "World Elder Abuse Awareness Day" and the month of June 2024 as "Elder Abuse Awareness Month".

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

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made laid and upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 774) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JULY 29,  
2024

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, July 29; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Neumann nomination; further, that at 5:30 p.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Landy nomination as provided under the order of July 23, 2024, and that if the nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

## ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator LANKFORD on this historic day.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from the State of Oklahoma.

## ISRAEL

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, we all had the opportunity yesterday to be able to hear Binyamin Netanyahu speak to a joint session of Congress. It is the fourth time Binyamin Netanyahu has spoken in Congress.

This particular invitation was different, though. During a time of war, it is much more heightened than it has been for a long time. He came in a very serious tone to be able to tell America and Americans: Thank you for standing with us as Israel.

And the second thing we heard from him over and over again is: Don't forget why we are in this war.

He introduced hostages that have been released. He introduced families whose loved ones are still hostages. He introduced members of the IDF who lost limbs or fought against terrorism. And he reminded Americans that more than 1,200 people died on October 7 of last year, and 253 people were taken hostage at that time.

This war would be over right now if Hamas would release their hostages. This is not a war that Israel started. There is a barrier and a fence between Israel and Gaza. Gaza was there; Israel was there.

But thousands of terrorists from Hamas crossed through that barrier early on Saturday morning on October

7, on a Jewish holiday, and slaughtered children in their beds, killed moms and dads, and carried out the worst act of terrorism that Israel has ever seen. So Israel is responding.

Prime Minister Netanyahu committed again that they will continue to fight until they bring every single one of those hostages home, even as they continue the negotiations to try to stop the war.

Currently, Israel is literally surrounded by enemies coming at them. It is something we lose track of in the United States. Israel now faces Hamas actively attacking them through terrorist actions and continuing to threaten, as Hamas leaders, even in the past month, have said that if given the opportunity, they would come back and do an October 7 all over again. They never relented. And they continue to put civilians between them and harm to try to protect the lives of the militants by using civilians as shields.

But many Americans forget that Hezbollah from the north in Lebanon continues to launch rockets consistently into Israel every day. And 80,000 Israelis currently are internally displaced inside Israel, fleeing from their own homes; and they have been away from their homes now for 10 months because 10 or more rockets a day are coming into northern Israel as they continue to launch at them over and over.

While American media has ignored that, the people of Israel cannot, because they live under that threat every single day. From the West Bank, there continues to be attacks that are happening on a weekly basis. From Syria, there continues to be attacks from Iranian-backed militants there. The same with Iraq.

And just in the past 2 weeks, Yemen has landed one of their attack drones inside a neighborhood in Tel Aviv. Now, they have launched hundreds at Israel, but this was the first time they actually struck one of their targets. And Houthi leaders inside Yemen celebrated by saying: We have finally killed some Israelis.

Israel is literally surrounded every single day. All of those militant groups are all funded by the Iranian regime—all of them. We as Americans sometimes point at Iran and say: They are the problem. And we lose track of the simple fact it is not the Iranian people. The people of Iran live under the oppression of the Iranian regime that they would like to be free from as well.

But the entire region is destabilized by the actions and the terrorist activities of just that Iranian leadership and that regime. They are funding Hezbollah. They are funding Hamas. They are funding the militants in Syria and in Iraq. They are funding and providing all the trajectory for the Houthis and attacking ships in the Red Sea, as well as launching at Israel on a regular basis. It is Iran that is doing that.

And we as the United States should do whatever we can to apply the maximum amount of pressure on Iran and on that regime to be able to shut off the flow of money and shut off their ability to be able to sell oil worldwide so we can continue to be able to put pressure on them so they are not flowing money to terrorist organizations that are attacking Israel on a regular basis.

Now, I understand that what I have just stated is controversial to some people in the United States. As Binyamin Netanyahu was speaking yesterday, at Union Station, just four blocks from where I am standing right now, there were people that were waving Palestinian flags, climbing on the statue of Christopher Columbus with spray paint, painting on Christopher Columbus's statue—four blocks from here on Union Station—“*Hamas is coming*,” while they burned American flags and burned Israeli flags. Four blocks from here.

I am keenly aware that not every American is supportive of what is happening in Israel. But we are the United States of America. Israel is our ally. She is a functioning democracy in the chaos of the Middle East, and we should continue to stand with Israel because she is facing terrorism, just as we have faced terrorism.

As Binyamin Netanyahu reminded all Americans yesterday, Iran really wants to destroy America. Just Israel is between Iran and America, so they go after Israel first.

There is something growing in America though. And it is a growing anti-Semitism that is occurring, something Senator ROSEN and I have talked about for years. We talked about what is happening on college campuses. After October 7, the anti-Semitism on our university campuses nationwide has now exploded into full view. What has been trained into students by faculty that are anti-Israel is now bearing fruit in public demonstrations. It is funded by we don't know who yet, but definitely organized and funded and well-equipped.

Today, Senator ROSEN and I held an anti-Semitism hearing with college students from six different college campuses. They came and told their story of what it is like to be a Jewish student on an American college campus. And I think this body needs to be able to hear their story, because not everyone was able to be in that hearing today.

Let me just share the stories, because for some people, they just set it aside and say: There are a few places and there are minor things that are happening, but it is no big deal. Let me share what Jewish students on six different college campuses are saying to us in the U.S. Senate today.

There is a student that is from Columbia University. I will leave the names out to be able to protect them. She gave us testimony today saying this:

In the fall semester alone, I endured harassment in the middle of the night and repeated vandalism of my property and resident-assistant bulletin boards, resulting in eventual removal due to constant damage.

I also experienced both traditional and cyber bullying. Within the first week of the October 7th attacks, people began to glare at me, or ignore me entirely, turning away from me even if I greeted them by name. By the end of school year, friends of mine who are now—

As she said—

former friends did not even want to be seen with me. But while my experience was harsh, others endured much graver conditions. I have friends who were spat on and physically attacked; I know people who did not leave their dorm rooms for days [at a time] because they were too afraid of what might happen to them. This is, of course, not even to mention the encampment nor the demonstrations at individual Columbia school graduations that—while I hate to admit it—really did spoil the entire ceremony . . . And throughout it all, these students have waved the Palestinian flag. But this has never been about Palestine; it has not even truly concerned [about] the war in the Gaza Strip. It has always been a protest against the existence of a Jewish State.

At Columbia, people chant that Zionists are not welcome, calling on “death to the Jewish State.” One student leader said that “Zionists don't deserve to live.”

Another student from Rutgers University said:

We tracked [and] endured [and] experienced more than 200 incidents of bias/anti-Semitism since October 7. This represents the supermajority of all bias incidents on campus. This has created an environment where Jewish students feel unsafe, especially since the attack October 7th, with almost 300 days passing without a sense of security on campus or in their classrooms at Rutgers.

Throughout the last week of the semester and during finals in the spring, there was an encampment in solidarity with Hamas, a U.S.-recognized terror organization, on [Voorhees] Mall in the heart of the College Avenue campus that disrupted classes, student learning, and threatened the safety of Jewish students on campus.

That is at the second campus. The third campus, George Washington University, a student there said to us:

On the night of April 29, encampment participants staged a riot, ripping down the fences that were put up by the university around the yard. They stood on the pile of fences while chanting euphemisms for mass murder and desecrating a statue of George Washington.

Signs in the encampment bore the words “final solution” and swastikas. Another read, “Israelis go back to Europe, [your real homes]. Protesters claimed to be fighting for peace yet [they] preached the opposite, chanting: We don't want no 2 states,” “Globalize the intifada,” and “Hamas are freedom fighters.” One student said, “when we say we don't want Zionists here, we really mean it.”

At Ohio State University:

On my campus, Jewish sorority girls were spat on while selling bracelets with the words “I stand with Israel.” Two assailants vandalized our Hillel building, our center for Jewish life while screaming anti-Israel and anti-Semitic obscenities. Two Jewish students were assaulted and spent the night in the hospital after being physically stopped on the street. A group of Jewish girls had pennies thrown at them. Early one morning,

several men approached the Jewish Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity, screaming—

I am not going to say it—and throwing bottles at the house. Students for Justice in Palestine entered our main library and chanted antisemitic slogans for over an hour without facing any consequences.

Interestingly enough, in my home State, we had a student that was there that had transferred from another university to the University of Oklahoma. He had said he wanted to be able to find “a legal education, free of fear of having to bite my tongue; forced to hide my identity and [my] thoughts” all the time. He thought his best chance would be to attend a law school on a campus like the University of Oklahoma.

He said he came there and he openly discussed his faith to see what the climate would be like. He said:

The spirit of Dr. Ada remains strong.

I will have to tell you that story another time. It is a great story on Dr. Ada.

He said:

I . . . have . . . been warmly received by everyone there, and am receiving the educational experience I wish [I could have received at Indiana University].

Then I have to tell you this story. A student from Oregon University—she came and said:

Flyers were handed out glorifying the Palestinian resistance and celebrating the “Al Aqsa flood”

That is the October 7 attack—

as an act of “decolonization.” Signs called for the abolition of the state of Israel, saying: “from the river to the sea.”

One graffiti on campus asked, “How many children did you eat today?”

When we brought these concerns directly to the University President, we were blamed for not properly reporting these incidents—even though it was entirely unclear where hate bias incidents of this nature were to be reported. It felt degrading. It felt like [it was] victim blaming.

She asked this question and made this statement. She was very kind. She said:

I want to thank Senators Rosen and Lankford for introducing the bipartisan Countering Antisemitism Act—which takes tangible action to address some of the issues I have talked about today.

She said this:

I hope you will work together to get this legislation to the finish line and to deliver for Jewish students who are nervously anticipating entering another challenging academic year this fall.

What was she asking for? She made it very specific. She wants this body to act, to speak out for Jewish students that in a few weeks are going to be headed back to their campus, wondering if their campus will be the same as it was when they left it, because when they left at graduation, there were pro-Hamas rallies at graduations and people shouting down Jewish students on campus, belittling them and attacking them. They are wondering: If I go back to school at all this fall, what will I face? That is not an unrealistic question.

So the students that spoke to us asked for some very specific things. One is that administrators on university campuses should actually enforce the code of conduct on their university campuses—what a radical idea. If you have a code of conduct, actually enforce it. Don't enforce it on some groups and not on others.

Some of these students said that on their campus, the protesters that were shutting down the library and shutting down graduation got meetings with the administration to negotiate what to do and Jewish students did not.

If you have a code of conduct on a university campus—and all of them do—don't allow hateful speech and actions to occur on your campus, to shut down the education. Don't tell—some of these students faced from the administration “I would encourage you not to go to the library today” when their tuition helped pay for that library the same as everyone else's. But to say to one group of protesters “They have taken it over. They really have the occupation. I wouldn't go there. It is not safe for you”—why don't you do something crazy, administrators? Why don't you make your campus safe for everyone? That is one request they have.

The second request they had was—Congress passed the IHRA definition of “anti-Semitism.” The House has already passed it. The State Department right now uses the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance—the IHRA—definition for “anti-Semitism” and has used it for more than three decades. It is not controversial for our State Department, but we have never required the Department of Education to also have that same definition.

What is happening on university campuses right now is that all these statements are being made, as some of the students said today, that sound a

lot like what Nazi Brownshirts said in Germany years ago to Jewish students, being said on American college campuses now, but university officials are saying: We don't have a good definition of “anti-Semitism,” so we can't really say that it is anti-Semitic hatred.

We all know it is.

This body should take the same definition that our State Department has used for decades and require the Department of Education to also use that same definition of “anti-Semitism.” That shouldn't be a radical jump for us. The House passed it. We should pass it. That was the second request they had.

The third request they had was to pass the act that Senator ROSEN and I have already passed through committee to bring it to this body. It is noncontroversial, but this body of the Senate has not taken it up. I would ask the majority leader to bring up that legislation dealing with anti-Semitism before students return to campus this fall to give a clear message to those students that the United States stands for everyone having the opportunity to be able to speak out their point of view, live their faith, and live without fear—especially in an educational environment.

If students want to be pro-Hamas on a university campus, I think it is foolish, I think it is a terrible thing to do, but you have the right to do it. But you do not have the right to be able to silence and intimidate Jewish students on campus at the same time. You do not have the right to do that. They have the right to live their faith in safety and to be able to go to the school of their choice. It is the United States of America. Right now, we have pro-Hamas demonstrators trying to frighten Jewish students away from

campuses of their choice. That needs to stop.

This body needs to take up the act that Senator ROSEN and I have brought—that should not be a controversial issue—and to speak out on behalf of all those students that are just looking for someone to stand with them. So why don't we do that?

I yield the floor.

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ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,  
JULY 29, 2024, AT 3 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 3:52 p.m., adjourned until Monday, July 29, 2024, at 3 p.m.

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### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

#### UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

VAL BUTLER DEMINGS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2030, VICE ANTON GEORGE HAJJAR, TERM EXPIRED.

WILLIAM ZOLLARS, OF KANSAS, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. JENNIFER M. SHORT

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### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate July 25, 2024:

#### UNITED STATES TAX COURT

KASHI WAY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES TAX COURT FOR A TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS.

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes on Monday, July 22, 2024 due to a personal tragedy.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 365 and YEA on Roll Call No. 358.

## CELEBRATING THE CAREER AND LEGACY OF DR. MOLLY BETH MALCOLM

### HON. GREG CASAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Dr. Molly Beth Malcolm for her many years of dedicated public service to our communities in Austin and Travis County, and across Texas.

Hailing from Arkansas but raised as a Texan in Winnsboro, Dr. Malcolm earned an undergraduate degree from Southern Methodist University before going on to serve as a public-school teacher and counselor, later earning her Master of Science from Texas A&M University-Texarkana.

In 1996, Dr. Malcolm helped elect Max Sandlin to the U.S. House of Representatives, and later served in his district office where she served the constituents of northeast Texas. From 1998 until 2003, Dr. Malcolm led the Texas Democratic Party as its chairwoman, a position she was elected to three times unanimously. To date, she remains the only woman to ever hold the position of Chair of the state party.

In 2011, Dr. Malcolm returned to public education, and earned her Doctor of Education in Educational Administration from the University of Texas, where she is a Professor of Practice. She also joined Austin Community College (ACC), where she currently serves as its Executive Vice Chancellor of Operations and Public Affairs.

In this role, Dr. Malcolm shepherded ACC into a new era by dedicating herself to educating and serving Austin's students. She led multiple departments, secured millions in public and private grants, developed ACC's COVID-19 response, and furthered ACC's footprint in our communities with the expansion of centers like the Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation Campus Center; El Centro, the Latino/Latin American Studies Center; African-American Cultural Center; and the Asian American and Pacific Islander Cultural Center.

Dr. Malcolm's decades of educational and civic dedication have led her to be the recipient of numerous lifetime achievement and

alumni awards, including the Leadership Austin Honorary Alumnus Award and the Chancellor's Leadership Excellence Award. She is a proud Texas Exes Alumni Association Life Member, Texas A&M University—Texarkana Alumni Association Life Member, and Southern Methodist University Alumni Association Life Member.

As the Congressman for the 35th Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to congratulate Dr. Molly Beth Malcolm on her dedication to education and public service for nearly half a century, and on her well-deserved retirement from Austin Community College. I have no doubt that Dr. Malcolm will continue to be a leader in serving her community for many years to come.

## CALLING FOR JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR JAPANESE CITIZENS ABDUCTED BY NORTH KOREA

### HON. JILL N. TOKUDA

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, for over forty-six years, Sakie Yokota has waited for the return of her daughter, Megumi Yokota, who, at 13 years old, was kidnapped while coming home from school.

For over forty-three years, Shigeo Iizuka waited for the return of his sister, Yaeko Taguchi, who vanished after dropping off her one- and two-year-old children at daycare. Yaeko's children never had the chance to grow up with her.

These heart-wrenching stories are not isolated cases of the past but are part of a decades-long tragedy that continues to haunt families across Japan.

Today, I rise to address the abductions of Japanese citizens by North Korea in the 1970s and 80s and call for resolution and closure for affected families. The Government of Japan has officially recognized 17 missing people as victims of North Korean abductions. Many of these victims were in their twenties at the time of their disappearance. While North Korea admitted to these abductions and released five victims in the early 2000s, the fates of the remaining 12 abductees remain a mystery. The North Korean regime continues to obscure the truth and deny closure to grieving families.

Since 2002, Japan has engaged in numerous dialogues, negotiations, and diplomatic efforts to uncover the fates of the remaining abductees. North Korea claims that eight victims died while four never entered the territory. The regime has provided purported death certificates for the eight deceased victims, who were in their 20s and 30s, citing causes of death like heart attacks, traffic accidents, gas poisoning, and suicide. However, Japanese investigations have revealed glaring contradictions and errors in North Korea's reports. The

regime's lack of transparency and inability to provide concrete, objective evidence to corroborate such unnatural causes of death have raised questions regarding the fate of these abductees. Even DNA testing on alleged remains has failed to match the identities of the victims. North Korea continues to argue that they have provided all necessary information and that there is nothing further to discuss.

As the decades passed, many relatives of the abductees like Shigeo Iizuka have passed away without ever knowing the fate of their loved ones. The longer this issue remains unresolved, the greater the anguish of the families involved and the risk that the truth will not be uncovered within their lifetime. It is unacceptable that these families have been deprived of justice for so long.

But this tragedy extends beyond Japan. International abductions are a serious human rights violation. The United Nations has documented cases where North Korea abducted citizens from various countries including South Korea, China, Thailand, Romania, and more.

The United States must stand with its ally Japan and demand justice and accountability from North Korea. Nearly 50 years of uncertainty and grief needs to come to an end. We cannot allow these violations of Japan's sovereignty and international human rights to go unaddressed. We must continue to pressure North Korea to disclose the truth about these abductees and to immediately release all who are still held captive.

The families of the victims deserve closure and the truth. It is our moral obligation to hold North Korea's brutal regime accountable for these abductions, bring these abductees home, and ensure every family affected finds peace at long last.

## RECOGNIZING FRED CLIFTON STINSON, JR. AS MICHIGAN'S JULY VETERAN OF THE MONTH

### HON. LISA C. MCCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service and dedication of Mr. Fred Clifton Stinson, Jr., our esteemed Veteran of the Month from Riley Township. Mr. Stinson's life story is one of extraordinary courage, selflessness, and unwavering commitment to duty, both in the United States Marine Corps and as a distinguished Law enforcement officer.

Born on November 4, 1948, in Bluefield, West Virginia, Fred Stinson Jr. moved to Detroit, Michigan in his childhood in 1954. Mr. Stinson volunteered to enlist in the Marine Corps on April 12, 1967, at the young age of 18. His military career began with bootcamp in San Diego, California. Mr. Stinson then underwent training at Camp Pendleton, excelling in his Infantry Training and later specializing as a radio operator, preparing him for the challenges ahead.

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

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

Deployed to Vietnam with the First Shore Party Battalion in Da Nang, Mr. Stinson's bravery was made apparent. As part of the helicopter support team, he played a critical role in coordinating medivacs, essential supplies, and munitions under constant threat from enemy fire. His selfless actions, ensuring the care and dignity of wounded and deceased comrades amid perilous conditions, exemplify the finest traditions of the Marine Corps and the spirit of service that defines our Nation's heroes.

After his service in Vietnam, Mr. Stinson continued to embody the values of honor and duty. In 1991, during Operation Desert Storm, he was called to active duty and stationed in Yuma, Arizona, awaiting deployment to Saudi Arabia. Though the conflict ended swiftly due to the air campaign, Mr. Stinson's readiness, and commitment to serve was unwavering, reflecting his dedication to his country. Mr. Stinson retired from the Marine Corps in 1994 at the rank of Master Sergeant.

After returning to civilian life, Mr. Stinson continued his exemplary service by joining law enforcement. His 25-year tenure with the Detroit Police Department, followed by his invaluable contributions as a tribal police officer with the Saginaw-Chippewa tribe and later as a bailiff with the Clare County Sheriff's Department, underscores his unwavering commitment to public safety and justice.

Mr. Speaker, Fred Clifton Stinson Jr.'s life of service exemplifies the highest ideals of patriotism and sacrifice. His valor under fire, his steadfast leadership, and his enduring commitment to his fellow Marines and citizens of Michigan serve as a testament to his character and dedication. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude and admiration for Mr. Stinson's service to our country and community.

Mr. Stinson's legacy of courage and service will forever inspire future generations of Americans. We salute you, and we thank you for your selfless dedication to defending our freedoms and upholding the values that make our Nation great.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following Roll Call votes due to testing positive for COVID-19. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

AYE on Roll Call No. 358, H.R. 8812;

NAY on Roll Call Nos. 359 through 379, Amendments to H.R. 8997;

NAY on Roll Call Nos. 381 through 383, 385 through 392, and 394 through 398, Amendments to H.R. 8998;

AYE on Roll Call No. 393, H. Res. 1367;

NAY on Roll Call No. 399, H.R. 8998; and

NAY on Roll Call No. 400, H. Res. 1371.

RECOGNIZING JAYLA ATKINSON FOR BEING NAMED OHIO'S 13TH DISTRICT CHAMPION OF THE WEEK

### HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Jayla Atkinson as Ohio's 13th District Champion of the Week.

Jayla, a senior at Stow-Munroe Falls High School, ended her high school track career as the back-to-back Division I State Champion in the 800 meters.

This is actually the second time I have had the honor of recognizing Jayla on the House floor for her athletic accomplishments, as I had the pleasure of congratulating her after she secured her first state title last year.

In this year's dramatic finish, returning state champion Jayla put in a huge push in the last 100 meters to secure her second state title.

In defending her state title, Jayla set a new school and personal record time of 2 minutes and 9.51 seconds.

This impressive win capped off a very successful high school track career for Jayla, during which she garnered numerous accolades including her two state titles, one state runner-up title, one third place state title finish, and several regional and district awards.

Her dedication, determination, and passion for her sport is outstanding and shows just what hard work can accomplish.

Congratulations once again to Jayla Atkinson for defending her state title, and for an illustrious high school career.

She has made her school, family, and community very proud, and I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING STACEY BUCKNER FOR RECEIVING THE TOM MILLER ADVOCACY AWARD

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I use today to recognize and congratulate Ms. Stacey Buckner on receiving the Tom Miller Advocacy Award. This prestigious award is a testament to Stacey's unwavering dedication to improving the lives of folks in our region, especially those of homeless veterans.

This award is not Stacey's only achievement. Stacey also founded her own non-profit, Off-Road Outreach, which provides mobile showers, food, clothing, and housing assistance to homeless veterans across Fayetteville. She also was deemed one of the Top Ten CNN Heroes of 2023 and is a recipient of the North Carolina Governor's Medallion Award. We, in North Carolina, could not be more proud of Stacey and all the work she has done for our communities.

I look forward to celebrating Stacey's continued success and thank her for all she has done to ensure that our veterans are not forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Stacey Buckner on receiving the Tom Miller Advocacy Award.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER AND RETIREMENT OF BEAUMONT POLICE CHIEF JAMES SINGLETARY

### HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend, Beaumont Police Chief James "Jimmy" Singletary, who is retiring after a long, distinguished career in law enforcement.

Chief Singletary was born on January 27, 1948, to parents John and Melba Singletary in Beaumont, Texas. A lifelong resident of Beaumont, he attended Beaumont High School, where he secured a scholarship to Lamar University. He earned many accolades during his years on the Lamar University men's golf team, including four straight Southland Conference Championships, a Southland Conference Individual Championship in 1969, and back-to-back NCAA Division II National Championships in 1967 and 1968.

After graduating from Lamar University in 1971, Chief Singletary began his 53-year law enforcement career by joining the Beaumont Police Department, where he moved through the ranks from patrol officer to lieutenant. As a lieutenant, he oversaw seven different divisions, including Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Narcotics and Vice, Training and Personnel, Drug Enforcement Task Force, Special Weapons and Tactics, and Internal Affairs.

Chief Singletary retired for the first time from the Beaumont Police Department after 30 years and accepted a position with the Department of Justice as the Law Enforcement Coordinator for the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of Texas. In 2002, he joined the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department as a major and was a member of the Narcotics Task Force and commander of the SWAT team. In 2009, he was assigned to the FBI's Safe Streets Task Force, where he worked with local agencies on violent crimes and major federal cases.

In 2011, Chief Singletary was sworn in as the Chief of Police for the Beaumont Police Department. His mission was to increase the department's local outreach, educate the public, and build trust between citizens and law enforcement to create a safer community for all residents. Under his leadership, community programs like the Police Community Advisory Committee, Citizen's Police Academy, Cops & Kids, Clergy and Police Partnership, Police Explorers, Youth Academy for Law Enforcement, and Practicum in Policing flourished.

Chief Singletary is also an avid family man. He met his late wife, Tammy, when they both played in a coed softball league. They welcomed their only child, Hallie, in 1988, and I am confident that he is looking forward to spending much time in his retirement with his daughter and grandson, Wyatt Justice, who is the apple of his eye. He has always been best known amongst his family and friends for his selflessness and for always taking the time to help those in need.

I have known Chief Singletary for many years. Even as a young man, he displayed an incredible depth of character that undoubtedly played a vital role in his journey to becoming such an upstanding public servant. It is my sincere honor to congratulate Chief Singletary

on his exemplary law enforcement career and thank him for his dedicated and courageous service to the citizens of Beaumont, Texas. May God bless him in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT ERIC FICK

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Eric Thomas Fick of Stafford, Virginia, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Eric has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

Eric was born at Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane, Washington and grew up in an Air Force family. From a young age, he had always felt a connection to our servicemembers and wanted to serve our country. Eric attended the University of Notre Dame as a member of its Air Force ROTC program and graduated in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering. Upon graduation, he was commissioned into the United States Air Force. Eric served in a variety of roles, including as a mechanical systems engineer for the F-16 fighter, logistics officer, flight test engineer, weapons testing officer, Air Force staff officer, and legislative liaison on Capitol Hill. He has commanded at the Squadron and Group level, and is a three-time Program Executive Officer, culminating with his last assignment from 2019 to 2022, when he was the Program Executive Officer and Director for the F-35 Lightning II Program. In this capacity, he oversaw the development, production, and sustainment of the most advanced fighter jet in the world for 3 U.S. Services, seven international partners, and seven foreign military sales customers. For his meritorious service, Eric received the Legion of Merit, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Distinguished Service Medal, and many more awards.

In 2022, Eric retired from the Air Force as a Lieutenant General after 31 years of service. He currently serves as the President of Lyten Federal, a super materials applications company that is developing next-generation batteries to power cars, planes, and spacecraft while reducing global emissions. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Christine, his six children, and their two dogs. He also enjoys playing soccer, volleyball, and golf. Eric is an outstanding leader who has made a tremendous impact on the world around us. I am proud of the work he has accomplished, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Eric with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to our Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I was absent during yesterday's final vote

series. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 397.

HONORING CHIEF JONATHAN MAZER

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Jonathan Mazer, an esteemed member of our community. Chief Mazer is being honored today for his outstanding service in his career in law enforcement.

Chief Mazer was born in Portland, Maine, but grew up in California where he graduated from Las Lomas High School. Chief Mazer is a graduate of Union Institute & University and has pursued graduate studies in Clinical Psychology at John F. Kennedy University and Walden University. Chief Mazer and his wife, Angela, have six children: Kayla, Tyler, Victoria, Riley, Rebecca and Eli.

Chief Mazer's long career in law enforcement is commendable. He started his career in 1991 as a Sheriff's cadet with the Contra Costa County Sheriff's office. From there, he moved to work as a police cadet with the Pinole and Lafayette Police Departments. In 1996, he was sworn in as Solano County Deputy Sheriff.

In 2015, Chief Mazer was promoted to Sheriff's Lieutenant where he managed County Animal Control and the Transportation Bureau. In April of 2021, he was appointed Chief of Police for the Rio Vista Police Department, a police service contracting with the Sheriff's office. Our country is safer because of the courage and sacrifice Chief Mazer has shown throughout his long career.

Since the beginning of his career, Chief Mazer worked to support our community. In 2013, when assigned to the Office of Emergency Services, he created the Sheriff's Cadet Program, which brings youth into the Sheriff's office to learn about law enforcement and public service careers. He also founded the Solano County Cadet Academy, a multi-day live-in training academy for youth interested in careers in law enforcement. Outside of his work, Chief Mazer has worked as a Safety Team member at Chabad of Solano County, Vacaville and worked as an AYSO soccer coach in his hometown of Rio Vista. His dedication to serving his community both in and out of uniform is honorable.

For the past 28 years, Chief Mazer has given countless hours to serving our community that have not gone unnoticed. He has dedicated his life to our Solano County community over the duration of his long and storied career. We are thankful for his service and wish Chief Mazer a wonderful retirement.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Chief Jonathan Mazer for his dedicated service in law enforcement and our broader Solano County community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING JOHN POWELL

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated husband, loving father, respected executive, committed man of faith, and friend of longstanding, John T. Powell. After 38 years of dedicated service to the peanut industry and agriculture industry as a whole, he will retire as the Executive Director of the American Peanut Shellers Association and Institute. An event to celebrate his remarkable career will be held on August 20, 2024, at the Doublegate Country Club in Albany, Georgia.

John Powell has truly been a stalwart in the Peanut Industry for over five decades. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Auburn University. He also graduated from the institutes of Organizational Management at the University of Georgia and the University of Notre Dame. His educational achievements prepared him to make a difference in the lives of peanut shellers, farmers, producers and professionals across the world.

During his time as the Executive Director of the American Peanut Shellers, John helped to found the Peanut Institute and the U.S. Peanut Federation. These two entities have helped to promote the interests of the peanut industry throughout the United States and the world. Moreover, John has worked on eight farm bills during his life, always advocating for those who he represented. Since 2001, John, in association with the National Peanut Board, has helped to steer more than 36 million dollars to food allergy research, outreach and education. Earlier this year, because of his significant contributions to the Peanut Industry, John was inducted into the American Peanut Council Hall of Fame.

It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." John has paid his rent, and he has paid it well. In addition to his responsibilities as Executive Director, his other professional affiliations include serving as the President of the Peanut Institute Foundation, The American Peanut Council, The American Peanut Export Council Committee, The American Society of Executives and the Georgia Society of Association Executives.

But John's service has extended beyond the peanut industry. He has served as a former Board Member and Executive Committee Member of the Albany-Dougherty Chamber of Commerce. He is also a former president of the Albany Museum of Art. The community affiliation of which John is probably the proudest is his affiliation as Vice Chair and board member of the Friends of Jimmy Carter National Historic Site.

John has accomplished much in his life but none of it would have been possible without the love and support of his devoted wife of 52 years, Mary; his children, Ben and Emily; and his four grandchildren, Evan, Zoey, Zack and Bella.

On a personal note, John has been my friend of longstanding and close advisor on all things relative to the peanut industry during my time in Congress. He never told me what I wanted to hear, but he always told me what he felt I needed to hear. I will forever be grateful for his advice, counsel, and friendship.



Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian and the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's 2nd Congressional District in honoring the remarkable career of John Powell as an extraordinary advocate for America's peanut industry and service to his community. May God continue to bless him and his family as he moves to the next chapter of his remarkable life.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I had to miss yesterday's vote due to illness. During that time, I was unable to make Roll Call Votes No. 387 through No. 399. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

NO on Roll Call No. 387, H.R. 8998 On Agreeing to the Amendment;

NO on Roll Call No. 388, H.R. 8998 On Agreeing to the Amendment;

NO on Roll Call No. 389, H.R. 8998 On Agreeing to the Amendment;

NO on Roll Call No. 390, H.R. 8998 On Agreeing to the Amendment;

NO on Roll Call No. 391, H. Res. 1376 On Ordering the Previous Question;

NO on Roll Call No. 392, H. Res. 1376 On Agreeing to the Resolution;

YES on Roll Call No. 393, H. Res. 1367 On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, As Amended;

NO on Roll Call No. 394, H.R. 8998 On Agreeing to the Amendment;

NO on Roll Call No. 395, H.R. 8998 On Agreeing to the Amendment;

NO on Roll Call No. 396, H.R. 8998 On Agreeing to the Amendment;

NO on Roll Call No. 397, H.R. 8998 On Agreeing to the Amendment;

NO on Roll Call No. 398, H.R. 8998 On Agreeing to the Amendment; and

NO on Roll Call No. 399, H.R. 8998 On Passage.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 22, 2024, I missed one Roll Call vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YES on Roll Call No. 356.

#### CELEBRATING THE INCREDIBLE CAREER OF THE HONORABLE DIANA E. BAJOIE

### HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an incredible New Orleans Matriarch, former State Senator Diana

Bajoie. She is one for the history books. As a young woman in her twenties, she began her public service in the Louisiana House of Representatives, where she served as the only woman in that body during her first term. In 1991, she became the first African American woman ever elected to the Louisiana State Senate. In 2004, she took the oath as Senate President pro-tempore, and became the first woman ever elected to a leadership post in the Louisiana State Senate. In 2012, Senator Bajoie was appointed by Mayor Landrieu to fill a vacancy on the New Orleans City Council in District B.

Former Senator Diana E. Bajoie is not just a public servant in title—she is a public servant in spirit, heart, and deeds. Her colleagues describe her as one who fights for communities, families, and Louisiana with tireless compassion. The Senator nurtured her early interest in community service by attending Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, earning a bachelor's degree in political science. She also attended the Southern University School of Law. An Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree was conferred upon former Senator Diana E. Bajoie at their Fall 2018 Commencement. The University recognized the Senator as a pioneer in state politics and acknowledged the many contributions and efforts in improving the quality of life for all.

Former Senator Diana E. Bajoie is a part-time member of the staff of LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans as Director of Community Relations. She works with LSU Health Sciences Center's six schools to define and implement community relations programs and work to promote cultural diversity among faculty, staff, and students.

As a State Legislator, Ms. Bajoie served as Vice Chair of the Finance Committee that handled the operating budget for the State of Louisiana. At that time, the operating budget was over several billion dollars. Her health care experience is extensive. She was a ranking member of the Health and Welfare Committee where she served for over 25 years between the House and the Senate.

She led the efforts to create school-based health clinics and wrote legislation to provide breast cancer screening and treatment for low income and uninsured women, mandated coverage of mammography and other cancer screening tests, and increase health care coverage for citizens with mental health disorders. She sponsored legislation that created the Louisiana Cancer Research Center in New Orleans, The Metropolitan Human Services District that services Orleans, St. Bernard, and Plaquemines Parishes to treat vulnerable residents for mental illness, addictive disorder intellectual and or developmental disabilities and she also created The Minority Health Care Commission.

She worked to ensure recognition of the contributions of African Americans to New Orleans, Louisiana, and the nation. Her efforts resulted in legislation to create the Louisiana State Museum on Civil Rights, that has finally come to fruition in 2023, and the expansion and renaming of the New Orleans Convention Center in honor of the city's first African American Mayor, "The Ernest N. Morial Convention Center." Bajoie introduced the Civil Rights Museum legislation during the Governor Foster administration.

Governor Murphy James Foster Jr. was Louisiana's 53rd governor. His grandfather,

Murphy J. Foster Sr., the 31st Louisiana governor, supported the 1898 Louisiana Constitution, which disfranchised the Black majority. Murphy Jr.'s conservative platform included attacks on welfare abuse, gun control, affirmative action, and racial quotas during the era of affirmative action. Undeterred by Foster's position, every year, Bajoie ensured "something" was put in the state budget for the Civil Rights Museum.

During speaking engagements, Bajoie credits Hassan Haley (son of Oretta Castle Haley and Richard Haley), Don Hubbard and Loyce Wright for keeping the dream of the museum alive. "I also want to thank Lieutenant Nungesser. We need people to keep the fight going because we're just beginning. We want to make sure we tell our own story. It's taken a long time. It's like making gumbo. If you go too fast, it won't come out right." She continues to express a need to focus on raising more money to keep the museum going. The Civil Rights Museum will be permanently housed on this property.

Ms. Bajoie is a founder and former chair of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus and the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus. She also is a founder and served as President of the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women, a national legislative women's organization which encourages and supports women in public and community service. She also served on the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board helping to rebuild the state after the devastating disasters of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Outside of state politics, Ms. Bajoie has been involved in a myriad of civic organizations where she served as a Trustee for the National World War II Museum, a member of the WYES-TV Board of Directors, Xavier University of Louisiana Board of Visitors and Dillard University Advisory Board.

The Former Senator presently serve as a commissioner on the board of the New Orleans East Hospital, the National Organization of Black Women Legislators, LePetit Theater, and Mercy Endeavor Senior Center, just to name a few.

She is a Life Member of the Southern University Alumni Federation and a Diamond Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She has received numerous awards, including the City of New Orleans' Mayor Morial Medal of Honor. Former Sen. Bajoie was named the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Survivor of the Year in 2000. She was honored at the Delta Sigma Theta's 48th National Convention with the National Patricia Harris Award for Excellence in Government. She was inducted into the Louisiana Political Hall of Fame in 2007 and was later honored in 2010 by The Louisiana Center for Women in Government with its Lifetime Achievement Award. She was also named by the New Orleans Tribune as one of 18 Black Women "That Made New Orleans Better", who changed the City in the last 300 years. Mayor Landrieu named the former Senator a New Orleans Legend in honor of the city's Tricentennial.

Last, but certainly not least, Sen. Diana E. Bajoie is a mentor—a mentor to students, to young people and families across the state striving to better themselves, their communities and Louisiana. She frequently shares her experiences and ideas in the classroom as well as with civic organizations and leadership development programs.

The former Senator Bajoie legacy has spanned over three decades, she has fearlessly opened doors, not for herself but for others. Her work paves the way for young people to grow and build a better Louisiana. This shall be her Legacy.

On a personal note, I am honored to have served alongside Former Senator Diana Bajoie, as a true mentor, supporter, and dear friend. She is a true fighter—as a “lioness at heart,” but Don Hubbard calls her “killer”. The Greater New Orleans Community is blessed to have this incredible gem still making a difference in our great state. I am proud to say I can connect with her throughout my political career, and as Congressman, respecting the guidance and support she gives. I am forever grateful for her commitment to the residents of Louisiana, and guidance to our program. I will forever carry her direction as I serve the Constituents of LA02. May God continue to bless her.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, on July 24 and 25, I regrettably missed the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

No on Roll Call No. 391, Ordering the Previous Question (H. Res. 1376);

No on Roll Call No. 392, H. Res. 1376;

Yes on Roll Call No. 393, H. Res. 1367;

No on Roll Call No. 394, Perry Amendment No. 81;

No on Roll Call No. 395, Perry Amendment No. 82;

No on Roll Call No. 396, Perry Amendment No. 83;

No on Roll Call No. 397, Perry Amendment No. 85;

No on Roll Call No. 398, Tenney Amendment No. 91;

No on Roll Call No. 399, H.R. 8998; and

No on Roll Call No. 400, H. Res. 1371.

#### PRIME MINISTER NETANYAHU'S JOINT ADDRESS TO CONGRESS

### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my opposition to the speech given in this chamber by Israeli Prime Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu. The speech given by the Prime Minister was outrageous. He disrespected his role as a foreign leader speaking before a joint session of Congress. He used the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to make blatantly political attacks on American citizens who disagree with his policies. He also made a full endorsement of former President Trump. One wonders if the Prime Minister's attacks were an attempt to salvage his own political survival in Israel by making it appear that he has the full support of the American people, which he does not.

This was a disturbing day for many Americans and a tragic day for Israelis and Palestin-

ians who are desperately looking for leadership—not political grandstanding. What the American people want, and what Prime Minister Netanyahu failed to deliver, was a clear plan to end the violence and bring about a lasting two state solution in the region.

#### HONORING DOROTHY LAWRENCE ON HER 95TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. CLAUDIA TENNEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the astounding life of Dorothy Lawrence, who celebrates her 95th birthday this week.

Dorothy was born on July 29, 1929, along with her twin brother Dick, on the Borden Farm in Walkill, NY. She is the youngest of five children and spent her childhood on Borden Farms in Walkill and Earlville NY, which her father managed. In 1947, she graduated from Earlville High School. The following year, Dorothy earned a business certification from the Central City Business Institute in Syracuse, New York. She worked as a secretary until she married her beloved husband, John, in 1955.

Dorothy is a lifelong member of St. Malachy's Catholic Church in Sherburne, New York. Coming from a musical family, Dorothy has had a passion for singing all her life. When she was only four years old she and her twin brother sang “Little Old Lady Passing By” for a radio contest. In the 1960s, she helped found the Sherburne Community Chorus and was an active member until just recently. At the age of 95, Dorothy still enjoys music, attending local concerts whenever possible.

Currently, Dorothy still resides in the same house that she and her husband built in 1955. She is a loving mother to four children with whom she spends time with nearly every day. She has ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren who she loves dearly, and she keeps informed about her many nieces and nephews as well. Dorothy is one of four surviving members of her high school class, and she has remained in contact with each of her former classmates since they graduated together in 1947. Dorothy is known by her family, friends, and other members of her community for her delicious apple pie.

Dorothy Lawrence is an exceptional member of her community whose dedication and love for her family and community is truly inspiring. I am thrilled to recognize her for her many accomplishments and wish her a very happy 95th birthday.

#### RECOGNIZING JOSAYNE ANDERSON-TEJERA

### HON. PATRICK RYAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Josayne Anderson-Tejera, for receiving the President's Volunteer Service Award, an honor bestowed by the President of

the United States to recognize the invaluable contributions of volunteers in our Nation. Over the course of her career, Josayne has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to making a difference in her community, specifically in the areas of civil rights and women's advocacy.

Josayne was driven to a career in public service after she lost a close friend to domestic violence. Coupled with her own experiences surviving domestic violence, she has since dedicated her life to speaking out against domestic and sexual violence. In 2004, she founded the Love Quest Foundation, an organization that seeks to provide a safe space for young adults and survivors of domestic violence to learn healthy relationship habits and heal from trauma. Over the past 2 decades, the Love Quest Foundation has transformed the lives of countless young people and survivors across Dutchess County.

In addition to her work with her foundation, Ms. Anderson-Tetera has served as Dutchess County's Equal Opportunity and Inclusion Officer since 2020. In her position, Josayne is charged with maintaining and improving the County's commitments to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Previously, she worked for the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision where she conducted investigations which aimed to prevent discrimination, misconduct, and assaults in the workplace. She has also served as: Financial Secretary and recruitment presenter for the New York State Minorities in Criminal Justice, Board Member for Life Flows Through Every Body, and Fellow for CEO Action for Racial Equity.

I commend Josayne's impressive contributions to the Hudson Valley. Through her work, she has undoubtedly made a positive impact on the lives of countless men and women. The President's Volunteer Service Award is a formal acknowledgment of the hundreds of hours she has devoted to improving her community, but I want to take this opportunity to attest to the immeasurable contributions that she has selflessly made to Dutchess County and to our state.

#### RECOGNIZING THE QUAPAW CANOE COMPANY

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with immense pride to acknowledge a standout business from our community that has been honored with the 2024 National Small Business Week Award, Quapaw Canoe Company. This recognition is a testament to the exceptional contributions of John Ruskey and his team, whose dedication has not only enhanced our local economy but also enriched the cultural and environmental landscape of our region.

Quapaw Canoe Company, founded by John Ruskey, provides guiding and outfitting on the biggest river in North America, the mighty Mississippi River. They have been making a significant impact for about 26 years. By offering guided canoe tours and educational programs on the Mississippi River, they have created opportunities for people to connect with nature, learn about our history, and appreciate

the beauty of the river that has shaped our community.

What sets Quapaw Canoe Company apart is their unwavering commitment to environmental conservation and cultural preservation. Their work goes beyond simply providing recreational activities; it involves a deep respect for the river's ecosystem and a passion for sharing the rich stories of our past. Through their efforts, they have fostered a greater appreciation for the Mississippi River and have played a crucial role in maintaining its natural beauty for future generations.

During the challenges of the past few years, Quapaw Canoe Company has demonstrated remarkable resilience and innovation. They adapted their business practices to meet new demands and continued to serve our community with dedication and excellence. This ability to overcome obstacles and continue to thrive is a true reflection of the spirit of entrepreneurship.

As we celebrate their accomplishment, it is fitting that we recognize Quapaw Canoe Company for their outstanding achievements. John Ruskey and his team are deserving of this honor, and their success serves as an inspiration to us all.

Please join me in extending heartfelt congratulations to Quapaw Canoe Company for this prestigious award. Their contributions to our community and their dedication to their mission are truly commendable.

MISSION VIEJO CITY MANAGER  
DENNIS WILBERG RETIREMENT

**HON. YOUNG KIM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Mission Viejo City Manager, Dennis Wilberg, for his decades of service to our Mission Viejo community and to Orange County.

His work in the public and private sectors of civil and transportation engineering, including 20 years as City Manager, has left an enormous impact across Mission Viejo and the County.

From helping create the second-largest animal shelter in Orange County and building a water treatment facility, to increasing public safety and maintaining the City's transportation network, there's no question how he has become the longest-tenured city manager in Orange County.

I thank Dennis for his dedication to keeping our communities safe and connected.

We are grateful for his leadership, and I wish him a wonderful retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIMMY GOMEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, on July 24, 2024, I was not recorded on Roll Call No. 391. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 391.

APPRECIATING  
BRUCE SAMUEL KIMBRELL, JR.  
FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE  
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**HON. MICHAEL WALTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. WALTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American and an exceptional leader in our U.S. Navy.

Commander Bruce Kimbrell has distinguished himself through his professional character and dedication by serving this Nation in uniform. For the past year, Commander Kimbrell served admirably as the Department of Defense Legislative Fellow for my office where he handled House Armed Service Committee hearing preparation and execution while also contributing to my work on with the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Above all, he was the driving force behind my Maritime policy portfolio via multiple, pieces of maritime legislation, congressional letters, as well as multiple Maritime Statecraft engagements with representatives from the Secretary of the Navy, Chief of Naval Operations, Maritime Administrator, and an extensive executive list of Maritime industry stakeholders involved in carrying out maritime statecraft activities and national maritime strategy.

His efforts advanced a shared effort for reinvigorating our Nation's maritime sector and gaining greater insight into the tools available for helping create a more favorable global environment for advancing America's maritime power.

Commander Kimbrell has had a remarkable twenty-two-year career after enlisting into the U.S. Navy in 2002, graduating from the University of Massachusetts in 2011, and commissioning as an Ensign designated as an Intelligence Officer. He served aboard two aircraft carriers, an amphibious war ship, as well as temporary duties aboard the NATO Afloat Standing Maritime Group Flag Ship. Later, he won the 2017 RADM Thomas A Brooks Junior Officer of the Year for the Naval Intelligence Community Award while assigned to Carrier Air Wing THREE. He also served as the Deputy Director of Maritime Intelligence Operations Center and Chief of Targets for U.S. FIFTH Fleet during which he was designated as a member of the Military Top 40 Under 40 in 2017 by Recruit Military, Bradley Morris, Inc. In addition, he served as the Executive Assistance to the Director Maritime Operations as U.S. Pacific Fleet prior to his role as Special Advisor to the Chief of Naval Operations on force design, strategic planning, ally and partner interoperability, and strategic risk.

The Secretary of the Navy was impressed enough by his legislative work and especially in his creation of the maritime task force that he selected Commander Kimbrell to serve as his Special Advisor in which he advised the Secretary on maritime policy at the intersection of industry, government agencies, strategic think tanks, maritime advocacy groups, and U.S. Congress. His efforts led to the second annual Maritime Statecraft Innovation workshop sponsored by the Secretary of the Navy and Maritime Administration.

Mr. Speaker, next month Commander Kimbrell will assume duties as the Deputy

Legislative Director to the Commander of European Command in Stuttgart, Germany. It has been a great pleasure to work with Commander Kimbrell during his time representing the Department of Defense in my office on Capitol Hill. On behalf of our grateful Nation, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service and sacrifice of Commander Kimbrell and his four children. I wish them the very best as they continue their journey in our U.S. Navy. They have dedicated their lives to the service of our great Nation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KATIE PORTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on Roll Call Nos. 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, and 399. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 391, NAY on Roll Call No. 392, YEA on Roll Call No. 393, NAY on Roll Call No. 394, NAY on Roll Call No. 395, NAY on Roll Call No. 396, NAY on Roll Call No. 397, NAY on Roll Call No. 398, and NAY on Roll Call No. 399.

#### HONORING DIXON FAMILY SERVICES

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dixon Family Services as they celebrate their 40th year of service.

Established in 1984, Dixon Family Services is a community-based organization that offers intervention and support services. Cooperating with local schools, churches, businesses, and community members, Dixon Family Services assists residents in the pursuit of goals such as financial stability, improved or increased employment, escape from domestic violence, household budgeting, improved nutrition, and emotional wellness.

Dixon Family Services maintains the Dixon Family Services Food Pantry, which helps combat food insecurity in local households. Dixon Family Service also acts as a bridge between residents and larger health care and governmental programs, ensuring that the local population is aware of and able to use resources that they may have otherwise overlooked or struggled to access.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, our community's need for human services dramatically increased. Answering this need, the dedicated staff of Dixon Family Services ensured that the organization safely remained open. Because of their compassion and commitment, Dixon Family Services was able to continue to provide vital information and referral services to clients even during the depths of the pandemic.

Dixon Family Services uplifts members of our community, providing future opportunities for all. Over the past 40 years, Dixon Family Services has welcomed numerous college intern therapists, case managers, and clerical

and administrative staff, who were able to gain invaluable experience in the organization prior to moving on to other important positions or launching private practices in social work. Additionally, many of the clients Dixon Family Services provides resources to have gone on to make their own contributions to the community, paying forward the same assistance that they received.

Although, historically, many of its programs were funded by government contracts or grants, in recent years Dixon Family Services has been supported primarily by private foundations, corporations, churches, service organizations, and businesses, as well as many caring and generous community members whose donations and kind words of support sustained the organization.

Mr. Speaker, during these last 40 years Dixon Family Services has consistently upheld a devotion to the highest ideals of community service. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Dixon Family Services' outstanding work by and for our Dixon community, and its 40th year of service.

CELEBRATING THE INCREDIBLE  
LIFE OF TESSIE NELDA  
PREVOST-WILLIAMS

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2024

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize New Orleans' beloved native daughter, a true friend, mentor and confidant to many, and most notably, a Civil Rights Pioneer of the New Orleans Public School Desegregation—The New Orleans Four, Tessie Nelda Prevost-Williams. She was born Tessie Nelda Prevost at Charity Hospital on September 26, 1954. She passed away surrounded by her immediate family and loved ones on Saturday July 6, 2024, at the age of 69. She is survived by her mother Dorothy Mackey Prevost (93), her sister Tory Prevost (D'Wayne Hulbert), and her lifelong friends, Civil Rights Pioneers Gail Etienne and Leona Tate. She was preceded in death by her father Charles Henry Prevost, Jr., and her husband Dwight Williams.

She was a life member of Branch Bell Baptist Church, located in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans, Louisiana, christened, baptized and later joined in holy matrimony on October 20, 1984, to the late Dwight Williams at that location. She was an active member in the church from a very young age, from serving as president of the Youth Usher Board to serving as President of the Senior Usher Board. Always on program at church, speaking and performing, she was a spirited child who was loved and known by many.

Tessie Prevost is most noted as one of four 6-year-old girls who became the first African Americans to desegregate formerly white only public elementary schools in New Orleans and the Deep South. On November 14, 1960, with world-wide attention set on the city of New Orleans, Ruby Bridges, Gail Etienne, Tessie Prevost, and Leona Tate (The New Orleans Four) escorted by U.S. Federal Marshals wearing yellow armbands desegregated two schools. Three of the girls (Gail Etienne, Tessie Prevost, and Leona Tate) enrolled at

McDonogh 19 elementary school located at 5909 St. Claude Ave. The fourth girl (Ruby Bridges) enrolled at William Frantz elementary school located at 3811 N. Galvez St. As America's Little Soldier Girls, they played an integral and pivotal role in the Civil Rights Movement sparking the inspiration for the Children's Crusade of 1963.

After McDonogh 19 became predominantly black, Tessie, Gail and Leona along with 8 other students desegregated another formerly white only public elementary school in the Lower Ninth Ward Thomas Jefferson Semmes, where they endured violent, horrifying and dehumanizing treatment from white teachers, students and cafeteria workers who spit in their food and at times refused to serve them.

After successfully desegregating TJ Semmes and completing 6th grade, Tessie's parents enrolled her at Rivers Frederick Junior High School, where she found music. She learned to play the flute and joined the marching band. Tessie remained in predominantly Black schools continuing her education at Joseph S. Clark Senior High School. There, she also played in the Joseph S. Clark Marching Band. Following high school, she attended the University of New Orleans and University of Southeastern Louisiana focusing her studies on education and history. She stayed active in community civic engagement to make things better for her people and served as a member of Women for Progressive Action, where she would encourage her community to register to vote.

As a professional, Tessie was employed by the U.S. Postal Service for several years, but she answered her call to work in education and community. Her proud moments were supporting young kids and families who didn't have dental insurance when she first started working at Louisiana State University Health Science Center in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry. She later became an assistant to Professors in the Biochemistry Department where she prepared syllabi for the Ph.D. program at LSU School of Dentistry. After 27 years of service, she retired in 2017.

In celebration of the 60th Anniversary of school desegregation, then N. O. Councilperson Cyndi Nguyen brought forth the resolution to honor Tessie Prevost, Gail Etienne, Leona Tate, and Ruby Bridges recognizing November 14th and New Orleans Four Day. The City Council of New Orleans voted Yes unanimously. On November 14, 2020, the City Council of New Orleans and the office of Mayor LaToya Cantrell hosted a special Proclamation Day Ceremony at Gather Hall to commemorate the 60th Anniversary proclaiming November 14th forever New Orleans Four Day. On that day, all four Civil Rights Pioneers were honored equivalently and each of them were given a Proclamation. Finally, after 60 years, they each received the Key to The City from the office of Mayor LaToya Cantrell.

Following the Gallier Hall celebration, the members of The New Orleans Four started receiving national recognition and accolades due to the work of various media industry professionals, elected officials and Black women in corporate executive leadership. The multimedia project called The New Orleans Legacy Project, collaborated inducting The New Orleans Four into "Voices of The Civil Rights Movement". Their Interview segments garnered over one million views across the entire Comcast/NBCUniversal and NBC platforms.

As a result, Tessie Prevost, Leona Tate, and Gail Etienne appeared in their first national network television interview on the Today Show with Rhema Ellis reporting from New Orleans. This news feature exposed the untold story about Tessie Prevost, Leona Tate and Gail Etienne and catapulted the three members of The New Orleans Four to equivalent recognition and honor to Ruby Bridges for their sacrifice and courage. For decades as hidden figures, they endured dehumanizing degradation and felt the world and America forgot about them.

Following the Today Show news feature, the Civil Rights Pioneers received their first national award during the 2022 Essence Festival of Culture Dove/Unilever Crown Awards held July 2, 2022, honored the members of The New Orleans Four with the Living Legend Award. On August 6, 2022, the Urban League of Louisiana honored the three hidden figures as notable Changemakers Tessie, Leona, and Gail's story moved many to recognize the importance of fact checking.

The following year, they garnered more local and national news features like the 2023 CBS News Black History Month feature by reporter Jamie Wax which highlighted the untold story of The New Orleans Four helping to raise more awareness about the illegitimate revision of the accurate historical record. Now, America and the world have been reinspired by the powerful courage of The New Orleans Four who rocked the Nation and changed the world.

In October 2023, at 69 years of age, Tessie became Chief Operating Officer of her own company, New Orleans Four, LLC., partnering with her childhood friend and fellow classmate, Gail Etienne who serves as Chief Executive Officer. Ms. Prevost and Ms. Etienne committed themselves to preserving and protecting the history and legacy of The New Orleans Four. Before her passing, Tessie and Gail partnered with the industry professionals who paid it forward to ensure that the story of The New Orleans Four would never be lost in history again. They planned to release a host of projects with the launch of The New Orleans Four Legacy Collection and their Serving Black Girl Magic Since 1960 brand and initiative.

Tessie Prevost, a child soldier, a civil rights pioneer, an activist for justice and a businesswoman and entrepreneur, profoundly stressed a quality and equitable education as the key to success and achievements "Education unleashes the past and paves the path of the future".

In November 2023, as part of the 50th Anniversary of Bayou Classic, the Southern University Law Center at the Louis A. Berry Institute for Civil Rights & Justice presented and honored the members of The New Orleans Four during the Southern University convening of the Board of Directors. Civil Rights Pioneers Tessie Prevost, Gail Etienne and Leona Tate were honorary Marshals in the Bayou Classic Parade. The ladies received joyous shouts of thank you from parade goers. State Representative Alonzo Knox petitioned Governor John Bel Edwards to sign an official statement. In November, for their 63rd anniversary, the Governor signed the official statement in support of the City Council of New Orleans proclaiming November 14th—New Orleans Four Day.

On May 14, 2024, Tessie Prevost, Gail Etienne, and Leona Tate were invited to be

honored by the United States Department of Justice Civil Rights Division and the United States Department of Education Office of Civil Rights for the 70th Anniversary of Brown v Board. All three of them were slated to fly to Washington D.C. to be honored by Attorney General Merrick B Garland, and Secretary of Education Miquel Cardona. Due to her illness, Tessie was unable to fly with Gail and Leona. These women joined Assistant Attorney General for a fireside chat, and they shared the platform with other powerful notables like Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights Catherine E. Lhamon, President & Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund Janai Nelson, and Saba Bireda, Co-founder, and Chief Legal Counsel of Brown's Promise.

Before her illness, she continued to lend herself in service to the community of La-

Place, Louisiana and New Orleans with hopes that by sharing their story and school experiences, she will inspire the next generation to pick up the torch to protect and continue the movement toward equitable opportunities and racial harmony. Ms. Prevost lived in LaPlace, Louisiana, as a faithful member of Rising Star Baptist Church and a former president of the usher board at Blanch Bell Baptist Church.

She is also survived by her niece Deja Hulbert, nephew Derius Hulbert, her godchild, Ahtika Monique Merricks, her cousin, who was like a sister, Sharon Merricks, sister-laws, Dorothy Williams Grimble, Shirley Williams and Brenda Brock Williams, as well as a host of and friends. She was loved and adored by her late grandmothers, Dora Prevost, and Arie Ruth Mackey.

I am so blessed and grateful to have known this phenomenal woman, a real trailblazer, leader and my true friend. May her story forever remain in the history books for everyone across the world.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIMMY GOMEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2024*

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, on July 22, 2024, I was not recorded on Roll Call No. 356 and No. 358. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 356 and Roll Call No. 358.

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S5489–S5527*

**Measures Introduced:** Forty-nine bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4770–4818, and S. Res. 771–774. **Pages S5510–12**

**Measures Reported:**

S. 4795, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025. (S. Rept. No. 118–198)

S. 4796, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025. (S. Rept. No. 118–199)

S. 4797, making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025. (S. Rept. No. 118–200)

S. 4802, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025. (S. Rept. No. 118–201) **Page S5510**

**Measures Passed:**

**World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 774, designating June 15, 2024, as “World Elder Abuse Awareness Day” and the month of June 2024 as “Elder Abuse Awareness Month”. **Page S5525**

**House Messages:**

**Eliminate Useless Reports Act—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 2073, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, taking action on the following motions and amendments proposed thereto:

**Pages S5489–97, S5497–S5504, S5504–05**

**Pending:**

Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Schumer Amendment No. 3021 (to the House amendment to the bill), in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5489**

D774

Schumer Amendment No. 3022 (to Amendment No. 3021), to add an effective date. **Page S5489**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 86 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 219), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Schumer Amendment No. 3021 (listed above).

**Page S5505**

Schumer motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with instructions, Schumer Amendment No. 3023, to add an effective date, fell when cloture was invoked on Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Schumer Amendment No. 3021. **Page S5489**

Schumer Amendment No. 3024 (the instructions (Amendment No. 3023) of the motion to refer), to add an effective date, fell when Schumer motion to refer the message of the House on the bill to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with instructions, Schumer Amendment No. 3023 (listed above), fell. **Page S5489**

Schumer Amendment No. 3025 (to Amendment No. 3024), to add an effective date, fell when Schumer Amendment No. 3024 (the instructions (Amendment No. 3023) of the motion to refer) (listed above), fell. **Page S5489**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all post-cloture time be deemed expired; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine, on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, that upon disposition of the nomination, Senate vote on Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Schumer Amendment No. 3021; and that if cloture is not invoked on the nomination, the vote on Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Schumer Amendment No. 3021 occur at 2:15 p.m., on Tuesday, July 30, 2024.

**Page S5505**



**Signing Authority—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senator Brown be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions from July 25, 2024 through July 26, 2024. **Page S5497**

**Neumann Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine. **Page S5504**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, July 25, 2024, a vote on cloture will occur on Tuesday, July 30, 2024.

**Page S5504**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5504**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, July 29, 2024, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that at 5:30 p.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Adam B. Landy, of South Carolina, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, as provided under the order of Tuesday, July 23, 2024. **Page S5525**

**Nomination Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 79 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. EX. 218), Kashi Way, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

**Pages S5497, S5527**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Val Butler Demings, of Florida, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2030.

William Zollars, of Kansas, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2029.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

**Page S5527**

**Messages from the House:** **Pages S5509–10**

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** **Page S5510**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S5510**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S5512–14**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S5514–17**

**Additional Statements:** **Page S5509**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S5517–24**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:**

**Pages S5524–25**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S5525**

**Record Votes:** Two record votes were taken today. (Total—219) **Pages S5497, S5505**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:52 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, July 29, 2024. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5525.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### BUSINESS MEETING

**Committee on Appropriations:** Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

An original bill (S. 4795) entitled, "Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act";

An original bill (S. 4802) entitled, "Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act";

An original bill (S. 4797) entitled, "State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act"; and

An original bill (S. 4796) entitled, "Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act".

### ADVANCING NATIONAL SECURITY

**Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:** Committee concluded a hearing to examine advancing national security through export controls, investment security, and the Defense Production Act, including S. 3311, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a demonstration program to test providing preferential treatment under the Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP programs for certain drugs and biologicals manufactured in the United States, after receiving testimony from Thea D. Rozman Kendler, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration; Paul M. Rosen, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security; Grant T. Harris, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Analysis; and Laura Taylor-Kale, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy.

### BUSINESS MEETING

**Committee on Finance:** Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Jeffrey Samuel Arbeit, of the District of Columbia, Benjamin A. Guider III, of Louisiana, and Cathy Fung, of California, each to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court.

**RUSSIA'S WAR IN UKRAINE**

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee received a closed briefing on international support for Russia's war in Ukraine, after receiving testimony from Brian Lessenberry, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Intelligence and Research, and Edward Atkinson, Analyst for Energy and Economic Security, both of the Department of State; and Richard Phillips, Senior National Intelligence Executive, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

**NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Ann C. Fisher, of South Dakota, and Ashley Jay Elizabeth Poling, of North Carolina, both to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, and Carmen G. Iguina Gonzalez, and Joseph Russell Palmore, both to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An authorization for Investigation into the Bankruptcy of Steward Health Care; and

An authorization for Subpoena of Dr. Ralph de la Torre, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Steward Health Care Systems LLC, for Testimony Relating to the Committee Investigation into the Bankruptcy of Steward Health Care.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 2783, to amend the Miccosukee Reserved Area Act to authorize the expansion of the Miccosukee Reserved Area and to carry out activities to protect structures within the Osceola Camp from flooding;

S. 3406, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to make a technical correction to the Navajo Nation Water Resources Development Trust Fund, to amend the Claims Resolution Act of 2010 to make technical corrections to the Taos Pueblo Water Development Fund and Aamodt Settlement Pueblos' Fund;

S. 4000, to reaffirm the applicability of the Indian Reorganization Act to the Lytton Rancheria of California; and

S. 4365, to provide public health veterinary services to Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for rabies prevention, with an amendment.

**INDIAN AFFAIRS LEGISLATION**

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 4370, to amend the Tribal Forest Protection Act of 2004 to improve that Act, and S. 4505, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of Ohkay Owingeh in the Rio Chama Stream System, to restore the Bosque on Pueblo Land in the State of New Mexico, after receiving testimony from Tracy Canard Goodluck, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs; John Crockett, Deputy Chief, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Larry Phillips, Jr., Ohkay Owingeh, Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico; Thora Padilla, Mescalero Apache Tribe, Mescalero, New Mexico; and Benjamin Mallott, Alaska Federation of Natives, Anchorage.

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# House of Representatives

**Chamber Action**

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 48 public bills, H.R. 9131–9178; and 8 resolutions, H.J. Res. 194; H. Con. Res. 122; and H. Res. 1386–1391, were introduced. **Pages H4946–49**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H4951–52**

**Report Filed:** A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 6213, to reauthorize the National Quantum Initiative Act, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–612). **Page H4946**

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rabbi Levi Slonim, Chabad of Binghamton, Vestal, New York. **Page H4917**

**Board of Trustees for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following individual on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development for a term of six years: Mr. Michael Joseph Sommers of Alexandria, Virginia. **Page H4919**

**Library of Congress Trust Fund Board—Appointment:** The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following individual on the part of the House to the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board for a five-year term: Mr. Saul Aaron Fox of Miami Beach, Florida.

Page H4919

**Strongly condemning the Biden Administration and its Border Czar, Kamala Harris's, failure to secure the United States border:** The House agreed to H. Res. 1371, as amended, strongly condemning the Biden Administration and its Border Czar, Kamala Harris's, failure to secure the United States border, by a yea-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 400.

Pages H4919–30

H. Res. 1376, the rule providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 1371) was agreed to yesterday, July 24th.

**Work Period Designation:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated the period from Thursday, July 25, 2024, through Sunday, September 8, 2024, as a "district work period" under section 3(z) of House Resolution 5.

Page H4930

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appears on pages S4929–30.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### REAUTHORIZING THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION: STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development held a hearing entitled "Reauthorizing the CFTC: Stakeholder Perspectives". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### ENHANCING CYBERSECURITY BY ELIMINATING INCONSISTENT REGULATIONS

*Committee on Oversight and Accountability:* Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation held a hearing entitled "Enhancing Cybersecurity by Eliminating Inconsistent Regulations". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

#### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

#### House

No hearings are scheduled.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

3 p.m., Monday, July 29

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Monday:** Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine.

At 5:30 p.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Adam B. Landy, of South Carolina, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court.

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

11:30 a.m., Friday, July 26

## House Chamber

**Program for Friday:** House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11:30 a.m.

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