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No. 145

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC.

September 18, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GLENN THOMPSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2024, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY CANCER ACTION NETWORK OHIO VOLUNTEERS

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude to the many volunteers from Ohio's Third Congressional District who are here this week representing the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network.

They are working tirelessly to help end cancer for everyone. There are over

750 volunteers, advocates, and patients from across the country here, representing almost every congressional district, including constituents from my Third Congressional District of Ohio. They are selflessly donating their time and energy to fight to end cancer.

Mr. Speaker, approximately 1,680 Americans die every day from cancer. In Ohio alone, there will be almost 24,000 cancer-related deaths this year, putting Ohio at the sixth highest mortality rate in the country. These numbers are staggering, and they serve as a sobering reminder that nearly all of us have had a friend or family member fight this disease.

Just 2 months ago, in this very Chamber, we grieved the loss of my dear friend, our colleague, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, who sadly passed after her courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

One of the biggest existing hurdles to beating cancer is our limited ability to detect it early. That is why the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network volunteers from Ohio are here, advocating for increased funding for cancer prevention and research and for the passage of H.R. 2407, the Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act. This bill is led by my friend and our colleague, Congresswoman TERRI SEWELL. She would like to increase access to earlier and simpler cancer screening.

Early detection delivers hope, especially for Black Americans, who face the highest cancer death rate and shortest survival rate of any racial or ethnic group in the United States.

We must do better to understand cancer and to serve our underserved communities. We must work together because working together will ensure that all Americans have equitable access to new cancer detection tools.

Mr. Speaker, we have had many spirited debates on this floor, but with the

over 2 million new cancer cases expected in 2024, I think we can all agree on a shared goal to fight and beat cancer. One way of starting this would be for us to pass H.R. 2407.

That is why I thank the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, the advocacy arm of the American Cancer Society. They are the leading organization urging increased funding for cancer research and cancer prevention.

Also, I thank and commend ACS CAN's board of directors chair, Dr. Kimberly Jeffries Leonard. Dr. Jeffries Leonard is a trailblazer with over 40 years of experience in applied health and behavioral medicine research. She made history in becoming ACS CAN's first Black chairwoman. I congratulate her.

This exemplary organization has made it possible for us to meet our constituents, to hear their stories, and to understand better how cancer burdens far too many families.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that it is important for us as Members of Congress to support investments in cancer research and innovation that will help prevent, detect, and treat the families and individuals with this disease.

Mr. Speaker, let me once again thank ACS CAN and their volunteers for their tireless dedication and diligence in the fight against cancer.

OBSERVING NATIONAL FARM SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week, we observe National Farm Safety and Health Week. I am honored to stand before you to recognize and celebrate the tremendous contributions of our Nation's farmers.

□ 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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Their dedication and hard work are the bedrock of our entire Nation. Food security, after all, is national security.

As chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, I have the privilege of working closely with those who lead in the agriculture industry. Over the past 1½ years, I have visited over 40 States and met with thousands of farmers. I have seen firsthand the challenges that they face, from unpredictable weather to fluctuating markets.

I have also witnessed their relentless efforts to ensure the highest safety and quality standards for the food supply that reaches every corner of our country.

Farmers are the lifeblood of our communities. They feed our families, sustain our rural economies, and contribute to the cultural fabric of our Nation. They work long hours, often under grueling conditions, to provide us with the abundance that we enjoy every day. Their commitment and resilience are nothing short of extraordinary. Yet, despite the vital role they play to make all of our lives easier, their work comes with significant risk.

Farm life is inherently dangerous. The nature of their work involves heavy machinery, unpredictable livestock, and exposure to various environmental hazards, from extreme weather conditions to hazardous chemicals. No two grains of wheat are the same, and no two farms are the same, which means the challenges they face are all different.

It is crucial we support our farmers with effective safety measures and robust support systems. That is why the farm bill, which we are working to bring to this floor, is so crucial. This legislation is not just another priority policy document. It is a testament to our commitment to improving the lives of those who work tirelessly to keep our Nation nourished.

Our discussions on the farm bill have been focused on ensuring that it addresses the full spectrum of needs of our agricultural community. This bill represents our dedication to fostering a safer and healthier work environment for our farmers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in extending our gratitude to every farmer, rancher, and producer across this great Nation during National Farm Safety and Health Week. Their tireless work, dedication, and unwavering commitment do not go unnoticed. We are profoundly grateful for all that they do.

□ 1015

HERSH GOLDBERG-POLIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Hersh Goldberg-Polin, a courageous 23-year-old, American-Israeli who was executed by Hamas terrorists.

Hersh was abducted at the Nova Music Festival on October 7. In the face of unimaginable terror, Hersh's arm was blown off by a grenade. His senseless murder, along with five others discovered on September 1, is a stark reminder of all the innocent civilians killed. It is also a reminder of the many of whom remain held hostage, enduring unimaginable suffering.

To Hersh's parents Jon and Rachel we extend our deepest sympathies. We stand with you.

May Hersh's memory be a blessing.

Congress, the administration, and the international community must intensify efforts to secure the immediate release of all hostages and hold accountable those responsible for these egregious acts.

Bring them home now.

ABRAHAM ACCORDS

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we honor the transformative power of diplomacy. Four years ago, the Abraham Accords opened the door to a new era of peace, bringing together Israel, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and later Morocco in an unprecedented step toward stability in the Middle East.

The signing of the Abraham Accords, a historic moment, reminds us that even in the face of deep division, it is possible to find common ground.

Israel, a beacon of democracy in a region too often defined by conflict, has long been a vital partner in our pursuit of shared security and prosperity.

The Abraham Accords highlight not only Israel's crucial role in securing its own future, but its commitment to building enduring alliances that benefit the global community.

Yet our work is far from over. We must remain unwavering in our commitment to support Israel and all partners who extend the hand of peace.

Let us continue building a world where dignity, security, and freedom are the rights of all.

DEMOCRATS' RHETORIC AND SECOND ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON PRESIDENT TRUMP

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

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the left's dangerous rhetoric that has led to two assassination attempts on President Trump in 2 months.

First and foremost, I would like to thank all the law enforcement officers who fearlessly prevented a second utter catastrophe from taking place this past Sunday. I am also thankful for God's continued hand of protection over President Trump.

However, I am deeply disturbed that within a 64-day span, President Trump has seen an assassin's attempt to take his life not once but twice. After the first horrifying attempt in Butler, Pennsylvania, many Americans asked

for politicians and media pundits alike to turn down the temperature of their political rhetoric. Yet given the continued targeting of President Trump's life, it is evident that many on the left have not stopped spewing hateful speech and malicious lies.

For years, we have heard rhetoric from the radical left that goes well beyond policy disagreement and crosses into dangerous territory. Think about all the times liberal figures have erroneously labeled Trump as Hitler, or the biggest threat to democracy, or a dictator who must be stopped.

Now we are seeing the tragic results of that false rhetoric. President Trump has faced not one, but two assassination attempts.

This isn't a partisan issue. This is about the safety of our leaders, the stability of our Republic, and the rule of law. Yet disturbingly, we have seen numerous Democrats and the leftwing media blame these attempts on President Trump himself. This level of victim blaming isn't just ghoulish. It is a sinister attempt to normalize this senseless violence and to absolve themselves of any wrongdoing.

There are still many unknowns about both of these attacks, and while I certainly have concerns and questions about the obvious security failures that have taken place, I can't silently sit by as the left, including many of my Democratic colleagues, take no accountability for their incendiary rhetoric and shameless lies that undoubtedly have played a part in inspiring the assassination attempts on President Trump.

Since the liberal media won't hold them accountable, I will.

Here are examples of the left's violence inciting and dangerous rhetoric.

Vice President KAMALA HARRIS: "Trump is a threat to our democracy and fundamental freedoms."

Again, she says: "It's on us to recognize the threat [Trump] poses."

Governor Tim Walz said: "Are [Republicans] a threat to democracy? Yes. Are they going to put peoples' lives in danger? Yes."

Former Speaker NANCY PELOSI said: Trump is "a threat to our democracy of the kind that we have not seen."

JASMINE CROCKETT said: "MAGA in general, they are threats to us domestically."

Representative DAN GOLDMAN said: He is a threat to our democracy, and, "He has to be eliminated."

Representative STEVE COHEN said: "Trump is an enemy of the United States."

Representative DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ said: Trump is "an existential threat to our democracy."

Representative ADAM SCHIFF said: Trump is "the gravest threat to our democracy."

Representative GREGORY MEEKS said: "Trump cannot be President again. He is an existential threat to our democracy."

Representative ABIGAIL SPANBERGER said: "Trump is a threat to our democracy. . . . The threats to our democratic Republic are real."

Representative MIKE LEVIN said: "Donald Trump is a threat to our Nation, our freedom, and our democracy."

Representative ERIC SORENSEN said: "He is the greatest threat to law and order we have in our country today."

Representative JAKE AUCHINCLOSS said: "What unifies us as a party is knowing that Donald Trump is an existential threat to democracy."

Yesterday, just 2 days after the second assassination attempt, White House Press Secretary KJP said: "President Biden has been clear-eyed about the threat that the former President represents to our democracy."

Seriously?

She just couldn't stop herself and had to join in.

Moreover, let's not forget President Biden who said: It is "time to put Trump in a bull's-eye."

President Biden has also said: "I mean this from the bottom of my heart, Trump is a threat to this Nation." As well as: "Donald Trump is a genuine threat to this Nation."

"He's literally a threat for everything this America stands for."

For the last 9 years, the left erroneously labeled Trump as a racist, a Fascist, and an existential threat to our democracy. They have encouraged protests, approved of violent rhetoric, and, in some cases, refused to condemn violent actions. They have made it acceptable to view someone with opposing political beliefs not as a fellow American but as an enemy to be destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, the bottom line is when you constantly tell people that our democracy is in existential danger because of one man, and when you label that man a threat to the very fabric of our country, then you should take some responsibility and not be surprised when unhinged individuals take matters into their own hands.

Words have power, and Democrats have recklessly used that power for nefarious political gain, no matter the cost. We, as a nation, must be better than this.

I have six words for my Democrat colleagues: Stop it and stop it now.

VANDALS DEFACED BAPS SHRI SWAMINARAYAN MANDIR

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

Mr. SUOZZI. Madam Speaker, we all know that hate has always been a part of the human existence, but we see so many hate crimes today.

Late Sunday night, vandals defaced the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir on Long Island with vile hate and bigotry against the Hindu community.

I have seen Hindus many times, and many of you have as well, when they

place their hands together and they bow and they say "namaste," "I bow to you." When they do that, they are recognizing the divinity in the person in front of them. They are showing their respect for the person in front of them.

We really need to recognize that with all of our fellow human beings, that we are all special, made in God's image, and we need to treat each other with more respect.

What is happening that we see these acts of vandalism, bigotry, and hate happening so often?

Is it because of the inflammatory rhetoric we hear all the time?

Is it because of extremism?

Is it because of the lack of accountability?

What do we need to do to address this problem because hate is not the answer. Love is the answer.

In the short term, we need to hold vandals, criminals, and people who commit hate crimes accountable. We need law enforcement to work to apprehend these criminals, and we need prosecutors to prosecute them to hold them accountable because people can't just say whatever they want regardless of the impact it has on other human beings.

In the long term, we need to do a much better job educating people about the importance of love and of respect for other people.

On Monday, I stood in unity with the BAPS community gathering with State and local officials, people from different religions, Democrats and Republicans from the Federal, State, and local level. We spoke out for the values that the people of the BAPS community stand for, that Long Islanders stand for, that New Yorkers stand for, and that Americans stand for.

Let's remember the importance of mutual respect and love and the role they play here in our country and in our world. Love will always win out.

CONSTITUTION WEEK

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

Mr. MASSIE. Madam Speaker, the Constitution of the United States of America, is the guardian of our liberties. It embodies the principles of limited government in a republic dedicated to rule by law.

September 17, 2024, marks the 237th anniversary of the framing of the Constitution of the United States by the Constitutional Convention.

It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate it.

To honor this year's Constitution Week, I ask my fellow citizens and my colleagues here to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties.

Moreover, don't forget, Madam Speaker, the Constitution does not give us rights, and it does not grant us rights. The Constitution seeks to bind our government and protect our God-given rights.

I extend my sincerest gratitude to the members of the John Guill-Polly Hawkins Craig Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution for their steadfast commitment to honoring the history of our great Nation and for hosting a Constitution Week celebration for my constituents.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. MASSIE. Madam Speaker, we are told today that we are going to vote on a continuing resolution with another bright, shiny object attached to it.

I feel like this legislation is insincere and unserious.

Now, why is it unserious?

It is unserious because we are cramming all government spending into one bill, and instead of deciding what to spend on, we are saying: Let's just spend at least as much as we spent last year and not worry about running any of these bills through committee or debating how much we should spend on things.

It is also unserious because we spent 2 years uncovering deficiencies in our government. We have been stonewalled by the FBI and the Department of Justice with that familiar refrain: Oh, Mr. Congressman, that is the subject of an ongoing investigation, and it is our longstanding policy not to comment on that.

They can say that in a press release, but they shouldn't be saying that to Congress. However they get away with it because we don't cut their spending every time they do that to us.

If we would withhold the ink cartridge for one printer at the FBI, they would come to heel. Yet we are not going to do that in this bill, this continuing resolution. It is just unserious.

It is also very insincere. It is an insult to the American people. It is an insult to their intelligence to bring this bill to the floor because it sets up a fake fight that we all know here is fake. Somebody come down here and tell me it is not fake. You all know it is fake.

Here is what is even more insincere about it: The compromise has already been reached in a smoke-filled backroom here. They already know what we are going to do. It is going to be a clean CR when we get to September 30.

What is the deal they have reached?

It is the same deal they reach every year: We will let you spend a few billion dollars more if you let us spend a few billion dollars more.

In fact, what we should be doing is correcting this country's course. We are on a course to financial ruin.

I ask my colleagues: When history looks back, how will it judge you for what you do today on this vote?

Will it say: Oh, well, this is a person who was unserious and insincere, and

instead of making the tough arguments and having the tough discussions with their voters decided to go along to get along on the path to financial ruin or will you be one of the people who stands up and says: This is unsustainable. We must stop it. I will not engage in a fake fight. I will not be part of this political theater.

Will you stand your ground?

Will you be one of those people?

I hope you will.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on the continuing resolution with the fake shiny object attached to it.

□ 1030

HONORING LINDA RONSTADT

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

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Madam Speaker, this Hispanic Heritage Month, I pay tribute to a legendary Latina singer who crossed genres and generations, Linda Ronstadt.

Utilizing her distinctive voice, she brought delight to fans of pop, country music, folk, light opera, and, of course, Latin music.

She was incredibly proud of her Mexican heritage. When she told record executives that she wanted to record an album all in Spanish, they told her it would ruin her career. She went ahead anyway, releasing “Canciones De Mi Padre,” which stands as a best-selling non-English language album in American history.

Selling over 100 million albums, Linda has 12 Grammys, an Emmy, and, in 2014, was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

A passionate advocate for the arts, in 2013, she was honored for her work by President Barack Obama with the National Medal of Arts.

She announced her retirement in 2011. She revealed having a neurodegenerative diagnosis that left her unable to sing aloud. She is a personal favorite of mine. My favorite song of hers is “Blue Bayou,” and I will always honor her love of music and people.

This Hispanic Heritage Month, Linda is someone I will uplift and support. Her musical achievements will be remembered for a long, long time.

A WARNING TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to warn the American people about one of the greatest threats we face as a country.

A shadowy network led by a billionaire businessman is working to threaten some of our most important values. This businessman attacks immigrants from far places and mild-mannered journalists here in our country. The shadowy network seeks power at all costs.

No, I am not talking about Lex Luthor and his legion of doom, but

Donald Trump and his authoritarian and dictator friends who threaten our very democracy and world peace.

I am here to raise the alarm about the massive foreign interference of our politics at the highest levels. We know that, recently, The Washington Post reported allegations that the Egyptian President, seen right here, may have tried to transfer \$10 million to the Donald Trump campaign for President in 2016. We also know that other foreign governments have also tried to buy influence from the Trumps and the Kushner family.

We know that Jared Kushner colluded to collect \$2 billion from the Saudi royal family for his investment fund just 2 months after leaving the White House job.

We also know the Trump Organization has collected, at a minimum, \$7.8 million in foreign payments from multiple countries during his Presidency, funneled through The Trump Organization and his hotel properties.

Madam Speaker, we cannot delay more accountability or an investigation. Donald Trump has made dangerous allegiances with enemies of the United States of America and our allies. They do not stand for truth, justice, and the American way.

I have raised this alarm over and over again, and we should not stop.

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

HONORING THE LIFE OF MADELYN CONNOR

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

Ms. LETLOW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Madelyn Connor.

There are very few times in life when you meet a person and leave the conversation inspired to do more, but that was Maddie.

Madam Speaker, she was a dreammaker. She had a vision for her community, a dream in her heart, and a drive to see it through to completion.

Earlier this year, I received a request to visit a new charter school opening its doors in northeast Louisiana. I knew very little about the school named the Academy of Collaborative Education, also known as ACE. I only knew that it would serve students from our region who had received an autism diagnosis.

On the day of my visit, Maddie swung open those school doors, and I was met with her contagious smile and a huge hug. As she sat me down to explain the origin of the school, I noticed that her passion for the kids who would benefit from this program shone through the most. It came from one of the most genuine and fiercest of places: a mother's heart.

She explained that her son had received an autism diagnosis, and she

was left with disappointment and frustration when she realized the curriculum at her local public school would not suffice for his needs. She sat down with his speech pathologist, Joellen Freeman, one day to share her concerns, and it was there that a dream and a plan was born: to start a charter school aimed at supporting children with autism.

The journey to start this school was riddled with obstacles and heartache, but Maddie never gave up. That was her nature. Nothing was going to stop her from giving these kids an opportunity to learn in a supportive environment.

It took 2 years and an arduous 250-page application process, but her dream was finally realized with an official ribbon cutting on July 26, 2024, alongside her cofounder, Joellen.

This picture of her was taken on that very day the ribbon was cut. Her family and friends were there to celebrate and remember her beaming with joy on the day that her dream was realized.

I will never forget when I stood up to leave after our meeting and tour of her new school was complete. She stopped me on the way out to grab something from her desk. Her eyes flooded with tears as she showed me a picture of her son, Ace. She said: This is my why.

She didn't have to say another word. Our eyes met, and I instantly understood. There is nothing more powerful than a mother's love. It has the power to change the world.

In northeast Louisiana, we lost our dreammaker on August 30, 2024. Richard, who is with us today in the gallery, lost his loving wife. Gracyn, Ace, and Jett lost their precious mother.

As they navigate this journey through grief, I pray they will find some comfort in knowing that they were Maddie's whole world, so much so that she left them a legacy.

The Academy of Collaborative Education has the power to transform a region and impact countless lives in our State of Louisiana and beyond. It will be there for years to come to help autistic children and worried moms and dads because Maddie had a dream in her heart and a fierce determination to help her children, and she never gave up.

Madam Speaker, I leave my colleagues with the words spoken by Maddie's husband, Richard, at her funeral. He said: We lost Maddie, but only in flesh. Her spirit lives on through her family, friends, and each and every one of the people who knew her. We will all be reunited with her again one day. How sweet that day will be.

May we all live each one of our days left inspired by the way Maddie lived hers: as a dreammaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of Utah). The Chair reminds Members not to refer to persons in the gallery.

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER PROGRAM

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

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise serious concerns about the ongoing underfunding of our Federal public defender program.

Nearly 90 percent of defendants in Federal court cannot afford their own attorney. Defendants have a constitutional right to an attorney in criminal cases. Without Federal defenders, the justice system can't function, and defendants are not able to get a speedy trial.

Any loss of Federal public defenders increases court delays and costs, sometimes significantly, because of reliance on private panel attorneys, who are usually more costly and often have less experience.

This is a particularly precarious moment for the Federal defender program. In fiscal year 2024, an inadvertent budgeting error resulted in initial funding levels that were more than \$100 million less than what the program needed across the country.

In response, the program implemented a series of cost-saving measures, including a hard hiring freeze, suspension of training opportunities, and deferral of cybersecurity upgrades.

Insufficient funding for the Federal public defender program affects not only the rights of indigent individuals charged with Federal crimes, but also the overall operation of the Federal criminal justice system. When the Federal public defense system is underfunded, it creates delays in processing criminal cases, backlogs in U.S. Attorney's Offices, and an increase in appeals.

Additionally, we are seeing more complex cases that require increased forensic evaluation. These cases are not given the attention they deserve in an underresourced public defense system. A strong Federal public defense system, which is something that has historically been bipartisan here in the Capitol, enhances the confidence of everyone who has an interest in an efficient, reliable, and fair Federal justice system, including crime victims and the public at large.

Congress must adequately compensate Federal public defenders for the unintended consequences of the fiscal year 2024 cost-saving measures. We must restore training and cybersecurity infrastructure investments, and we must address the cost pressures for personnel in those offices and other essentials. This is important for our criminal justice system and for fairness. Let's get it done.

CELEBRATING BILL DECAPITE ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a patriot and American hero, Bill DeCapite, a member of the Solon VFW who recently celebrated his 100th birthday.

As a U.S. Navy World War II veteran, Mr. DeCapite was the seventh born of 11 children. He and his late wife, Rose, had two daughters and are proud grandparents of two adult grandchildren.

A Seabee in the Navy during World War II, Mr. DeCapite was stationed in the Pacific Islands for 3 years, where his duties included helping to repair U.S. ships and planes. He also helped to build the runway on Tinian Island, where the Enola Gay was launched.

Mr. DeCapite has always had a love for cars. When he returned from World War II, he went into the car repair business and continued that career into his sixties.

Today, Bill continues to volunteer at Cleveland Public Theater. When asked what his secret is to a long life, Mr. DeCapite says: I can't believe I am 100. Volunteering helped me. I just get up every day, and I live a good life.

I thank Mr. DeCapite for his selfless service to this country and wish him a very happy birthday. May God bless him.

IN HONOR OF CRISTINA VILLAREAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, in honor of our Latino communities' rich contributions to our Nation, I rise to recognize my constituent, Cristina Villareal, for her dedication and advocacy to champion Latinas in our Nation.

Cristina's career, from her roles in the city of Chicago to Cook County, reflects a deep commitment to social justice and equity. As chief officer of external affairs at Planned Parenthood of Illinois, Cristina has tirelessly worked to ensure that Illinois remains an abortion haven for the Midwest, defending the right of every woman to bodily autonomy and to access the reproductive care they need and deserve when they need it.

Cristina has also served as the president of the Chicago chapter of the National Organization for Women, amplifying the voices of Latinas and ensuring they exercise their right to vote.

Her work is inspired by the world she wants to build for her two daughters, Catalina, who is watching now, and Camila.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, I commend Cristina Villareal for her unwavering dedication to justice, to equity for Latinas and all women, and her invaluable service to her community and to our State as a "powerful Latina," "poderosa Latina."

Mr. Speaker, I thank and congratulate Cristina.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROGELIO "ROY" SORIA

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, in honor of our Latino communities' rich

contributions to this Nation, I am proud today to recognize Rogelio "Roy" Soria of the Transportation Workers Union of America Local 556 for his tireless advocacy for worker rights.

As a shop steward, executive board member for his local, and recording secretary of the Chicago metro chapter of the Labor Council for Latin-American Advancement, Roy has dedicated himself to building a multiracial unity as we fight for fair wages, for dignity, and for justice.

Because of Roy's leadership, we passed the 2022 Illinois Workers' Rights Amendment, enshrining the right of employees to organize and bargain collectively in Illinois, and expanded the Illinois Sick Leave Act to 30,000 aviation workers in Illinois.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, I commend Rogelio "Roy" Soria for his unwavering commitment to worker solidarity and the power of collective action.

Mr. Speaker, "congratulations," "felicidades" to Roy, and I thank him for his incredible leadership.

□ 1045

HONORING HUGO MANZO

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, in honor of our Latino communities' rich contributions to our Nation, I rise to honor Hugo Manzo, a champion for Latino representation in the trades, for his unwavering commitment to organized labor and Latino empowerment.

Initiated into the Painters Local Union 33 in 1993 as a drywall finisher, Hugo was the very first Mexican American hired by Painters District Council 14.

In 2014, Hugo became the first Mexican elected business representative for Painters District Council 14, overseeing the work of Will and Grundy Counties.

He later served as the director of organizing, driving efforts to unionize nonunion sites and industries, providing workers with the option to, for the very first time, collectively negotiate wages, hours, working conditions, and their own welfare.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, I commend Hugo Manzo and join workers throughout Illinois to thank him for his leadership.

HONORING STEPHANIE CHAVEZ

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, in honor of our Latino communities' rich contributions to this entire Nation, I rise to honor my constituent, Stephanie Chavez, a proud first-generation Mexican American from Glendale Heights, Illinois.

The daughter of Maria and Tomas Chavez, Stephanie has spent her life pursuing a career as a secondary social studies teacher. She believes that education is a tool for collective liberation and has committed to teaching the next generation about the history and policies of our Nation and to teach our young people to be proud of our roots, many of those immigrant roots, and

how to engage and shape a brighter, more equitable future.

Her dedication and hard work have led to her being awarded the 2024 Outstanding Graduate by the College of DuPage Foundation.

I had the pleasure of seeing firsthand the incredible leadership and positive example that Stephanie sets for her children at Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center in my district.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, I commend and thank Stephanie for her passion and dedication. She is an inspiration to all of us, especially young Latinas dreaming of a future of liberation like I do.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 47 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Lord, our Shepherd, we are Your people, the sheep over whom You keep watch. It is You who have made us, and we belong to You.

Such a relationship is at times too intimate to accept. Such dependence on You is often a challenge to our sense of self-sufficiency.

But if we open our eyes to the multitude of blessings You have bestowed on us, if we allow our wills to experience the goodness You desire for us; if we soften our hearts to receive the love You demonstrate to us in countless ways, how can we desire anything but to enter into Your presence with thanksgiving? How can we but seek to live lives that please and praise You? How can we not trust Your faithfulness in these days, when we realize it has been present with us for generations?

May our prayers show our gratitude. May our actions today demonstrate our desire to glorify You. May our thoughts, decisions, and attitudes reveal our faith and trust in You.

In Your eternal mercy we stand and in Your gracious name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. DAVIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

77TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 77th birthday of the United States Air Force.

The United States Air Force was established on September 18, 1947, but its beginnings can be traced back to August 1, 1907, when the U.S. Army Signal Corps established a small aeronautical division to handle all matters pertaining to military ballooning, air machines, and related subjects.

After the U.S. involvement in World War II, the evolution of battle made the need for an air-specified military branch evident. For the past 77 years, the Air Force has patrolled the skies, protecting citizens here and abroad.

Our U.S. airmen embody strength, excellence, and innovation. Their unwavering dedication to our country is demonstrated by their "Aim High . . . Fly-Fight-Win" motto.

I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in recognizing the sacrifice of our airmen, thanking those who serve today and honoring those who have served.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in wishing our U.S. Air Force a happy 77th birthday.

CENSURING CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON OF MISSISSIPPI

(Ms. GREENE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce I am introducing a resolution to censure the ranking member of Homeland Security Committee, BENNIE THOMPSON of Mississippi.

In April of this year, Mr. THOMPSON introduced a bill to repeal and completely remove the Secret Service pro-

tection of former President Donald J. Trump.

With the Department of Justice being weaponized against President Trump and multiple Democrat State DAs being weaponized against President Trump, they are also taking action that could lead to the murder of President Trump.

Mr. THOMPSON has refused to remove his bill.

On July 13, President Trump was nearly assassinated. On September 15, there was another assassination attempt on his life.

This bill must be removed, or Representative THOMPSON should be censured in the well of the House.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE 77TH ANNIVERSARY

(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, as a dedicated member of the United States House Armed Services Committee, a 1994 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, and a proud United States Air Force veteran, I rise today to celebrate the 77th birthday of the United States Air Force.

The United States Air Force was officially established on September 18, 1947, and has since proven to be the best in the world.

The United States Air Force has played an essential and unwavering role in defending our Nation's security and honor, ensuring the safety and freedom of our citizens.

To all those who have served and those who are currently serving in the United States Air Force, to you and your family, I say thank you for your service to our country.

"Fly-Fight-Win."

CONSTITUTION DAY

(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 commemorate yesterday's 237th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution. What began as a grand experiment in governance has culminated into the most free, productive, and powerful nation in the history of the world.

The wisdom that our Founding Fathers embedded into the U.S. Constitution has proven the test of time, and we must hold to it just as strongly today as we have through the centuries of intermittent war and economic depressions.

We live in a time of great social unrest, political polarization, and differing ideologies threatening to tear this country apart. However, if we hold steadfastly to the truth and guiding principles of our Constitution, we will

not only weather the storm of today's issues but all that follow them as well.

We remember that we are all Americans, and it is our collective pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness which unites us together. May the Constitution continue to remind us of this for generations to come.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF JOHN DAVID SOUTHER

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, this morning I woke up to bad news. One of my friends, JD Souther, also known as John David Souther, a great singer, songwriter, and an actor to boot, passed away yesterday in New Mexico at the age of 78.

JD wrote a lot of songs that the Eagles did and that Linda Ronstadt covered, and he performed some of them too. He did "New Kid in Town." When I was elected to Congress, he came to Memphis with Jackson Browne to do what I considered probably the greatest fundraiser in history. It was a small house with a living room that had a little area above it, and the two of them did an hour concert for the few people they could cram into that living room.

JD sang "New Kid in Town" about me saying that I am going to be the new kid in town in Congress and great expectations are thought of me. I think about that a lot.

When I got elected, JD called me, and he said: STEVE, you are going to the show.

Well, the show is major league parlance for going to the major leagues, and we were both baseball fans.

He was just a great guy. He was smart as hell. He is in the Songwriters Hall of Fame. He had a great voice and was so respected by musicians.

I kind of got him from Warren Zevon. He was my pal, and Warren kind of helped him to me.

Warren was dying, and he said: STEVE, I have got a friend who is moving to Nashville, and you all should be friends.

When I met him in Nashville, he said: I need to get something out of this, and I want to get married. Can you marry me?

I could do marriages, and I married him at Burt Stein's house. Rodney Crowell was the only witness. The marriage didn't take, but I did the best job I could.

JD was my friend and a great American songwriter. He will be missed.

□ 1215

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3724, ACCREDITATION FOR COLLEGE EXCELLENCE ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4790, GUIDING UNIFORM AND RESPONSIBLE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION LIMITS ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5179, ANTI-BDS LABELING ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5339, ROLL BACK ESG TO INCREASE RETIREMENT EARNINGS ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5717, NO BAILOUT FOR SANCTUARY CITIES ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7909, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN BY ILLEGAL ALIENS ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 136, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "MULTIPOLLUTANT EMISSIONS STANDARDS FOR MODEL YEARS 2027 AND LATER LIGHT-DUTY AND MEDIUM-DUTY VEHICLES"

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1455 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1455

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3724) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit recognized accrediting agencies and associations from requiring, encouraging, or coercing institutions of higher education to meet any political litmus test or violate any right protected by the Constitution as a condition of accreditation. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in this section and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-49 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such further amendment may

be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such further amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4790) to amend the Federal securities laws with respect to the materiality of disclosure requirements, to establish the Public Company Advisory Committee, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-48, modified by the amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 5179) to require the maintenance of the country of origin markings for imported goods produced in the West Bank or Gaza, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 4. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 5339) to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to specify requirements concerning the consideration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary factors, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-50 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as

amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 5. At any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5717) to provide that sanctuary jurisdictions that provide benefits to aliens who are present in the United States without lawful status under the immigration laws are ineligible for Federal funds intended to benefit such aliens. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

SEC. 6. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 7909) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed sex offenses or domestic violence are inadmissible and deportable. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-47 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 7. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 136) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection

Agency relating to "Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027 and Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles". All points of order against consideration of the joint resolution are waived. The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the joint resolution are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN) be allowed to manage the remainder of the time.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, last night, the Rules Committee met and produced a rule, H. Res. 1455, providing for the House's consideration of seven pieces of legislation.

First, the rule provides for H.R. 3724, the End Woke Higher Education Act, to be considered under a structured rule.

Second, the rule provides for H.R. 4790, the Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act, under a closed rule.

Third, the rule provides for H.R. 5339, the Protecting Americans' Investments from Woke Policies Act, under a closed rule.

Fourth, the rule provides for H.R. 5179, the Anti-BDS Labeling Act, under a closed rule.

The rule provides for H.R. 7909, the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act, and H.R. 5717, the No Bailouts for Sanctuary Cities Act.

Mr. Speaker, I support this rule and the underlying legislation, beginning with H.R. 3724, the End Woke Higher Education Act.

As a Member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, we have spent countless hours addressing the serious issues within higher education under the Biden administration, where activism is often prioritized and differing viewpoints are silenced.

These conversations have become increasingly necessary, as we have seen waves of anti-Semitic protests where students are supporting terrorist organizations, and these protests are sweeping the Nation.

Too many institutions of higher education have cowered to the mob of protesters, often compromising the safety and well-being of their students. Freedom of speech is under attack on our campuses nationwide, and it is our students who are paying the price.

This mindset weakens what has historically been the strength of America: free-flowing and open debate at our institutions of learning. We must not let campus activists, woke faculty, and partisan administrators turn post-secondary education into DEI indoctrination camps. Denying speech undermines the very fabric of the Nation and is against everything our Founders intended.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad this legislation includes my Students Bill of Rights Act of 2024, which aims to address the erosion of First Amendment rights faced by students, and provides protections for academic freedom and expression.

Our students should never feel afraid to express their point of view or fear retribution or negative consequences for their future.

This woke mind virus doesn't stop there, which brings me to H.R. 5339, the Protecting American Investments from Woke Policies Act. It protects the retirement savings of workers, retirees, and their families by rolling back woke ESG requirements that have nothing to do with the bottom line.

The bill ensures that financial institutions are focused on maximizing returns in retirement plans rather than advancing the Biden-Harris administration's radical agenda at the expense of American workers. Forcing often underperforming and relatively high-risk investments on our seniors is not what they are asking us to do in this Chamber.

In this spirit, I am glad the bill includes one of my pieces of legislation, the Retirement Proxy Protection Act. The bill ensures that fiduciaries prioritize economic interests of plan beneficiaries when voting on shareholder proposals.

Finally, the rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 4790, a comprehensive bill package targeting unelected bureaucrats.

Time and time again, this administration has prioritized, again, an ESG agenda and initiatives that are against the well-being of workers and American businesses.

Democrat-appointed bureaucrats are attempting to use regulation to create climate and social policy in our financial markets, ultimately raising costs and limiting growth.

This legislation aims to stop unnecessary political reporting requirements for companies, make Federal regulators more transparent, and reduce the SEC's power over shareholders.

I am proud that another one of my bills, the No Expensive, Stifling Governance Act, or No ESG Act, is included as part of this package.

I will also touch on a bill brought forward by the gentleman from New York (Mr. LALOTA), my friend, H.R. 5717, the No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill. Despite the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 clearly stating that no restrictions can be placed on communication between local or State authorities and Federal immigration officials about someone's immigration status, many cities still choose not to comply.

□ 1230

We have known for years that sanctuary cities create incredible challenges for Federal law enforcement, and in doing so, public safety is endangered.

Let's take Aurora, Colorado, for example. They are experiencing unprecedented gang violence due to a neighboring sanctuary city.

We also know that the Biden-Harris administration has been a master class in how to not handle border security. This administration has totally failed, alongside the sanctuary cities, in enforcing our immigration laws because the crime that finds a home in a sanctuary city spreads to other jurisdictions.

If sanctuary cities choose to operate this way and endanger their own communities, neighboring communities, and, ultimately, the entire Nation, then they must be forced to balance their irresponsible choices with the loss of other Federal support. It is pretty simple: If you fail to comply with the law, you should not expect support.

Our constituents understand and also demand that their tax dollars not support sanctuary cities that actively undermine their public safety and our immigration law.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 136 to push back on EPA overregulation, H.R. 5179 to end anti-Israel boycotts, and H.R. 7909, the Violence Against Women Act, which would crack down on crime caused by the Biden-Harris administration's open-border policies.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to consideration of these important bills, and I urge the passage of this rule.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Indiana for yielding me the time, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is good to be back on the House floor with the gentlewoman from Indiana. It is great to be with her, and so far, she is allowing me to actually speak and hasn't called for me to be silenced.

The last time we debated, I stated an uncomfortable fact about he who shall not be named and the gentlewoman had

me silenced, had my words stricken from the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

You just have to love that, Mr. Speaker. The party of free speech that rails against woke this and cancel culture that, and calls us snowflakes, can't handle it when someone comes down here and tells the truth. They try to silence the people they disagree with. It is really quite stunning.

Here is more of the truth, and let's see if I am allowed to talk this time.

Mr. Speaker, under Republican control, the House of Representatives has become a place where trivial issues get debated passionately and important ones not at all. What we are dealing with today is a bunch of weird, whacky, poorly drafted culture war nonsense.

This is all just a waste of time. These bills aren't going anywhere. It is not even political theater. It is theater of the absurd.

The government shuts down in a few days, and instead of actually working with Democrats to keep the lights on, instead of actually doing something to fix the problems that the American people want us to fix, my Republican friends are doing nothing.

The roof is on fire, and instead of calling 911, they are sweeping the floors. I mean, it is beyond nuts.

Last night in the Rules Committee, during our hearing on this rule, I had some Republican Members telling me they didn't like my tone. They didn't like the fact that I said we don't share the same values.

I am sorry I hurt people's feelings, Mr. Speaker, but the truth is the truth. We don't all believe in the same things. When it comes to my friends on the other side of the aisle in this Chamber, we really don't share the same values. I know many of my friends on the Republican side are nice and good people, but their ideas are not nice and are not good.

Let me just give you a couple of examples.

Democrats want to make sure that our kids go to college and get a good education that prepares them for the workforce, and instead of working with us, Republicans go on and on about woke this and woke that in our schools.

Apparently, anyone who wants to teach facts is woke nowadays. They want colleges to stop being "woke," even though they can't quite define what that even means. It is all political BS, Mr. Speaker.

Here is another example. Democrats actually want an economy that works for everyone, and thanks to the Biden-Harris administration, we are fighting to grow the economy from the bottom up and the middle out, but not Republicans. They are talking about woke economic policies.

I don't even know what they are talking about or what they mean, but do you want to know what people back home talk to me about? They are asking me: Why are Republicans trying to

cut taxes for millionaires and billionaires? Why are Republicans trying to go after Social Security and Medicare?

Another example, Mr. Speaker, is that Democrats actually care about strengthening and protecting the Violence Against Women Act, but not Republicans. A majority of their Conference voted against extending the Violence Against Women Act. Let me say that again: A majority of their Conference voted against extending the Violence Against Women Act.

Now, they have the nerve to come down here and talk about violence against women and use it as part of their sick ploy to go after immigrants. Give me a break. Their bill is so poorly written that it could hurt survivors of domestic violence.

I could go right down the list. It is obvious to me that, at some point, the RNC talking points went out to everybody, and those talking points said woke, woke, woke. Now, we have to waste time on this trash.

It is just another week of the GOP circus. As I have said before, calling this a clown show is an insult to actual working clowns.

Most of all, it is an insult to the American people for Republicans to use these hallowed Halls and to spend hours and hours of time this week on these absurd, awful bills. Again, none of them are going anywhere.

The reason to be in Congress is to help people. That means putting people over politics. It means not caving in to the most extreme members of your party. It means getting stuff done, which is a radical idea.

None of these bills, as I said, are going anywhere. Yet, here we are, playing these absurd, ridiculous games.

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

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), my colleague and the chair of the Rules Committee.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the reason we are here is because the average family of four is paying over \$17,000 more per year thanks to the policies of the Biden-Harris administration and their allies in Congress. In 3½ years, their policies and regulations have been unleashed into every aspect of our lives.

For example, on top of that \$17,000 more that American families are having to pay each year, now the Biden-Harris administration's EPA expects that family to cough up another \$10,000 for an electric vehicle. The House Republicans today will repeal this ridiculous regulation with the passage of a joint resolution under this rule.

It is not just consumer goods that are more expensive. Retirement is increasingly out of reach because of the Biden-Harris administration and their policies and what they have injected into our capital markets and retirement plans. The American family will not care how much their retirement fund

promoted ESG or DEI when they need to push off their retirement for years under this economy.

House Republicans will refocus the financial markets and retirement funds away from politics and toward maximizing investment returns. Maximizing shareholder value seems like a concept that everyone should be for.

Finally, I will touch on two important pieces of legislation under this rule that are affecting Texans, the first of which is the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act. This bill makes it crystal clear in U.S. law that illegal aliens who commit domestic violence are both deportable and inadmissible in this country.

We have a border czar. You wouldn't know it because of what has been happening, but we have a border czar. We have a Secretary of Homeland Security who has refused to take the actions necessary to protect American citizens. Why they have neglected American citizens, I cannot tell you. Perhaps the Democrats can tell you.

Mr. Speaker, even individuals who commit domestic crimes should be deportable and inadmissible to the country.

Another bill ensures that lax enforcement of immigration law, which has become the hallmark of the Biden-Harris administration, does not extend to criminal domestic conduct.

Speaking of lax enforcement, the No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act makes it crystal clear that no State or local government that made a conscious choice to disregard Federal immigration law will receive Federal funds to do so.

Sanctuary cities perpetuate the crisis at our border, a crisis that my State knows all too well. The No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act ensures that taxpayers won't be on the hook for the conscious choices of sanctuary cities.

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

Mr. Speaker, I enjoyed listening to the chairman of the Rules Committee, but let me just state for the record that nothing he talked about will be at all impacted by any of the stuff that we are talking about here today. None of these bills are going anywhere.

If you want to pass legislation to address some of the issues that were raised, maybe we ought to work in a bipartisan way. Maybe it ought not to be "my way or the highway."

These aren't serious pieces of legislation. These are press releases. Let's all be honest with the American people about that. This is not serious legislating. We haven't done serious legislating here in a long time.

Mr. Speaker, I will zoom in a little bit on this Congress in general. I just mentioned that this is the most dysfunctional Congress in history. If anyone wants proof, look no further than this resolution: five more closed rules that allow zero amendments to come to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, for folks who don't know, a closed rule means no amend-

ments. It means: Take it or leave it. If you have a good idea and want to improve a bill, too bad.

This is how they govern in Russia and China, and that is what the Republicans are turning this place into.

With these five closed rules they are bringing to the floor today, Republicans are breaking their own record for shutting down debate. With today's vote, there will be 106 closed rules in this Congress—106. This is now officially the most closed Congress in the history of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, what gets me is that my friends on the other side have been totally fooled. They were tricked by their own leadership, first by Speaker McCarthy and now Speaker Johnson.

The gentlewoman from Indiana and her colleagues on the Rules Committee were promised a more open process. They were told the Rules Committee was going to be different, more open, would have more regular order and more amendments, and more debate.

Speaker McCarthy was even blackmailed into putting members of the Freedom Caucus on the Rules Committee to guarantee a more open process, but apparently, it didn't matter because he totally broke his promise, and now Speaker Johnson is shredding it.

During the first 9 months under Speaker Johnson, we saw 64 closed rules, even more than the 42 closed rules we saw under Speaker McCarthy. They traded a bad Speaker for an even worse one. Republican leaders have blocked 5,799 amendments from even coming to the floor. Mr. Speaker, 5,799 amendments have been blocked from coming to the floor by the Republican majority.

By the way, they are not just Democratic amendments. They blocked Republican, bipartisan, and Democratic amendments. They blocked an amendment to disrupt the smuggling of U.S. firearms across the Mexican border. They blocked an amendment to combat fentanyl trafficking at ports of entry.

Holy hell, Mr. Speaker, they even blocked my amendment to protect food for seniors who participate in the Meals on Wheels program. They have even blocked over half of their own Republican Members' amendments.

Let me say that again. Most Republican amendments have been blocked by this Congress. These amendments have been prevented from even seeing the light of day or getting a debate on the House floor. There have been 98 amendments that Rules Committee Republicans had either authored or supported that have been blocked by their own majority.

When you are on the Rules Committee, you like to have a little juice, but 98 of your amendments, Republican amendments, have been blocked by your own party. That is almost 100 amendments, and that is just Rules Republicans.

I am sure they would have loved to have had the opportunity to debate

their amendments on the floor. If Rules Committee Republicans can't get amendments, how the hell do you think the rest of us are doing?

Republicans said they wanted an open process in this Congress. They want an open process, my foot, Mr. Speaker.

Under this majority, the Rules Committee has become a place where democracy goes to die. Their Members should be outraged with the Speaker and this leadership just as much as Democrats should be. Again, 106 completely closed rules blocked all amendments—a shameful statistic, an all-time authoritarian high set under this Republican majority.

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Let's look at the results. Look at what they have to show for it. Republicans had the most unproductive Congress in the history of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, 26 days we went without a Speaker because they were fighting with each other. Weeks were wasted with failed rule votes while they argued among themselves instead of negotiating with Democrats.

There were broken promises on the appropriation process where they kicked the can down the road with another failed CR, bringing us to the brink of catastrophic debt default and then asking Democrats to bail them out. Mr. Speaker, 10 months of passing no legislation through the Rules Committee that ever became law.

I congratulate my friends. In addition to being the most incompetent, dysfunctional, unproductive Congress in American history, they now have also presided over the most closed Congress in American history. Well done, well done, and they are not done yet. We have to live through 3 more months of this. God help us.

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

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I note that what my colleague, the ranking member, does not note is that this House has passed under Republican leadership more than 300 bills out of the House of Representatives with 92 percent bipartisan support. Many of these bills go to the Democrat-controlled Senate where they die.

The ranking member also likes to criticize this majority when he knows full well just last Congress when he was chair, the Rules Committee was no bastion of an open process.

For the record, here are some statistics that might help paint a better picture and provide context for the cherry-picked numbers the Member rattled off.

It is true there have been more closed rules, but this majority has reported nearly twice the amount of bills in the last Congress. Considered as a percentage, this majority has reported fewer closed rules than when he had the gavel.

Even more, over a third of the closed rules were because no amendments

were offered, making the rule closed by definition.

Not considering those closed rules brings us still at roughly the same rate as a percentage of closed rules from the last Congress but with significantly more bills offered.

I also remind this body that the previous Congress saw the use and abuse of partisan en bloc amendment votes, which created omnibus-style amendments designed to defeat Republican, or tough amendments, and had the practical effect of stifling the Republican minority.

Even with this procedural atrocity, the ranking member still can't claim a higher ground on making minority amendments in order.

We also needed to keep up with the onslaught of regulations from the Biden-Harris administration that they have unleashed on the American people from unelected bureaucrats.

We have considered numerous disapproval resolutions, which traditionally are carried closed because of how they are written. The ranking member carried on this tradition when he had the gavel.

While the ranking member wants to talk about how we are stifling Democrat amendments, this majority has actually made more minority amendments in order as a percentage than the previous Congress when he was calling the shots.

While the ranking member shakes his finger at the majority for the way this Congress has gone, I point out that he understands the unique difficulties and the tough decisions the Rules Committee is tasked with in moving the majority's agenda.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to my colleague from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank and appreciate Mrs. HOUCHIN for putting forward these bills.

I am glad there are citizens up here listening to the two different points of view. We are totally different.

Some of the things that you said in Rules yesterday, Mr. MCGOVERN, the last 3—well, 4 years under the Biden, czar Harris administration have wrecked this country.

You mentioned yesterday, and I brought this up in Rules, empathy for children. Where is the empathy for the 300,000 that this administration is letting in this country unaccompanied, God knows what is happening to them, of the 15 million that are coming in here? How is that working for America?

How is it working for America when you are taking the side of the criminal and putting handcuffs on the policemen through your defund police activity?

The actions of this administration on tax cuts—tax, tax, tax. You want the Federal Government to tell these people where to spend their money. We are not having it.

The reason the amendments aren't made in order, they are dumb. Some of

them are good, but most of them are dumb, and they are antifreedom is the best word I can say.

I rise today in support of the rule to provide consideration for bills that combat the administration's woke policies that you are forcing on businesses.

I am thrilled the rule contained a package of financial service bills. You are right; we shouldn't have to protect them. It should be common sense, but it is not from the Democratic Party.

This package includes my bill, the Businesses Over Activists Act. As Republicans, we believe in limited government letting us spend our money and not letting unelected bureaucrats spend our money.

Under the Exchange Act, the ability of the Securities and Exchange Commission to oversee proxy solicitation is very limited.

Every regulation has been weaponized against the very businesses that are paying the taxes to support this country.

As far as my particular bill, Congress never granted the SEC authority to make it mandatory for companies to include shareholder proposals in their corporate proxy statements.

This legislation reaffirms the proper role of the SEC and ensures that it cannot exceed its authority by compelling companies to include certain shareholder proposals against their will.

A lot of things we are having to combat is per the Constitution that you are wanting to do away with. We believe in the Constitution. We believe in freedom. We believe in limited government.

This package of bills spells this out and protects our God-given rights that we shouldn't have to fight for that your party is wanting to do away with.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, again, I reiterate what the gentleman from South Carolina just said. We have different viewpoints and different values.

I am sorry that he feels he lives in a wrecked country. I don't believe that. I think the United States of America is the greatest country on this planet, and I am proud to serve in Congress to try to help the people of this country. I would never refer to this country as a "wrecked country."

Again, the gentleman who just spoke, I thought when he was appointed to the Rules Committee, he was appointed to make sure that we had a more open process.

I regret to inform the gentleman that 106 closed rules slipped by him this Congress. I appreciate him standing in the breach.

By the way, when he refers to all the amendments that were rejected as being dumb, 50 percent of them were Republican amendments.

I think 27 of your amendments were denied. I wouldn't classify them as dumb, even though I may disagree with the intent.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD a list of the 106 closed rules issued by the Republican majority in the 118th Congress.

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

There was no objection.

LIST OF CLOSED RULES, 118TH CONGRESS

1. H. Res. 5, H.R. 23—Family and Small Business Taxpayer Protection Act;
2. H. Res. 5, H.R. 29—Border Safety and Security Act of 2023;
3. H. Res. 5, H.R. 22—Protecting America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve from China Act;
4. H. Res. 5, H.R. 27—Prosecutors Need to Prosecute Act;
5. H. Res. 5, H.R. 28—Illegal Alien NICS Alert Act;
6. H. Res. 5, H.R. 7—No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act of 2023;
7. H. Res. 5, H.R. 26—Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act;
8. H. Res. 5, H. Res. 11—Establishing the Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party;
9. H. Res. 5, H. Res. 12—Establishing a Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government as a select investigative subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary;
10. H. Res. 5, H. Con. Res. 5—Expressing support for the Nation's law enforcement agencies and condemning any efforts to defend or dismantle law enforcement agencies;
11. H. Res. 5, H. Con. Res. 3—Expressing the sense of Congress condemning the recent attacks on pro-life facilities, groups, and churches;
12. H. Res. 75, H.J. Res. 7—Relating to a national emergency declared by the President on March 13, 2020;
13. H. Res. 75, H.R. 139—Stopping Home Office Work's Unproductive Problems (SHOW UP) Act of 2023;
14. H. Res. 75, H.R. 382—Pandemic is Over Act;
15. H. Res. 75, H.R. 497—Freedom for Health Care Workers Act;
16. H. Res. 83, H. Con. Res. 9—Denouncing the horrors of socialism;
17. H. Res. 83, H. Res. 76—Removing a certain Member from a certain standing committee of the House;
18. H. Res. 97, H.J. Res. 24—Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022;
19. H. Res. 97, H.J. Res. 26—Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Revised Criminal Code Act of 2022;
20. H. Res. 166, H.J. Res. 30—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to "Prudence and Loyalty in Selecting Plan Investments and Exercising Shareholder Rights";
21. H. Res. 199, S. 619—COVID-19 Origin Act of 2023;
22. H. Res. 199, H.J. Res. 27—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States'";
23. H. Res. 298, H.J. Res. 42—Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022;

24. H. Res. 327, H.R. 2811—Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023;

25. H. Res. 327, H.J. Res. 39—Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to “Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414”;

26. H. Res. 383, H.R. 2—Secure the Border Act of 2023;

27. H. Res. 383, H.R. 1163—Protecting Taxpayers and Victims of Unemployment Fraud Act;

28. H. Res. 429, H.J. Res. 45—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to “Waivers and Modifications of Federal Student Loans”;

29. H. Res. 429, H.J. Res. 11—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Control of Air Pollution From New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards”;

30. H. Res. 456, H.R. 3746—Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023;

31. H. Res. 495, H.J. Res. 44—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives relating to “Factoring Criteria for Firearms with Attached ‘Stabilizing Braces’”;

32. H. Res. 524, H. Res. 461—Condemning the use of elementary and secondary school facilities to provide shelter for aliens who are not admitted to the United States;

H. Res. 614, S.J. Res. 9—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, USC, of the rule submitted by the USFWS relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Lesser Prairie-Chicken; Threatened Status With Section 4(d) Rule for the Northern Distinct Population Segment and Endangered Status for the Southern Distinct Population Segment”;

34. H. Res. 614, S.J. Res. 24—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Northern Long-Eared Bat”;

35. H. Res. 680, H.R. 1435—Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act;

36. H. Res. 681, H.R. 1435—Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act;

37. H. Res. 699, H. Res. 684—Condemning the actions of Governor of New Mexico, Michelle Lujan Grisham, for subverting the Second Amendment to the Constitution and depriving the citizens of New Mexico of their right to bear arms;

38. H. Res. 699, H.R. 5525—Continuing Appropriations and Border Security Enhancement Act, 2024;

39. H. Res. 712, H. Res. 684—Condemning the actions of Governor of New Mexico, Michelle Lujan Grisham, for subverting the Second Amendment to the Constitution and depriving the citizens of New Mexico of their right to bear arms;

40. H. Res. 730, H.R. 5692—Ukraine Security Assistance and Oversight Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024;

41. H. Res. 741, H.R. 5525—Continuing Appropriations and Border Security Enhancement Act, 2024;

42. H. Res. 756, H.R. 4364—Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2024;

43. H. Res. 838, H.R. 6126—Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024;

44. H. Res. 869, H. R. 5961—No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act;

45. H. Res. 891, S.J. Res. 32—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of

title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B);

46. H. Res. 906, H.J. Res. 88—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program;

47. H. Res. 922, H.R. 357—Ensuring Accountability in Agency Rulemaking Act;

48. H. Res. 947, S.J. Res. 38—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to “Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers”;

49. H. Res. 947, H.J. Res. 98—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to “Standard for Determining Joint Employer Status”;

50. H. Res. 969, H.R. 6914—Pregnant Students’ Rights Act;

51. H. Res. 969, H.R. 6918—Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act;

52. H. Res. 969, H. Res. 957—Denouncing the Biden administration’s open-borders policies, condemning the national security and public safety crisis along the southwest border, and urging President Biden to end his administration’s open-borders policies;

53. H. Res. 994, H.R. 7160—SALT Marriage Penalty Elimination Act;

54. H. Res. 994, H. Res. 987—Denouncing the harmful, anti-American energy policies of the Biden administration, and for other purposes;

55. H. Res. 996, H. Res. 863—Impeaching Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, for high crimes and misdemeanors;

56. H. Res. 1009, H. R. 7176—Unlocking our Domestic LNG Potential Act of 2024;

57. H. Res. 1052, H.R. 7511—Laken Riley Act;

58. H. Res. 1071, H. Res. 1065—Denouncing the Biden administration’s immigration policies;

59. H. Res. 1085, H.R. 6009—Restoring American Energy Dominance Act;

60. H. Res. 1085, H.R. 1121—Protecting American Energy Production Act;

61. H. Res. 1085, H.R. 1023—To repeal section 134 of the Clean Air Act, relating to the greenhouse gas reduction fund. [Cutting Green Corruption and Taxes Act];

62. H. Res. 1085, H. Con. Res. 86—Expressing the sense of Congress that a carbon tax would be detrimental to the United States economy;

63. H. Res. 1085, H. Res. 987—Denouncing the harmful, anti-American energy policies of the Biden administration, and for other purposes;

64. H. Res. 1125, H.R. 529—Extending Limits of U.S. Customs Waters Act;

65. H. Res. 1125, H. Res. 1112—Denouncing the Biden administration’s immigration policies;

66. H. Res. 1125, H. Res. 1117—Opposing efforts to place one-sided pressure on Israel with respect to Gaza;

67. H. Res. 1137, H.R. 529—Extending Limits of U.S. Customs Waters Act;

68. H. Res. 1137, H. Res. 1112—Denouncing the Biden administration’s immigration policies;

69. H. Res. 1137, H. Res. 1117—Opposing efforts to place one-sided pressure on Israel with respect to Gaza;

70. H. Res. 1149, H.R. 6323—Iran Counterterrorism Act of 2023;

71. H. Res. 1149, H. Res. 1143—Condemning Iran’s unprecedented drone and missile attack on Israel;

72. H. Res. 1149, H.R. 4691—Iran Sanctions Relief Review Act of 2023;

73. H. Res. 1149, H.R. 5947—To provide for the rescission of certain waivers and licenses relating to Iran, and for other purposes;

74. H. Res. 1149, H.R. 6046—Standing Against Houthi Aggression Act;

75. H. Res. 1160, H.R. 8034—Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024;

76. H. Res. 1173, H.R. 3397—Western Economic Security Today Act of 2024;

77. H. Res. 1173, H.R. 3195—Superior National Forest Restoration Act;

78. H. Res. 1173, H.R. 2925—Mining Regulatory Clarity Act of 2024;

79. H. Res. 1173, H.R. 615—Protecting Access for Hunters and Anglers Act of 2023;

80. H. Res. 1173, H.R. 764—Trust the Science Act;

81. H. Res. 1173, H.R. 6090—Antisemitism Awareness Act of 2023;

82. H. Res. 1194, H.R. 7109—Equal Representation Act;

83. H. Res. 1194, H.J. Res. 109—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121;

84. H. Res. 1194, H.R. 2925—Mining Regulatory Clarity Act of 2024;

85. H. Res. 1227, H.R. 354—LEOSA Reform Act;

86. H. Res. 1227, H.R. 7530—CRIMES Act of 2024;

87. H. Res. 1227, H.R. 7581—Improving Law Enforcement Officer Safety and Wellness Through Data Act of 2024;

88. H. Res. 1227, H. Res. 1210—Condemning the Biden border crisis and the tremendous burdens law enforcement officers face as a result;

89. H. Res. 1227, H. Res. 1213—A resolution regarding violence against law enforcement officers;

90. H. Res. 1227, H.R. 8369—Israel Security Assistance Support Act;

91. H. Res. 1243, H.R. 192—To prohibit individuals who are not citizens from voting in elections in the District of Columbia;

92. H. Res. 1269, H.R. 8282—To impose sanctions with respect to the International Criminal Court engaged in any effort to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute any protected person of the United States and its allies;

93. H. Res. 1287, H. Res. 1292—Report to accompany the Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives Find United States Attorney General Merrick B. Garland in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Committee on the Judiciary;

94. H. Res. 1341, H.R. 8281—Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act;

95. H. Res. 1341, H.J. Res. 165—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance;

96. H. Res. 1341, H.R. 7700—Stop Unaffordable Dishwasher Standards Act;

97. H. Res. 1341, H.R. 7637—Refrigerator Freedom Act;

98. H. Res. 1376, H. Res. 1371—Strongly condemning the Biden Administration and its Border Czar, Kamala Harris’s, failure to secure the United States border;

99. H. Res. 1430, H.R. 9494—Continuing Appropriations and Other Measures;

100. H. Res. 1430, H.R. 7980—End Chinese Dominance of Electric Vehicles in America Act;

101. H. Res. 1430, H.R. 9456—Protecting American Agriculture from Foreign Adversaries Act of 2024;

102. H. Res. 1455, H.R. 4790—Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act;

103. H. Res. 1455, H.R. 5179—Anti-BDS Labeling Act;

104. H. Res. 1455, H.R. 5339—Protecting Americans' Investments from Woke Policies Act;

105. H. Res. 1455, H.R. 7909—Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act; and

106. H. Res. 1455, H.J. Res. 136—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027 and Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles".

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, beneath all these statistics about closed rules are actual ideas that are being blocked from being debated on the House floor.

These are thoughtful proposals that Members have worked hard to develop, ideas to help actual people, and they deserved a debate in an up-or-down vote.

They are proposals like this: An amendment to disrupt the smuggling of U.S. guns across the Mexico border to help cartels, an amendment authorizing funding for DHS to combat fentanyl trafficking at our ports of entry, and an amendment to prevent cuts to Meals on Wheels.

Those are home-delivered meals to seniors, Mr. Speaker, and that was my amendment, by the way, so I can assure you that it was a very, very good idea.

They even blocked an amendment to provide postpartum mental health information to pregnant students, and that was a Republican amendment.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans haven't just blocked amendments by reporting out closed rules. Their structured rules, the rules that allowed a few amendments, have also continually blocked thoughtful, rule-complied amendments.

They seem especially focused on blocking Democratic ideas from a debate in an up-or-down vote on the floor. A quarter of their structured rules—get this—blocked all Democratic amendments.

Now, let me quickly just list a few ideas that Republicans were either too afraid to debate or couldn't spare 10 minutes for consideration on the House floor: An amendment to protect children from getting asthma; amendments to ensure the regulation of dark money in politics, and to prevent corrupt pay-to-play political donation deals with Federal contractors; and an amendment to provide cancer screenings to Federal firefighters as part of their DOD annual physicals, when we know they are exposed to cancer-causing chemicals as part of their jobs. There is simply no excuse for this, Mr. Speaker.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH).

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5717, the No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act.

I do have to comment that the ranking member and I sit on the Rules Committee, and the ranking member and I were there last night, and we are here again on the floor together today, and all I hear is complaining.

I don't hear alternatives. I hear about how bad the amendment process is, that their amendments aren't made in order, but I haven't heard them really talk about the alternatives.

What are they proposing?

Are there alternatives to what we are doing?

What would they do differently? Instead, we hear complaining.

I do want to talk about H.R. 5717. This bill prohibits funds to any sanctuary State or sanctuary city if those funds are being used to benefit illegal immigrants.

That seems like common sense to me and to my constituents. We should not spend American tax dollars to help States and cities that are violating U.S. law so they can turn around and dole out those dollars to illegal immigrants; sometimes those benefits are even more generous than those our own citizens receive.

I do want to correct something that Ranking Member NADLER said last night in the Rules Committee. He said that this bill could prohibit Federal funds like COPS grants and Byrne-JAG Grants from going to law enforcement officers.

I want to state this clearly. That is just not true. Not only are police departments not qualifying jurisdictions under this bill, but the bill applies only to funds being used to provide benefits to illegal immigrants. Let me tell you. Using funds to arrest and detain illegal immigrants is not to their benefit, nor is it part of this bill.

This is just an attempt to distract from the fact that the Biden-Harris administration has created chaos in communities across this country.

Yet, rather than help hardworking Americans, they want to take your tax dollars to pay for free flights, free cell phones, and free hotel stays. This bill puts an end to this waste of our taxpayer dollars.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, after listening to the gentlewoman from Minnesota, I was confused when she said, you don't offer alternatives. That is what amendments are. They are alternative ideas.

I just went through a list of some of the alternatives we wanted to offer dealing with firefighters and cancer screening, dealing with children with asthma, and dealing with making sure senior citizens have adequate access to nutrition. Those are alternatives. Those are ideas.

My friends, unfortunately, are in control of this place, so they get to bring the bills to the Rules Committee.

We try to present alternatives through the amendment process, but here is another alternative. If we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up H.R. 16, the American Dream and Promise Act of 2023.

Mr. Speaker, the bigoted hatred that we are seeing directed at immigrants in Ohio and across the country is sickening. According to research done by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism, there has been a rise in conspiracy theories that stigmatize minorities and promote hatred of ethnically diverse communities.

Get this. Politicians' use of bigoted rhetoric can also play a role in hate crime incidents. It is sad, but to be frank, we didn't need researchers to tell us this.

We can see and we can hear it from the Republican Party every single day, and it does a grave disservice to the Dreamers, to TPS holders, and to DACA recipients in this country who only know America as their home.

These are taxpayers, small business owners, educators, and critical parts of our communities. Dreamers were brought to the United States as children through no fault of their own, and it is past time to grant them the pathway to citizenship that they rightly deserve.

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Mr. Speaker, let me be clear. There is a lot of work that needs to be done to fix our broken immigration system and secure our border, but unlike the messaging bills before us this week, this is a bill that actually does something, and it is actually bipartisan. It sends the message that we are sick of the vitriol and hate crimes against this community and that we value their many contributions that make this country a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment into the RECORD along with any extraneous material immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. ESCOBAR), a great leader, to discuss our proposal.

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, we are only 12 days away from a potential government shutdown, and yet here we are debating yet another slate of unserious Republican policies, so-called antiwoke bills.

Instead of prioritizing legislation to improve the lives of the American people, they are set on wasting our time with political games.

Instead of working on a bipartisan appropriations process with Democrats to keep our government open, the Republican Party is focused on pushing elements of Trump's Project 2025, a blueprint for a radical and draconian

restructuring of our country that includes eliminating many of our freedoms.

They show us over and over that their party is gripped by troubling extremism. Their incessant dangerous rhetoric about immigrants is but one example of this extremism.

My Democratic colleagues and I remain focused and committed to real solutions that improve our country and our economy, which is why if we defeat the previous question, we will come together to pass meaningful, life-changing legislation, like the American Dream and Promise Act, a common-sense bill that has bipartisan support.

Despite high public support for Dreamers, who were brought to the country as children and are proud to call the United States home, Dreamers had the rug pulled out from under them in 2017 when former President Donald Trump abruptly terminated the DACA program. Since then, Dreamers and their families have been caught up in a court battle, not just for the fate of the program but for their future.

The American Dream and Promise Act could put an end to years of fear and uncertainty for Dreamers as well as TPS and DED recipients and countless mixed-status families who dread the day their loved one may no longer be here.

This bill is a vital step toward providing dignity, stability, and security for those individuals who for years have contributed to our communities, our economy, and our American story.

I urge my colleagues to use our limited time here in Washington, D.C., on real solutions. Help us defeat the previous question so we can instead do real work that makes a real impact, like the American Dream and Promise Act.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCÍA), who will also speak on the importance of defeating the previous question.

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, this week we find ourselves confronted with a series of bills brought by our Republican colleagues that are not only misguided but also villainize immigrant communities.

These proposals attempt to further criminalize those who are seeking a better life and threaten to withhold essential Federal funds from cities like Chicago that have policies designed to support the inclusion, safety, and justice of all regardless of immigration status.

Victims of domestic violence will be even more fearful of coming forward if they fear being reported to immigration authorities.

Let me be clear: Our immigration system is broken, and simply doubling down on punitive measures will not solve the problem. We need comprehensive solutions that recognize the humanity of those seeking refuge and opportunity in this great Nation.

Instead of fostering an environment of understanding and compassion, these bills promote fear and division.

That brings me to a crucial piece of legislation that deserves our immediate attention, the Dream and Promise Act. This bill is a beacon of hope for Dreamers and those with temporary protective status, providing them with a pathway to citizenship.

These young people, many of whom have known no other country but ours, are an integral part of our communities and our economy. They are students, teachers, healthcare workers, and leaders who contribute to our Nation's prosperity. It is time that we acknowledge their contributions and ensure that they can live without fear of deportation.

By prioritizing the Dream and Promise Act, we can send a clear message that we value the lives and aspirations of those who call America home.

I urge my colleagues to reject harmful immigration bills on the floor this week and instead join me in championing the Dream and Promise Act.

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

The other side of the aisle won't even deport violent criminals. That is against the very safety of American citizens. In New York City, under Bill de Blasio, they passed a series of sanctuary city policies between 2014 and 2018 that prohibit the New York Police Department and correction and probation departments from cooperating with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents except under very limited circumstances.

However, now, more than 100,000 migrants have passed through New York City since the spring of 2022, and 58,000 still remain in the city's care. Current Mayor Eric Adams and the Governor of New York, Kathy Hochul, have said: "We don't have capacity."

For years, ICE has warned that sanctuary cities create a public safety threat, and they are one of the biggest impediments to public safety efforts. However, under the Biden and Harris administration, the crisis at the southern border has only worsened the consequences of sanctuary policies and made enforcing current immigration laws even more difficult.

H.R. 5717, despite mischaracterizations from my friends on the other side of the aisle, creates an incentive for local jurisdictions to cooperate with Federal immigration officials by prohibiting Federal funds from being used to provide sanctuary for illegal aliens going to sanctuary jurisdictions. Under current law, it creates a perverse incentive for sanctuary cities to willingly flout the law.

H.R. 5717 holds sanctuary cities accountable for exacerbating the Biden-Harris border crisis and flouting Federal immigration law by prohibiting the use of taxpayer dollars to fund housing, healthcare costs, and other benefits for illegal immigrants in such municipalities.

Taxpayers who are at risk due to the border crisis should not be funding local governments not interested in upholding the rule of law. No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities corrects these perverse incentives and ensures that taxpayers are not on the hook for this lawlessness.

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

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

You have got to love when Republicans try to talk tough about immigration reform. I just want to remind my colleagues that one of the most conservative Senators in the United States Senate is from Oklahoma. He wrote a comprehensive immigration reform bill that has some very tough provisions in it. Their standard-bearer, the man who I cannot name on the floor for fear that my words will be taken down, told Republicans to not allow it to come to the floor for debate or a vote.

They would rather have a campaign issue than to solve a problem. I mean, let that sink in. Let that sink in.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from the National Institute of Justice titled: "Undocumented Immigrant Offending Rate Lower Than U.S.-born Citizen Rate."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOLINARO). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

[From the National Institute of Justice, Sept. 12, 2024]

UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANT OFFENDING RATE LOWER THAN U.S.-BORN CITIZEN RATE

Analysis of Texas arrest records indicates a consistent trend across violent, drug, property, and traffic offenses between 2012 and 2018.

An NIJ-funded study examining data from the Texas Department of Public Safety estimated the rate at which undocumented immigrants are arrested for committing crimes. The study found that undocumented immigrants are arrested at less than half the rate of native-born U.S. citizens for violent and drug crimes and a quarter the rate of native-born citizens for property crimes.

The question of how often undocumented immigrants commit crimes is not easy to answer. Most previous research on crime commission by immigrant populations has been unable to differentiate undocumented immigrants from documented immigrants. As a result, most studies treat all immigrants as a uniform group, regardless of whether they are in the country legally.

The estimates in this study come from Texas criminal records that include the immigration status of everyone arrested in the state from 2012 to 2018. These data enabled researchers to separate arrests for crimes committed by undocumented immigrants from those committed by documented immigrants and native-born U.S. citizens. (For more detail on the study's data sources and methodology, see the sidebar "What Makes the Texas Data Unique?")

The researchers tracked these three groups' arrest rates across seven years (2012–2018) and examined specific types of crime, including homicides and other violent crimes. They used these arrest rates as proxies for the rates of crime commission for the

three groups. It should be noted that arrest is a commonly used, but imperfect measure of crime that in part reflects law enforcement activity rather than actual offending rates.

During this time, undocumented immigrants had the lowest offending rates overall for both total felony crime (see exhibit 1) and violent felony crime (see exhibit 2) compared to other groups. U.S.-born citizens had the highest offending rates overall for most crime types, with documented immigrants generally falling between the other two groups.

Exhibit 1. Total felony crime offending rates in Texas for U.S.-born citizens, documented immigrants, and undocumented immigrants

Exhibit 2. Violent felony crime offending rates in Texas for U.S.-born citizens, documented immigrants, and undocumented immigrants

Researchers also looked specifically at homicide arrest trends. These rates tend to fluctuate more than the overall violent crime arrest rates because murders are relatively rare compared to other crimes. In addition, a large share of homicides go unsolved. Still, undocumented immigrants had the lowest homicide arrest rates throughout the entire study period, averaging less than half the rate at which U.S.-born citizens were arrested for homicide. (The homicide rate for documented immigrants fluctuated. Sometimes it was higher than the rate for U.S.-born citizens and sometimes it was lower.)

Every other violent and property crime type the researchers examined followed the same general pattern. The offending rates of undocumented immigrants were consistently lower than both U.S.-born citizens and documented immigrants for assault, sexual assault, robbery, burglary, theft, and arson

For drug offenses, too, undocumented immigrants were less than half as likely to be arrested as native-born U.S. citizens. Moreover, the drug crime arrest rate for the undocumented population held steady throughout the seven years of data, while the rate for native-born citizens increased almost 30% during that time. As a result, undocumented immigrants had a smaller share of arrests for drug crimes in 2018 than they had in 2012.

Finally, the researchers conducted statistical tests to determine whether the share of crimes committed by undocumented immigrants had increased for any offense types between 2012 and 2018. They concluded, "There is no evidence that the prevalence of undocumented immigrant crime has grown for any category." As with drug offenses, evidence suggests the share of property and traffic crimes committed by undocumented immigrants decreased or remained close to constant throughout the period.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, all day long, Republicans spout hateful rhetoric about undocumented immigration and crime because they want us to be scared and they want to divide us, but their claims are simply not rooted in truth. In fact, undocumented immigrants are less likely, not more, than U.S.-born citizens to commit crimes, including violent crime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article by the CATO Institute titled: "Sanctuary Jurisdictions in Florida Do Not Have Higher Crime Rates."

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

There was no objection.

[From the CATO Institute, Mar. 29, 2019]

SANCTUARY JURISDICTIONS IN FLORIDA DO NOT HAVE HIGHER CRIME RATES

(By Alex Nowrasteh and Andrew C. Forrester)

Florida state Senator Joe Gruters (R-Sarasota) introduced a bill (SB 168) earlier this year to ban so-called sanctuary jurisdictions in Florida and require local governments to cooperate fully with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). A sanctuary jurisdiction is any state or local government that has a policy to comply with fewer than 100 percent of ICE detainers, which are ICE requests for the local government to release an arrested or imprisoned person into ICE custody for deportation. Local and state governments still prosecute illegal immigrants for crimes in sanctuary jurisdictions, but they only turn some illegal immigrants over to ICE and uniformly if they are charged with or convicted of serious crimes.

The complaint over sanctuary jurisdictions is that they result in increased crime, but the limited research on the topic finds no increase in crime in sanctuary jurisdictions relative to non-sanctuary jurisdictions. Regardless, the methods employed in that paper, the potential for sample selection bias, and the poor quality of national crime data have impeded research into how sanctuary jurisdictions impact crime.

Regardless, we decided to do our best in looking at how sanctuary jurisdiction policies affect crime in Florida. According to the Center for Immigration Studies, Clay and Alachua counties in Florida will not honor ICE detainers without a judicial order or a criminal warrant and their policies were enacted in December 2014 and September 2015, respectively.

To compare whether the adoption of anti-detainer sanctuary policies had an impact on crime in Alachua and Clay Counties, we draw on crime data from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) Return A file. The Return A is the gold standard in crime data in the economics and criminal justice literature. Since these data are provided at the reporting agency level, we aggregate the crime counts up to the county-year level to reflect the extent of geographic coverage for each anti-detainer policy. As a basis for comparison, we identify counties neighboring Alachua and Clay as counterfactual counties using the county adjacency file from the National Bureau for Economic Research. We then compute county crime rates per 100,000 to compare crime rates across counties. For illustrative purposes, we compute an "adjacent counties" counterfactual crime rate as the sum of all crimes in surrounding counties normalized by their combined population.

Figure 1 shows that the crime rates in Clay and Alachua counties have fallen just like in their neighboring counties, except for Baker County, from 2010 through 2017. If sanctuary policies in Clay and Alachua counties affected crime rates, there is no obvious indication of that in Figure 1.

Figure 2 displays the crime rates in Alachua County relative to its neighboring counties before after the sanctuary policy was enacted. The crime rates were roughly parallel before the enactment of the sanctuary policy and stayed parallel afterward, meaning that the change in policy likely had no effect on crime rates. The results look nearly identical if trends in property or violent crime rates are compared separately.

Figure 3 displays the crime rates in Clay County relative to neighboring counties. The crime rates were roughly parallel before Clay County enacted its sanctuary policy and remained roughly parallel afterward. Again, it looks as if the enactment of a sanctuary policy in Clay County had no effect on

crime. More time after the enactment of the sanctuary policies and more rigorous statistical methods are required to fully analyze these effects for both Clay and Alachua Counties, but Figures 2 and 3 are convincing on their own. The results look nearly identical if trends in property or violent crime rates are compared separately.

The small numbers of non-citizens in Alachua and Clay counties could explain why there was no effect on crime. In 2017, only 5.2 percent of Alachua County's population were non-citizens and 2.5 percent of Clay County's population were non-citizens. In different jurisdictions like Miami Dade County, where 23.3 percent of the population were non-citizens in 2017, the effect of sanctuary city policies might be different although there is no evidence of that during the brief period when it had a sanctuary policy.

SB 168 was originally paired with a bill that would have mandated E-Verify on the state level. E-Verify is a government electronic eligibility for employment verification system where employers run the identity information of new hires against government databases to see if they are legally able to work. The goal of E-Verify is to exclude illegal immigrants from the workforce. E-Verify doesn't work well, but it looks to have increased crime in Arizona when that state government mandated it for all new hire. Although SB 168 will have no effect on crime in Florida, at least the legislature ditched its effort to mandate E-Verify as that may well have increased crime.

Florida currently has only two sanctuary jurisdictions according to the Center for Immigration Studies and is unlikely to have many more in coming years. Furthermore, crime rates in those counties did not rise relative to neighboring counties after they adopted their sanctuary policies. The effect of sanctuary policies on local crime rates is a subject screaming for more research, but the evidence so far shows that sanctuary policies don't affect crime in Florida.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, there is no evidence, none, either in Florida or in the rest of the country that sanctuary cities result in more crime. There is none, zero. However, that won't matter to Republicans because they are unmoved by the facts.

Mr. Speaker, earlier I listed some examples of ideas that Republicans blocked from even being considered on the floor. Here are a few more. I just want people to appreciate this.

An amendment that would protect access to IVF for Federal employees, they blocked it.

They blocked an amendment to require a study for Tribal consultations before enactment of an oil and gas bill that could affect their subsistence resources.

An amendment to make critical targeted investments in small-town police departments for the recruitment, retention, mental health support, and training they need to protect themselves and their communities, they blocked that, too.

They blocked an amendment to ensure continued access to emergency care for pregnant servicewomen at military treatment facilities.

Maybe Republicans don't believe in IVF or any of these other ideas, but they can just vote "no." Why block these ideas from even being debated unless they are afraid they would pass?

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

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire if the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is prepared to close.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I am not prepared to close yet. There may be someone else.

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

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

I want to get back to this extraordinary closed House. I just want everybody to appreciate how awful this process is.

Here are yet more examples of ideas that were too scary, too revolutionary, too controversial to even be debated on the House floor, according to this Republican majority:

An amendment to provide grants to organizations that are helping to transition servicemembers to civilian life, including job recruitment training, they blocked that. I mean, what are they thinking? Who does that?

They blocked an amendment to ensure that students with dietary restrictions like lactose intolerance can have an alternative to whole milk at lunch. Is lactose intolerance now woke? I mean, I don't get it. That was blocked.

They blocked an amendment to ensure that a bill wouldn't cause our domestic energy prices to increase.

I ask, again, what is the majority afraid of? I mean, we have our differences. We ought to have substantive debate on the floor and then have votes. I am willing to bet there are some thoughtful Republicans who would support some of these amendments that I mentioned here.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time I have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts has 5½ minutes remaining.

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

We have heard a lot about wokeness here today, but I want to focus on the woke Democratic ideas that Republicans have blocked in this record-breaking closed Congress. I mean, ideas like protecting IVF, fighting fentanyl trafficking, and making sure lactose-intolerant students have something nutritious to drink at lunch. Wow. I mean, that those ideas are woke is crazy.

There have been 106 closed rules. That is a big number, a record-breaking number, but much more important is what that number represents. These ideas and all the other blocked amendments I highlighted would have helped everyday Americans. Is that woke? Is it woke to try and keep kids from getting asthma, to provide job training to veterans? To provide cancer screenings to firefighters, is that woke?

Mr. Speaker, I don't know what my Republican colleagues are afraid of.

Maybe they are afraid to vote "no." Maybe they are afraid to vote "yes." This is Congress, Mr. Speaker. We are here to take hard votes. This record-breaking number of closed rules is a disservice to the people the Republicans represent.

Mr. Speaker, while Republicans want to talk about being woke, I wish instead that they would wake the hell up and do the people's business. For example, I don't know, maybe pass a bill to prevent a government shutdown. What we are doing today is merely a political exercise. Their obsession with trying to inject politics and culture wars into everything is getting really old, almost as old as the Presidential nominee.

Let me just say I love this place, and I love all the different things that we have been called on to do. I will just say this, Mr. Speaker: I want everybody to join with me and let's end this. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

□ 1315

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

Despite what my colleagues on the left have to say, the American people know that the Biden-Harris administration has been a relentless, woke assault on the American economy, the education system, and even Americans' retirement accounts.

The American people know the Biden-Harris administration has resulted in crippling inflation, a wide-open border, decreasing public safety, and increasing drug overdose deaths.

With the bills before us today, we continue to deliver for the American people. House Republicans are fighting at every turn to secure our borders, restore our economy, and protect free speech and free markets.

The Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act and the No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act are commonsense bills that would immediately make our communities safer, something the Biden-Harris administration has repeatedly failed to do. I would hope that our colleagues on both sides of the aisle would support these important bills.

I look forward to moving these bills out of the House this week, and I ask my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on the previous question and "yes" on the rule.

The material previously referred to by Mr. MCGOVERN is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 1455 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 8. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 16) to authorize the cancellation of removal

and adjustment of status of certain aliens, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommend.

SEC. 9. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 16.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1331

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOLINARO) at 1 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 1455;

Adoption of House Resolution 1455, if ordered; and

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

S. 1146;

H.R. 9076;

H.R. 7213; and

H.R. 1513.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute and 2-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3724, ACCREDITATION FOR COLLEGE EXCELLENCE ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4790, GUIDING UNIFORM AND RESPONSIBLE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION LIMITS ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5179, ANTI-BDS LABELING ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5339, ROLL BACK ESG TO INCREASE RETIREMENT EARNINGS ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5717, NO BAILOUT FOR SANCTUARY CITIES ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7909, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN BY ILLEGAL ALIENS ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 136, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO “MULTIPOLLUTANT EMISSIONS STANDARDS FOR MODEL YEARS 2027 AND LATER LIGHT-DUTY AND MEDIUM-DUTY VEHICLES”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 1455) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3724) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit recognized accrediting agencies and associations from requiring, encouraging, or coercing institutions of higher education to meet any political litmus test or violate any right protected by the Constitution as a condition of accreditation; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4790) to amend the Federal securities laws with respect to the materiality of disclosure requirements, to establish the Public Company Advisory Committee, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5179) to require the maintenance of the country of origin markings for imported goods produced in the West Bank or Gaza, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5339) to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to specify requirements concerning the consideration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary factors, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5717) to provide that sanctuary jurisdictions that provide benefits to aliens who are present in the United States without lawful status under the immigration laws are ineligible for Federal funds intended to benefit such aliens; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7909) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed sex offenses or domestic violence are inadmissible and deportable; and providing for consideration of the resolution (H.J. Res. 136) providing for congressional disapproval

under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027 and Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles”, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 206, nays 196, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 420]

YEAS—206

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

NAYS—196

| | | |
|--------|-------------|-----------------|
| Adams | Auchincloss | Bishop (GA) |
| Aguiar | Balint | Blumenauer |
| Alfred | Beatty | Blunt Rochester |
| Amo | Beyer | Bonamici |

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

NOT VOTING—29

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| Baird | Flood | Letlow |
| Barr | Granger | McHenry |
| Barragán | Green (TN) | Perez |
| Bera | Grijalva | Schakowsky |
| Castro (TX) | Hill | Smucker |
| Costa | Huizenga | Spanberger |
| D'Esposito | Jackson (IL) | Titus |
| Dingell | Kim (CA) | Trone |
| Dunn (FL) | LaLota | Velázquez |
| Evans | Leger Fernandez | |

□ 1356

Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mrs. BEATTY changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to cast one vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 420, Previous Question.

Mr. HUIZENG. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 420.

Stated against:

Ms. BARRAGAN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 420.

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I missed one vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 420.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 214, noes 200, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 421]

AYES—214

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

NOES—200

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

NOT VOTING—17

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Costa | Flood | Norcross |
| D'Esposito | Granger | Perez |
| Diaz-Balart | Grijalva | Phillips |
| Dingell | LaLota | Trone |
| Dunn (FL) | Leger Fernandez | Velázquez |
| Evans | Nickel | |

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ELLZEY) (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1403

So the resolution was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I was away from the floor during one vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 421.

FIND AND PROTECT FOSTER YOUTH ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1146) to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to identify obstacles to identifying and responding to reports of children missing from foster care and other vulnerable foster youth, to provide technical assistance relating to the removal of such obstacles, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 408, nays 7, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 422]

YEAS—408

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Adams | Castor (FL) | Fong |
| Aderholt | Castro (TX) | Foster |
| Aguilar | Chavez-DeRemer | Foushee |
| Alford | Cherfilus- | Foxx |
| Allen | McCormick | Frankel, Lois |
| Allred | Chu | Franklin, Scott |
| Amo | Ciscomani | Frost |
| Amodei | Clark (MA) | Fry |
| Armstrong | Clarke (NY) | Fulcher |
| Arrington | Cleaver | Gaetz |
| Auchincloss | Cline | Gallego |
| Babin | Clyburn | Garamendi |
| Bacon | Clyde | Garbarino |
| Baird | Cohen | Garcia (IL) |
| Balderson | Cole | Garcia (TX) |
| Balint | Collins | Garcia, Mike |
| Banks | Comer | Garcia, Robert |
| Barr | Connolly | Jimenez |
| Barragán | Correa | Golden (ME) |
| Bean (FL) | Costa | Goldman (NY) |
| Beatty | Craig | Gomez |
| Bentz | Crane | Gonzales, Tony |
| Bera | Crawford | Gonzalez, V. |
| Bergman | Crenshaw | Gooden (TX) |
| Beyer | Crockett | Gosar |
| Bice | Crow | Gottheimer |
| Biggs | Cuellar | Graves (LA) |
| Bilirakis | Curtis | Graves (MO) |
| Bishop (GA) | Davids (KS) | Green (TN) |
| Bishop (NC) | Davidson | Green, Al (TX) |
| Blumenauer | Davis (IL) | Greene (GA) |
| Blunt Rochester | Davis (NC) | Griffith |
| Boebert | De La Cruz | Grothman |
| Bonamici | Dean (PA) | Guest |
| Bost | DeGette | Guthrie |
| Bowman | DeLauro | Hageman |
| Boyle (PA) | DelBene | Harder (CA) |
| Brown | Deluzio | Harris |
| Brownley | DeSaulnier | Harshbarger |
| Buchanan | DesJarlais | Hayes |
| Bucshon | Doggett | Hern |
| Budzinski | Donalds | Higgins (LA) |
| Burchett | Duarte | Hill |
| Burgess | Duncan | Himes |
| Burlison | Edwards | Hinson |
| Bush | Ellzey | Horsford |
| Calvert | Emmer | Houchin |
| Cammack | Escobar | Houlahan |
| Caraveo | Eshoo | Hoyer |
| Carbajal | Españillat | Hoyle (OR) |
| Cárdenas | Estes | Hudson |
| Carey | Ezell | Huffman |
| Carl | Fallon | Huizenga |
| Carson | Feenstra | Hunt |
| Carter (GA) | Ferguson | Issa |
| Carter (LA) | Finstad | Ivey |
| Carter (TX) | Fischbach | Jackson (IL) |
| Cartwright | Fitzgerald | Jackson (NC) |
| Casas | Fitzpatrick | Jackson (TX) |
| Case | Fleischmann | Jacobs |
| Casten | Fletcher | James |

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Jayapal | Miller (OH) | Self |
| Jeffries | Miller (WV) | Sessions |
| Johnson (GA) | Miller-Meeks | Sewell |
| Johnson (SD) | Mills | Sherman |
| Jordan | Molinaro | Simpson |
| Joyce (OH) | Moolenaar | Slotkin |
| Joyce (PA) | Mooney | Smith (MO) |
| Kamlager-Dove | Moore (AL) | Smith (NE) |
| Kaptur | Moore (UT) | Smith (NJ) |
| Kean (NJ) | Moore (WI) | Smith (WA) |
| Keating | Moran | Smucker |
| Kelly (IL) | Morelle | Sorensen |
| Kelly (MS) | Moskowitz | Soto |
| Kelly (PA) | Moulton | Spanberger |
| Kennedy | Mrvan | Spartz |
| Khanna | Mullin | Stansbury |
| Kiggans (VA) | Murphy | Stanton |
| Kildee | Nadler | Stauber |
| Kiley | Napolitano | Steel |
| Kilmer | Neal | Stefanik |
| Kim (CA) | Neguse | Steil |
| Kim (NJ) | Nehls | Steube |
| Krishnamoorthi | Newhouse | Stevens |
| Kuster | Nickel | Strickland |
| Kustoff | Norcross | Strong |
| LaHood | Nunn (IA) | Suozi |
| LaMalfa | Obenrolte | Swalwell |
| Lamborn | Ogles | Sykes |
| Landsman | Omar | Takano |
| Langworthy | Owens | Tenney |
| Larsen (WA) | Pallone | Thanedar |
| Larson (CT) | Palmer | Thompson (CA) |
| Latta | Panetta | Thompson (MS) |
| LaTurner | Pappas | Thompson (PA) |
| Lawler | Pelosi | Tiffany |
| Lee (CA) | Peltola | Timmons |
| Lee (FL) | Pence | Titus |
| Lee (NV) | Perry | Tlaib |
| Lee (PA) | Peters | Tokuda |
| Leger Fernandez | Pettersen | Tonko |
| Lesko | Pfuger | Torres (CA) |
| Letlow | Phillips | Torres (NY) |
| Levin | Pingree | Trahan |
| Lieu | Pocan | Turner |
| Lofgren | Porter | Underwood |
| Lopez | Posey | Valadao |
| Loudermilk | Pressley | Van Drew |
| Lucas | Quigley | Van Duyne |
| Luetkemeyer | Ramirez | Van Orden |
| Luna | Raskin | Vargas |
| Luttrell | Reschenthaler | Vasquez |
| Lynch | Rodgers (WA) | Veasey |
| Mace | Rogers (AL) | Velázquez |
| Magaziner | Rogers (KY) | Wagner |
| Malliotakis | Rose | Walberg |
| Maloy | Ross | Waltz |
| Mann | Ruiz | Wasserman |
| Manning | Rulli | Schultz |
| Mast | Ruppersberger | Waters |
| Matsui | Rutherford | Watson Coleman |
| McBath | Ryan | Weber (TX) |
| McCaul | Salazar | Webster (FL) |
| McClain | Salinas | Wenstrup |
| McClellan | Sánchez | Westerman |
| McClintock | Sarbanes | Wexton |
| McCollum | Scalise | Wild |
| McCormick | Scanlon | Williams (GA) |
| McGarvey | Schakowsky | Williams (NY) |
| McGovern | Schiff | Williams (TX) |
| McHenry | Schneider | Wilson (FL) |
| Meeks | Scholten | Wilson (SC) |
| Menendez | Schrier | Wittman |
| Meng | Schweikert | Womack |
| Meuser | Scott (VA) | Yakym |
| Mfume | Scott, Austin | Zinke |
| Miller (IL) | Scott, David | |

NAYS—7

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----|
| Brecheen | Massie | Roy |
| Cloud | Norman | |
| Good (VA) | Rosendale | |

NOT VOTING—15

| | | |
|-------------|----------|---------------|
| Courtney | Evans | Ocasio-Cortez |
| D'Esposito | Flood | Perez |
| Diaz-Balart | Granger | Rouzer |
| Dingell | Grijalva | Sherrill |
| Dunn (FL) | LaLota | Trone |

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1406

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING AMERICA'S CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9076) to reauthorize and modernize part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to strengthen child welfare services, expand the availability of prevention services to better meet the needs of vulnerable families, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 405, nays 10, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 423]

YEAS—405

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Adams | Carter (GA) | Ellzey |
| Aderholt | Carter (LA) | Emmer |
| Aguilar | Carter (TX) | Escobar |
| Alford | Cartwright | Eshoo |
| Allen | Casar | Espallat |
| Allred | Case | Estes |
| Amo | Casten | Ezell |
| Amodei | Castor (FL) | Fallon |
| Armstrong | Castro (TX) | Feenstra |
| Arrington | Chavez-DeRemer | Ferguson |
| Auchincloss | Cherfilus-McCormick | Finstad |
| Babin | Bacon | Fischbach |
| Baird | Balderson | Fitzgerald |
| Balint | Balint | Fitzpatrick |
| Banks | Cleaver | Fleischmann |
| Barr | Cline | Fletcher |
| Barragán | Clyburn | Fong |
| Bean (FL) | Clyde | Foster |
| Beatty | Cohen | Foushee |
| Bentz | Cole | Fox |
| Bera | Collins | Frankel, Lois |
| Bergman | Comer | Franklin, Scott |
| Beyer | Cornolly | Frost |
| Bice | Correa | Fry |
| Bishop (GA) | Costa | Fulcher |
| Bishop (NC) | Courtney | Gaetz |
| Blumenauer | Craig | Galleo |
| Blunt Rochester | Crawford | Garamendi |
| Boebert | Crenshaw | Garbarino |
| Bonamici | Crockett | Garcia (IL) |
| Bost | Crow | Garcia (TX) |
| Bowman | Cuellar | Garcia, Mike |
| Boyle (PA) | Curtis | Garcia, Robert |
| Brecheen | Davids (KS) | Gimenez |
| Brown | Davidson | Golden (ME) |
| Brownley | Davis (IL) | Goldman (NY) |
| Buchanan | Davis (NC) | Gomez |
| Bucshon | De La Cruz | Gonzales, Tony |
| Budzinski | Dean (PA) | Gonzalez, V. |
| Burchett | DeGette | Gooden (TX) |
| Burgess | DeLauro | Gottheimer |
| Burlison | DelBene | Graves (MO) |
| Bush | Deluzio | Green (TN) |
| Calvert | DeSaulnier | Green, Al (TX) |
| Cammack | DesJarlais | Griffith |
| Caraveo | Diaz-Balart | Grothman |
| Carbajal | Doggett | Guest |
| Cárdenas | Donalds | Guthrie |
| Carey | Duarte | Hageman |
| Carl | Duncan | Harder (CA) |
| Carson | Edwards | Harris |
| | | Harshbarger |
| | | Hayes |

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Hern | McClain | Schiff |
| Higgins (LA) | McClellan | Schneider |
| Hill | McClintock | Scholten |
| Himes | McCollum | Schrier |
| Hinson | McCormick | Schweikert |
| Horsford | McGarvey | Scott (VA) |
| Houchin | McGovern | Scott, Austin |
| Houlahan | McHenry | Scott, David |
| Hoyer | Meeks | Self |
| Hoyle (OR) | Menendez | Sessions |
| Hudson | Meng | Sewell |
| Huffman | Meuser | Sherman |
| Huizenga | Mfume | Simpson |
| Hunt | Miller (IL) | Slotkin |
| Issa | Miller (OH) | Smith (MO) |
| Ivey | Miller (WV) | Smith (NJ) |
| Jackson (IL) | Miller-Meeks | Smith (WA) |
| Jackson (NC) | Mills | Smucker |
| Jackson (TX) | Molinaro | Sorensen |
| Jacobs | Moolenaar | Soto |
| James | Mooney | Spanberger |
| Jayapal | Moore (AL) | Spartz |
| Jeffries | Moore (UT) | Stansbury |
| Johnson (GA) | Moore (WI) | Stanton |
| Johnson (SD) | Moran | Stauber |
| Jordan | Morelle | Steel |
| Joyce (OH) | Moskowitz | Stefanik |
| Joyce (PA) | Moulton | Steil |
| Kamlager-Dove | Mrvan | Steube |
| Kaptur | Mullin | Stevens |
| Kean (NJ) | Murphy | Strickland |
| Keating | Nadler | Strong |
| Kelly (IL) | Napolitano | Suozi |
| Kelly (MS) | Neal | Swalwell |
| Kelly (PA) | Neguse | Sykes |
| Kennedy | Nehls | Takano |
| Khanna | Newhouse | Tenney |
| Kiggans (VA) | Nickel | Thanedar |
| Kildee | Norcross | Thompson (CA) |
| Kiley | Nunn (IA) | Thompson (MS) |
| Kilmer | Obenrolte | Thompson (PA) |
| Kim (CA) | Ogles | Tiffany |
| Kim (NJ) | Omar | Timmons |
| Krishnamoorthi | Owens | Titus |
| Kuster | Pallone | Tlaib |
| Kustoff | Palmer | Tokuda |
| LaHood | Panetta | Tonko |
| LaMalfa | Pappas | Torres (CA) |
| Lamborn | Pelosi | Torres (NY) |
| Landsman | Peltola | Trahan |
| Langworthy | Pence | Turner |
| Larsen (WA) | Perry | Underwood |
| Larson (CT) | Peters | Valadao |
| Latta | Pettersen | Van Drew |
| LaTurner | Pfuger | Van Duyne |
| Lawler | Phillips | Van Orden |
| Lee (CA) | Pingree | Vargas |
| Lee (FL) | Pocan | Vasquez |
| Lee (NV) | Porter | Veasey |
| Lee (PA) | Posey | Velázquez |
| Leger Fernandez | Pressley | Wagner |
| Lesko | Quigley | Walberg |
| Letlow | Ramirez | Waltz |
| Levin | Raskin | Wasserman |
| Lieu | Reschenthaler | Schultz |
| Lofgren | Rodgers (WA) | Waters |
| Lopez | Rogers (AL) | Watson Coleman |
| Loudermilk | Rogers (KY) | Weber (TX) |
| Lucas | Rose | Webster (FL) |
| Luetkemeyer | Ross | Wenstrup |
| Luna | Rouzer | Westerman |
| Luttrell | Ruiz | Wexton |
| Lynch | Rulli | Wild |
| Mace | Ruppersberger | Williams (GA) |
| Magaziner | Rutherford | Williams (NY) |
| Malliotakis | Ryan | Williams (TX) |
| Maloy | Salazar | Wilson (FL) |
| Mann | Salinas | Wilson (SC) |
| Manning | Sánchez | Wittman |
| Mast | Sarbanes | Womack |
| Matsui | Scalise | Yakym |
| McBath | Scanlon | Zinke |
| McCaul | Schakowsky | |

NAYS—10

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Biggs | Gosar | Rosendale |
| Cloud | Greene (GA) | Roy |
| Crane | Massie | |
| Good (VA) | Norman | |

NOT VOTING—15

| | | |
|------------|-------------|---------------|
| Bilirakis | Flood | Ocasio-Cortez |
| D'Esposito | Granger | Perez |
| Dingell | Graves (LA) | Sherrill |
| Dunn (FL) | Grijalva | Smith (NE) |
| Evans | LaLota | Trone |

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1410

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: “A bill to reauthorize child welfare programs under part B of title IV of the Social Security Act and strengthen the State and tribal child support enforcement program under part D of such title, and for other purposes.”.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTISM COLLABORATION, ACCOUNTABILITY, RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND SUPPORT ACT OF 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7213) to amend the Public Health Service Act to [enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism / reauthorize certain programs with respect to autism spectrum disorder?], and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This vote will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 402, nays 13, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 424]

YEAS—402

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Adams | Bonamici | Cherfilus- |
| Aderholt | Bost | McCormick |
| Aguilar | Bowman | Chu |
| Alford | Boyle (PA) | Ciscomani |
| Allen | Brown | Clark (MA) |
| Allred | Brownley | Clarke (NY) |
| Amodei | Buchanan | Cleaver |
| Armstrong | Bucshon | Cline |
| Arrington | Budzinski | Clyburn |
| Auchincloss | Burchett | Clyde |
| Babin | Burgess | Cohen |
| Bacon | Burlison | Cole |
| Baird | Bush | Collins |
| Balderson | Calvert | Comer |
| Balint | Cammack | Connolly |
| Banks | Caraveo | Correa |
| Barr | Carbajal | Costa |
| Barragán | Cárdenas | Courtney |
| Bean (FL) | Carey | Craig |
| Beatty | Carl | Crawford |
| Bentz | Carson | Crenshaw |
| Bera | Carter (GA) | Crockett |
| Bergman | Carter (LA) | Crow |
| Beyer | Carter (TX) | Cuellar |
| Bice | Cartwright | Curtis |
| Billirakis | Casar | Davids (KS) |
| Bishop (GA) | Case | Davidson |
| Bishop (NC) | Casten | Davis (IL) |
| Blumenauer | Castor (FL) | Davis (NC) |
| Blunt Rochester | Castro (TX) | De La Cruz |
| Boebert | Chavez-DeRemer | Dean (PA) |
| | | DeGette |

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| DeLauro | Kelly (PA) |
| DeBene | Kennedy |
| Deluzio | Khanna |
| DeSaulnier | Kiggans (VA) |
| Diaz-Balart | Kildee |
| Doggett | Kiley |
| Donalds | Kilmer |
| Duarte | Kim (CA) |
| Duncan | Kim (NJ) |
| Edwards | Krishnamoorthi |
| Ellzey | Kuster |
| Emmer | Kustoff |
| Escobar | LaHood |
| Eshoo | LaMalfa |
| Españolat | Lamborn |
| Estes | Landsman |
| Ezell | Langworthy |
| Fallon | Larsen (WA) |
| Feenstra | Larson (CT) |
| Ferguson | Latta |
| Finstad | LaTurner |
| Fischbach | Lawler |
| Fitzgerald | Lee (CA) |
| Fitzpatrick | Lee (FL) |
| Fleischmann | Lee (NV) |
| Fletcher | Lee (PA) |
| Fong | Leger Fernandez |
| Foster | Lesko |
| Foushee | Letlow |
| Fox | Levin |
| Frankel, Lois | Lieu |
| Franklin, Scott | Lofgren |
| Frost | Lopez |
| Fry | Loudermilk |
| Fulcher | Lucas |
| Gaetz | Luetkemeyer |
| Galleo | Luna |
| Garamendi | Luttrell |
| Garbarino | Lynch |
| Garcia (IL) | Mace |
| Garcia (TX) | Magaziner |
| Garcia, Mike | Malliotakis |
| Garcia, Robert | Mann |
| Jimenez | Manning |
| Golden (ME) | Mast |
| Goldman (NY) | Matsui |
| Gomez | McBath |
| Gonzales, Tony | McCaul |
| Gonzalez, V. | McClain |
| Gooden (TX) | McClellan |
| Gottheimer | McClintock |
| Graves (LA) | McCollum |
| Graves (MO) | McCormick |
| Green (TN) | McGarvey |
| Green, Al (TX) | McGovern |
| Greene (GA) | McHenry |
| Griffith | Meeks |
| Grothman | Menendez |
| Guest | Meng |
| Guthrie | Meuser |
| Hageman | Mfume |
| Harder (CA) | Miller (IL) |
| Harris | Miller (OH) |
| Harshbarger | Miller (WV) |
| Hayes | Miller-Meeks |
| Hern | Mills |
| Higgins (LA) | Molinaro |
| Hill | Moolenaar |
| Himes | Mooney |
| Hinson | Moore (UT) |
| Horsford | Moore (WI) |
| Houchin | Moran |
| Houlahan | Morelle |
| Hoyer | Moskowitz |
| Hoyle (OR) | Moulton |
| Hudson | Mrvan |
| Huffman | Mullin |
| Huizenga | Murphy |
| Hunt | Nadler |
| Issa | Napolitano |
| Ivey | Neal |
| Jackson (IL) | Neguse |
| Jackson (NC) | Nehls |
| Jackson (TX) | Newhouse |
| Jacobs | Nickel |
| James | Norcross |
| Jayapal | Nunn (IA) |
| Jeffries | Obermole |
| Johnson (GA) | Ogles |
| Johnson (SD) | Omar |
| Jordan | Owens |
| Joyce (OH) | Pallone |
| Joyce (PA) | Palmer |
| Kamlager-Dove | Pappas |
| Kaptur | Pelosi |
| Kean (NJ) | Peltola |
| Keating | Pence |
| Kelly (IL) | Perry |
| Kelly (MS) | |

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Peters | Westerman |
| Pettersen | Wexton |
| Pfluger | Wild |
| Phillips | Williams (GA) |
| Pingree | |
| Pocan | |
| Porter | |
| Posey | |
| Pressley | |
| Quigley | |
| Ramirez | |
| Raskin | |
| Reschenthaler | |
| Rodgers (WA) | |
| Rogers (AL) | |
| Rogers (KY) | |
| Rose | |
| Ross | |
| Ruiz | |
| Rulli | |
| Ruppersberger | |
| Rutherford | |
| Ryan | |
| Salazar | |
| Salinas | |
| Sánchez | |
| Sarbanes | |
| Scalise | |
| Scanlon | |
| Schakowsky | |
| Schiff | |
| Schneider | |
| Scholten | |
| Schrier | |
| Schweikert | |
| Scott (VA) | |
| Scott, Austin | |
| Scott, David | |
| Sessions | |
| Sewell | |
| Sherman | |
| Simpson | |
| Slotkin | |
| Smith (MO) | |
| Smith (NE) | |
| Smith (NJ) | |
| Smith (WA) | |
| Smucker | |
| Sorensen | |
| Soto | |
| Spanberger | |
| Spartz | |
| Stansbury | |
| Stanton | |
| Staubert | |
| Steel | |
| Stefanik | |
| Stell | |
| Stevens | |
| Strickland | |
| Strong | |
| Suozzi | |
| Swalwell | |
| Sykes | |
| Takano | |
| Tenney | |
| Thandekar | |
| Thompson (CA) | |
| Thompson (MS) | |
| Thompson (PA) | |
| Tiffany | |
| Timmons | |
| Titus | |
| Tlaib | |
| Tokuda | |
| Tonko | |
| Torres (CA) | |
| Torres (NY) | |
| Trahan | |
| Turner | |
| Underwood | |
| Valadao | |
| Van Drew | |
| Van Dwyne | |
| Van Orden | |
| Vargas | |
| Vasquez | |
| Veasey | |
| Velazquez | |
| Wagner | |
| Walberg | |
| Waltz | |
| Wasserman | |
| Schultz | |
| Waters | |
| Watson Coleman | |
| Weber (TX) | |
| Webster (FL) | |
| Wenstrup | |

Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)

Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—13

Biggs
Brecheen
Cloud
Crane
Good (VA)

Gosar
Massie
Moore (AL)
Norman
Rosendale

Roy
Self
Steube

NOT VOTING—15

D'Esposito
DesJarlais
Dingell
Dunn (FL)
Evans

Flood
Granger
Grijalva
LaLota
Maloy

Ocasio-Cortez
Perez
Rouzer
Sherrill
Trone

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1413

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: “A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and reauthorize activities and programs relating to autism spectrum disorder, and for other purposes.”.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and therefore missed two votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 424 and YEA on Roll Call No. 422.

FUTURE USES OF TECHNOLOGY UPHOLDING RELIABLE AND ENHANCED NETWORKS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1513) to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a task force to be known as the “6G Task Force”, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 393, nays 22, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 425]

YEAS—393

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Adams | Balderson | Bishop (NC) |
| Aderholt | Balint | Blumenauer |
| Aguilar | Banks | Blunt Rochester |
| Alford | Barr | Bonamici |
| Allen | Barragán | Bost |
| Allred | Bean (FL) | Bowman |
| Amodei | Beatty | Boyle (PA) |
| Armstrong | Bentz | Brown |
| Arrington | Bera | Brownley |
| Auchincloss | Bergman | Buchanan |
| Babin | Beyer | Bucshon |
| Bacon | Bice | Budzinski |
| Baird | Bilirakis | Burgess |
| | Bishop (GA) | Bush |

Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Carterwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Cline
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Collins
Comer
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fong
Foster
Foushee
Foxy
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez, V.

Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larsen (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lopez
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McCollum

McCormick
McGarvey
McGovern
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morable
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ogles
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Pannetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Rulli
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton

Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Suozzi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus

NAYS—22

Biggs
Boebert
Brecheen
Burchett
Burlison
Cloud
Crane
Gaetz

NOT VOTING—15

D'Esposito
Dingell
Dunn (FL)
Evans
Flood

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1418

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, I regret to have missed the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 420, YEA on Roll Call No. 421, YEA on Roll Call No. 422, YEA on Roll Call No. 423, YEA on Roll Call No. 424, and YEA on Roll Call No. 425.

ROLL BACK ESG TO INCREASE RETIREMENT EARNINGS ACT

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1455, I call up the bill (H.R. 5339) to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to specify requirements concerning the consideration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary factors, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska). Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce, printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-50 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

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

H.R. 5339

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the “Protecting Americans’ Investments from Woke Policies Act”.

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

DIVISION A—ROLL BACK ESG TO INCREASE RETIREMENT EARNINGS

Sec. 1001. Short title.

Sec. 1002. Limitation on consideration of non-pecuniary factors by fiduciaries.

DIVISION B—NO DISCRIMINATION IN MY BENEFITS

Sec. 2001. Short title.

Sec. 2002. Service provider selection.

DIVISION C—RETIREMENT PROXY PROTECTION

Sec. 3001. Short title.

Sec. 3002. Exercise of shareholder rights.

DIVISION D—PROVIDING COMPLETE INFORMATION TO RETIREMENT INVESTORS

Sec. 4001. Short title.

Sec. 4002. Brokerage window disclosures.

DIVISION A—ROLL BACK ESG TO INCREASE RETIREMENT EARNINGS

SEC. 1001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “Roll back ESG To Increase Retirement Earnings Act” or the “RETIRE Act”.

SEC. 1002. LIMITATION ON CONSIDERATION OF NON-PECUNIARY FACTORS BY FIDUCIARIES.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 404(a) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1104(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) *INTEREST BASED ON PECUNIARY FACTORS.*—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—For purposes of paragraph (1), a fiduciary shall be considered to act solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of the plan with respect to an investment or investment course of action only if the fiduciary’s action with respect to such investment or investment course of action is based only on pecuniary factors (except as provided in subparagraph (B)). The fiduciary may not subordinate the interests of the participants and beneficiaries in their retirement income or financial benefits under the plan to other objectives and may not sacrifice investment return or take on additional investment risk to promote non-pecuniary benefits or goals. The weight given to any pecuniary factor by a fiduciary shall reflect a prudent assessment of the impact of such factor on risk and return.

“(B) *USE OF NON-PECUNIARY FACTORS FOR INVESTMENT ALTERNATIVES.*—Notwithstanding paragraph (A), if a fiduciary is unable to distinguish between or among investment alternatives or investment courses of action on the basis of pecuniary factors alone, the fiduciary may use non-pecuniary factors as the deciding factor if the fiduciary documents—

“(i) why pecuniary factors were not sufficient to select a plan investment or investment course of action;

“(ii) how the selected investment compares to the alternative investments with regard to the composition of the portfolio with regard to diversification, the liquidity and current return of the portfolio relative to the anticipated cash flow requirements of the plan, and the projected return of the portfolio relative to the funding objectives of the plan; and

“(iii) how the selected non-pecuniary factor or factors are consistent with the interests of the participants and beneficiaries in their retirement income or financial benefits under the plan.

“(C) *INVESTMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR PARTICIPANT-DIRECTED INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNT PLANS.*—In selecting or retaining investment options for a

pension plan described in subsection (c)(1)(A), a fiduciary is not prohibited from considering, selecting, or retaining an investment option on the basis that such investment option promotes, seeks, or supports one or more non-pecuniary benefits or goals, if—

“(i) the fiduciary satisfies the requirements of paragraph (1) and subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph in selecting or retaining any such investment option; and

“(ii) such investment option is not added or retained as, or included as a component of, a default investment under subsection (c)(5) (or any other default investment alternative) if its investment objectives or goals or its principal investment strategies include, consider, or indicate the use of one or more non-pecuniary factors.

“(D) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this paragraph:

“(i) The term ‘pecuniary factor’ means a factor that a fiduciary prudently determines is expected to have a material effect on the risk or return of an investment based on appropriate investment horizons consistent with the plan’s investment objectives and the funding policy established pursuant to section 402(b)(1).

“(ii) The term ‘investment course of action’ means any series or program of investments or actions related to a fiduciary’s performance of the fiduciary’s investment duties, and includes the selection of an investment fund as a plan investment, or in the case of an individual account plan, a designated investment alternative under the plan.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to actions taken by a fiduciary on or after the date that is 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

DIVISION B—NO DISCRIMINATION IN MY BENEFITS

SEC. 2001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “No Discrimination in My Benefits Act”.

SEC. 2002. SERVICE PROVIDER SELECTION.

Section 404(a)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1104(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and”;

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) by selecting, monitoring, and retaining any fiduciary, counsel, employee, or service provider of the plan—

“(i) in accordance with subparagraphs (A) and (B); and

“(ii) without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.”.

DIVISION C—RETIREMENT PROXY PROTECTION

SEC. 3001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “Retirement Proxy Protection Act”.

SEC. 3002. EXERCISE OF SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 404 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1104) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) EXERCISE OF SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS.—

“(1) AUTHORITY TO EXERCISE SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The fiduciary duty to manage plan assets that are shares of stock includes the management of shareholder rights appurtenant to those shares, including the right to vote proxies. When deciding whether to exercise a shareholder right and in exercising such right, including the voting of proxies, a fiduciary must act prudently and solely in the interests of participants and beneficiaries and for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to participants and beneficiaries and defraying the reasonable expenses of administering the plan. The fiduciary duty to manage shareholder rights appurtenant to shares of stock does not

require the voting of every proxy or the exercise of every shareholder right.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—This subsection shall not apply to voting, tender, and similar rights with respect to securities that are passed through pursuant to the terms of an individual account plan to participants and beneficiaries with accounts holding such securities.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR EXERCISE OF SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS.—A fiduciary, when deciding whether to exercise a shareholder right and when exercising a shareholder right—

“(A) shall—

“(i) act solely in accordance with the economic interest of the plan and its participants and beneficiaries;

“(ii) consider any costs involved;

“(iii) evaluate material facts that form the basis for any particular proxy vote or exercise of shareholder rights; and

“(iv) maintain a record of any proxy vote, proxy voting activity, or other exercise of a shareholder right, including any attempt to influence management; and

“(B) shall not subordinate the interests of participants and beneficiaries in their retirement income or financial benefits under the plan to any non-pecuniary objective, or promote non-pecuniary benefits or goals unrelated to those financial interests of the plan’s participants and beneficiaries.

“(3) MONITORING.—A fiduciary shall exercise prudence and diligence in the selection and monitoring of a person, if any, selected to advise or otherwise assist with the exercise of shareholder rights, including by providing research and analysis, recommendations on exercise of proxy voting or other shareholder rights, administrative services with respect to voting proxies, and recordkeeping and reporting services.

“(4) INVESTMENT MANAGERS AND PROXY ADVISORY FIRMS.—Where the authority to vote proxies or exercise other shareholder rights has been delegated to an investment manager pursuant to section 403(a), or a proxy voting advisory firm or other person who performs advisory services as to the voting of proxies or the exercise of other shareholder rights, a responsible plan fiduciary shall prudently monitor the proxy voting activities of such investment manager or advisory firm and determine whether such activities are in compliance with paragraphs (1) and (2).

“(5) VOTING POLICIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In deciding whether to vote a proxy pursuant to this subsection, the plan fiduciary may adopt a proxy voting policy, including a safe harbor proxy voting policy described in subparagraph (B), providing that the authority to vote a proxy shall be exercised pursuant to specific parameters designed to serve the economic interest of the plan.

“(B) SAFE HARBOR VOTING POLICY.—With respect to a decision not to vote a proxy, a fiduciary shall satisfy the fiduciary responsibilities under this subsection if such fiduciary adopts and is following a safe harbor proxy voting policy that—

“(i) limits voting resources to particular types of proposals that the fiduciary has prudently determined are substantially related to the business activities of the issuer or are expected to have a material effect on the value of the plan investment; or

“(ii) establishes that the fiduciary will refrain from voting on proposals or particular types of proposals when the assets of a plan invested in the issuer relative to the total assets of such plan are below 5 percent (or, in the event such assets are under management, when the assets under management invested in the issuer are below 5 percent of the total assets under management).

“(C) EXCEPTION.—No proxy voting policy adopted pursuant to this paragraph shall preclude a fiduciary from submitting a proxy vote when the fiduciary determines that the matter being voted on is expected to have a material economic effect on the investment performance

of a plan’s portfolio (or the investment performance of assets under management in the case of an investment manager); provided, however, that in all cases compliance with a safe harbor voting policy shall be presumed to satisfy fiduciary responsibilities with respect to decisions not to vote.

“(6) REVIEW.—A fiduciary shall periodically review any policy adopted under this subsection.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to an exercise of shareholder rights occurring on or after January 1, 2024.

DIVISION D—PROVIDING COMPLETE INFORMATION TO RETIREMENT INVESTORS

SEC. 4001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “Providing Complete Information to Retirement Investors Act”.

SEC. 4002. BROKERAGE WINDOW DISCLOSURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 404(c) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1104(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(7) NOTICE REQUIREMENTS FOR BROKERAGE WINDOWS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a pension plan which provides for individual accounts and which provides a participant or beneficiary the opportunity to choose from designated investment alternatives, a participant or beneficiary shall not be treated as exercising control over assets in the account of the participant or beneficiary unless, with respect to any investment arrangement that is not a designated investment alternative, each time before such a participant or beneficiary directs an investment into, out of, or within such investment arrangement, such participant is notified of, and acknowledges, each element of the notice described under paragraph (B).

“(B) NOTICE.—The notice described under this paragraph is a four part information that is substantially similar to the following information:

“1. Your retirement plan offers designated investment alternatives prudently selected and monitored by fiduciaries for the purpose of enabling you to construct an appropriate retirement savings portfolio. In selecting and monitoring designated investment alternatives, your plan’s fiduciary considers the risk of loss and the opportunity for gain (or other return) compared with reasonably available investment alternatives.

2. The investments available through this investment arrangement are not designated investment alternatives, and have not been prudently selected and are not monitored by a plan fiduciary.

3. Depending on the investments you select through this investment arrangement, you may experience diminished returns, higher fees, and higher risk than if you select from the plan’s designated investment alternatives.

4. The following is a hypothetical illustration of the impact of return at 4 percent, 6 percent, and 8 percent on your account balance projected to age 67.

“(C) ILLUSTRATION.—The notice described under paragraph (B) shall also include a graph displaying the projected retirement balances of such participant or beneficiary at age 67 if the account of such individual were to achieve an annual return equal to each of the following:

“(i) 4 percent.

“(ii) 6 percent.

“(iii) 8 percent.”.

(b) DESIGNATED INVESTMENT ALTERNATIVE DEFINED.—Section 3 of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1002) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(46) DESIGNATED INVESTMENT ALTERNATIVE.—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The term ‘designated investment alternative’ means any investment alternative designated by a responsible fiduciary of an individual account plan described in subsection 404(c) into which participants and beneficiaries may direct the investment of assets held in, or contributed to, their individual accounts.

“(B) *EXCEPTION.*—The term ‘designated investment alternative’ does not include brokerage windows, self-directed brokerage accounts, or similar plan arrangements that enable participants and beneficiaries to select investments beyond those designated by a responsible plan fiduciary.”.

(c) *EFFECTIVE DATE.*—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

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

The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material under H.R. 5339.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in full support of the Republican fight against the woke, progressive agenda.

The Committee on Education and the Workforce is proud to lead debate on the Protecting Americans' Investments from Woke Policies Act, or H.R. 5339, a bill that would confront and dispatch one of the most nefarious and hidden forms of wokeness.

Wokeness comes in all shapes and sizes. It is a problem when it is pushed at your local public school. It is an existential threat to the country when it is pushed by the institutions that police how we think, what we say, and where our money goes.

Wokeness destroys everything it touches, including the value-neutral institutions that America used to take for granted.

First, wokeness conquered academia. Then, it conquered the media. The final frontier of the woke mind virus is the banks and capitalism itself.

You may say, what? Banks are woke? They are driven by things like profit motive and the markets. Well, we need to think again.

Under the guise of a practice known as environmental, social, and governance investing, or ESG for short, banks are responsible for woke social engineering on a scale that history's authoritarians could only dream of.

In essence, a big bank or asset manager will take your hard-earned pension or 401(k) and invest it in radical, progressive causes. These ESG funds exclude businesses deemed insufficiently woke.

What may disqualify a company from receiving woke capital is including, but not limited to, too many White, straight men on the board, too much profit in the oil and gas industry, or too many politically incorrect takes by your CEO on X, formerly known as Twitter.

That the S&P 500's ESG index delisted a green company like Tesla only proves the point that ESG is nothing but a woke power grab.

Concerns about the environment are secondary to enforcing bland, progressive conformity. What is more, ESG factors guide about one-fourth of all assets under management, or \$30 trillion.

□ 1430

Yet, these funds underperformed when compared to their conventional peers. Take this from the Financial Times: “Over the past 12 months, global sustainable equity funds made an 11 percent return, compared with 21 percent for conventional stock funds, according to a May report from JPMorgan.”

Sacrificing pensions and retirement income for woke impact should be illegal. This legislation makes it clear that other people's retirement income may not be sacrificed for woke impact. Pensioners forged the infrastructure that powers modern American cities. Pensioners built the industries that make America great.

Pensioners put their life and work into this country, and they don't want their hard-earned nest egg deflating because its principal is serving political causes.

I especially thank Representative ALLEN from Georgia, Representative HOUCHIN from Indiana, Representative GOOD from Virginia, and Representative BANKS from Indiana for leading this charge on behalf of pensioners and retirees.

The Protecting Americans' Investments from Woke Policies Act is a product of their hard work, and it is the necessary first step toward making ESG investing illegal under certain retirement plans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on H.R. 5339 and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5339, the so-called Protecting Americans' Investments from Woke Policies Act.

This bill packages four separate bills that the Committee on Education and the Workforce reported on party line votes.

H.R. 5339 relates to what is known as environmental, social, and governance

or ESG investing. Many of us believe that workers should be able to invest in a way that reflects their values, whether combating climate change or promoting health and labor standards, without sacrificing investment returns.

To be clear, this kind of investing is not at odds with making a profit. In fact, it makes good financial sense to carefully consider investments that account for a company's exposure to such liabilities as high liability risks, fossil-fuel-dependent business practices, or vulnerability to sea level rise, like whether or not an asset is going to be underwater in 15 years. It would be nice to know that, but you shouldn't be prohibited from even considering it. These are among the factors that could cause a stock to suffer over the long-term horizon. Considering that workers often contribute to their retirement accounts for decades before drawing down their savings, it makes perfectly good sense for those managing the workers' accounts to consider long-term impacts when making investment decisions.

ESG investment is a sound, profit-centered, risk mitigation strategy, and the financial services industry recognizes it.

For example, State Street Global Advisors, one of the largest asset managers, noted that, as a fiduciary, they have “a duty to act prudently and in the best interest of our clients, which increasingly includes consideration of environmental, social, and governance factors relevant to the performance of the companies in which our clients invest.”

The Trump administration issued a rule that imposed needless barriers and onerous requirements related to ESG investing. Fortunately, the Biden-Harris administration reversed course and finalized a sensible rule clarifying that a plan's fiduciaries may consider ESG factors when they make decisions for retirement plan participants. Let's be clear, the rule is not a mandate.

H.R. 5339 codifies the Trump-era ESG rule. It also codifies the Trump-era rule that would disenfranchise plan fiduciaries from exercising their shareholder rights on behalf of workers.

The bill also undermines efforts to increase diversity among asset managers. This is a worthwhile endeavor, as the GAO noted a few years ago that only 1 percent of the \$7 trillion in global assets under management are managed by firms owned by women or people of color.

There is also research to suggest that nondiverse firms do not outperform diverse firms across all asset classes.

In sum, H.R. 5339 takes us backwards and undercuts retirement professionals who are legally bound to make prudent decisions for workers and retirees.

Mr. Speaker, I urge opposition to the bill and reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for yielding the time.

I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 5339, the Protecting Americans' Investments from Woke Policies Act. The Committee on Education and the Workforce worked diligently this Congress to hold the Biden administration accountable for their destructive policies that only serve to harm American families, workers, and retirees.

That is why I proudly partnered with many of my committee colleagues to put together this package of bills before us today that stops this administration's assault on the retirement security of millions of Americans.

Saving for retirement has become increasingly difficult as prices continue to skyrocket. Over the last 3½ years, we have witnessed a sharp rise in the cost of basic necessities, putting a significant strain on household budgets.

The average household in Georgia is paying over \$1,000 per month to purchase the same goods and services as in January of 2021. Cumulatively, the average Georgia household has spent over \$27,000 more due to inflation in that same timeframe.

As a result of the Biden-Harris administration's out-of-control spending policies, inflation is soaring. Many seniors are living paycheck to paycheck, retirement savings are in jeopardy, and hardworking Americans are struggling to secure their financial future.

One example of how the Biden administration is jeopardizing retirement savings is through a Department of Labor rule that allows financial advisors to ignore their responsibility to prioritize financial returns in favor of investing America's retirement savings into risky, climate-related environmental, social, and governance, or ESG, funds. Now, let's be clear. This mandate came from the Department of Labor. It did not come from the financial investment community.

ESG funds are proven to carry higher risk and charge steeper fees, and financial institutions have become more brazen in professing partisan and ideological preferences while investing Americans' hard-earned retirement savings.

As families continue to struggle to afford basic necessities like gas and groceries due to record inflation, the last thing hardworking taxpayers need is for their retirement savings to be depleted due to politically motivated mismanagement.

That is why I was proud to introduce the Roll back ESG To Increase Retirement Earnings, the RETIRE Act. This bill rolls back this overreaching rule and ensures ERISA retirement plan sponsors prioritize financial returns over ESG factors when making investment decisions on behalf of their clients, as mandated by the Department of Labor.

My RETIRE Act makes clear what ERISA intended. Retirement plan sponsors should invest their clients'

hard-earned money in a manner that maximizes financial returns and minimizes risk, period.

We must get back to a point where financial institutions make investment decisions based on standards of return, credit, collateral, raw data, and balance sheet numbers. We can do so by passing today's legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge a "yes" vote on H.R. 5339.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. MAGAZINER), my good friend.

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for yielding.

I rise in opposition to H.R. 5339, a misguided bill that will hurt the retirement savings of millions of hardworking Americans.

The evidence is clear. Companies that adopt thoughtful policies to manage their environmental risks, their social risks, and have sound corporate governance policies outperform those that don't.

As a former State treasurer and an investor in the private sector, I can tell you that companies that take steps to mitigate their environmental footprint to do right by their customers, to do right by their employees, and to promote corporate diversity tend to outperform their peers. Any investor who knows what they are doing would be foolish to ignore those factors.

Even if you disagree with me, even if you don't think that those factors matter in company performance, you ought to believe that in a free market, investors should have the right to consider whatever factors they believe are relevant to performance without Congress getting in the way.

Why is the Republican majority, which claims to be the party of small government, so obsessed with walking away from free markets and taking away Americans' freedoms?

This is yet another example of this trend.

House Republicans want to tell you what books you can and can't get from the library, who you are and aren't allowed to marry, what reproductive healthcare decisions women have the right to make, and now they want to try to make it illegal for investors to even think about a company's environmental or social performance when doing their jobs.

The people who are going to get hurt are the American workers whose retirement savings will take a hit if this bill takes effect.

By the way, no one is asking for this bill. There are no constituents back home who are saying, you know, the biggest problem in our country today is ESG investing.

How about my Republican colleagues do their job, focus on keeping the government funded and open, and not take away the freedom of investors to do their jobs the way they see fit?

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

colleagues on the other side of the aisle have made many claims about the supposed advantages of ESG, just now saying that ESG funds tend to do better.

Well, let me set the record straight. ESG funds have underperformed for years. According to a Bloomberg report, the 10 largest ESG funds posted double-digit losses in 2022, and 8 of the 10 performed worse than the S&P 500.

It is no surprise that in 2023, according to The New York Times, investors pulled \$13 billion out of ESG funds.

Another study from Boston University found there is little reason to infer that ESG criteria is reliable for predicting stock returns. I think it is really important to set the record straight.

To make matters worse, ESG products charge higher fees to participants than traditional investment funds, which can significantly reduce participants' retirement savings over time.

Finally, according to researchers at George Mason University, ESG funds expose workers and retirees to additional investment risk.

Increased costs, increased risk, and lackluster returns make for a bad cocktail. Weakening the investment portfolios is not what we should be doing here.

I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD).

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, as the chair said, if ESG funds performed better, investors would choose those based on their performance, not because they are ESG compliant.

Mr. Speaker, I support passage of 5339. This legislation will protect Americans' retirement savings from the left's woke agenda.

On day one, the Biden administration pursued a radical agenda focused on so-called diversity and equity instead of truly helping everyday Americans.

This agenda infiltrates every sector of our society under the Biden administration, including the way people invest their hard-earned money.

For decades, Federal law has required fiduciaries, or those we trust to invest on our behalf, to adhere to principles of prudence and loyalty to the investors' best interests.

The prudence and loyalty of the fiduciary to the investor protects the American public. Now the Biden administration has decided these principles are no longer the primary concern.

No, under Biden-Harris, your best interest is not the main priority. Investments must now meet certain radical and environmental standards and support the left's equity agenda.

This could mean investing in a solar energy company and overlooking an oil or a gas stock that might be a better financial investment.

It might mean that the company overseeing your portfolio needs to adhere to DEI practices and hire people because they look a certain way, not because they are the most qualified. This is called ESG investing, and, of course, this is wrong.

The bill today includes one of my bills, No Discrimination in my Benefits Act, which amends the law to say that any fiduciary must be selected without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Adding this language will preserve the merit-based standard that Americans expect employers to use when hiring.

Instead of addressing the state of the economy, which would be a much better way to ensure that individual retirement plans are doing well, Democrats double down on DEI and believe, or at least claim to believe, that a lack of diversity is why your pension or your 401K isn't getting the rate of return you expected. They, of course, don't want to blame the Biden-Harris economy.

□ 1445

For example, Senate Democrats actually sent a letter to 25 companies requesting information about the gender and race, the DEI makeup, of the asset managers of their pension plans. The letter voiced concern over the problem of White men dominating the industry and demanded answers from the companies on their plans to diversify their employees based on sex and race rather than their skills and expertise.

The American people don't care about the diversity makeup of someone who is flying a plane or who is performing surgery on them, and they don't want it with respect to the management of their life savings, but the Democratic Party wants to force companies to make decisions in direct contradiction to the longstanding Civil Rights Act, which they claim to support.

Using someone's race or sex to determine their eligibility for a position is wrong, and civil rights law agrees, even if the Democratic Party does not.

Hardworking Americans want the most competent and knowledgeable person to manage their benefits. They want to know their assets are safe and they will have a good return on investment.

The ESG investing agenda is in direct opposition to this, so I urge passage of H.R. 5339.

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE), my friend.

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, the bill before us is really nothing more than a distraction, a distraction from the real issues facing American seniors and retirees. What seniors want is their government to lower the cost of everyday necessities like groceries, gas, water, and electric bills. They want their hard-earned savings protected. They don't want Congress dictating to them where and how to invest for their retirement.

If Republicans were truly serious about protecting American retirees, they would be working to restore the pensions of Americans who have lost their retirements, their pensions or

seen them cut, like the thousands of Delphi salaried retirees across the country.

Americans who work their whole lives should not have to worry if they will be able to retire in dignity, but when General Motors filed for bankruptcy during the Great Recession, the U.S. Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, the PBGC, unfairly cut retirement benefits by as much as 70 percent for more than 20,000 Delphi salaried retirees.

These cuts have been devastating for these retirees. We have heard stories from Delphi salaried retirees facing extreme hardship, even forgoing medical treatment because their pensions were slashed so much.

Under the past administration, the former President made a promise that he would fix this issue. He did not. He didn't even try.

Last Congress, under the leadership of Speaker PELOSI and Democrats, this body passed my legislation, the Susan Muffley Act, to be clear, in a bipartisan fashion, to restore the pensions of thousands of Delphi workers—as I said, a bipartisan bill that would restore those pensions. We had 218 Democrats, 36 Republican Members of this body voting for it.

These men and women worked hard. They followed the rules, and then they got the rug pulled from under them. When the government rescued GM and left these workers behind, their families were left hanging, and that was wrong.

At the appropriate time, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill back to committee. If the House rules had permitted, I would have offered the motion with an important amendment to the bill. My amendment would substitute this legislation with the Susan Muffley Act, my bipartisan legislation that would right the wrong for the Delphi salaried retirees, restoring their pension benefits that they were expected to receive before the bankruptcy.

Again, this bill is a commonsense, bipartisan bill that has already passed the House of Representatives in a bipartisan fashion. I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment immediately prior to the vote on the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TENNEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, in closing I will just say this: I hope my colleagues join me. This is something we ought to be able to do together. We ought to solve this problem in a bipartisan fashion. I ask you to join me in voting for the motion to recommit to right this historic wrong for the Delphi salaried retirees.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, the Biden-Harris administra-

tion is once again putting its radical political agenda ahead of the well-being of the American people. The administration's new rule would put the retirement fund of millions of Americans at risk by forcing fiduciaries to consider ESG over financial factors. This is deeply irresponsible.

ESG funds are well known for poor performance and high risk, yet this administration is encouraging fiduciaries to gamble with retirees' hard-earned savings. This rule shows that the Biden-Harris administration doesn't care about the financial security of millions of retirees.

Retirement savings should focus on maximizing returns, not advancing the far left's political agenda. Americans invest to provide for themselves and their families, not to fund activist projects or woke policies.

Fortunately, Republicans are taking action to stop this dangerous trend with the Protecting Americans' Investments from Woke Policies Act. This bill ensures that retirement plans are focused solely on economic factors, protecting workers' savings from politically driven, underperforming ESG investments.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CASTEN), my good friend.

Mr. CASTEN. Madam Speaker, let me pose a question to everybody in here. Why do pension fund managers, why do State treasurers, why do individual investors invest in ESG funds? Well, I will give you a hint. It is the same reason that they invest in high-yield bonds or mid-cap international equities or real estate investment trusts or anything else that is a part of a diversified portfolio. It is because they believe that it will make them more money; not "know." None of us know, but they believe.

Maybe my colleagues across the aisle don't believe that companies that attract and retain diverse talent create more long-term value. Maybe my colleagues across the aisle don't believe that climate change is real and don't believe that companies who are repositioning their assets for a world with higher sea levels, with more frequent forest fires, and with rapidly moving consumer demand in favor of cheaper, cleaner energy are better positioned to win the future.

That is your right. Nobody is telling you that you have to wake up and stop investing in sleepy companies that are missing out on what is happening in the future.

Yet, here we are. Having defended your right to invest however you want, you are now saying that fiduciaries with opinions different from your own should not be free to invest as they see fit. That is not pro-market.

Let me tell you that if you have fallen in love with State-directed capitalism, I would encourage you to talk to, I don't know, maybe some Chinese

or Soviet economic leaders who can tell you how that plays out.

Yet, we find ourselves here with the Republican Party introducing legislation that not only rips off the policies of Lenin and Mao, but also unsurprisingly rips off Project 2025 because what all those have in common is you would like to use the power of the State to protect your political allies against the vicissitudes of a competitive market.

Let's be really clear, though. This is not just about politics. Real Americans in red States, I would point out, are losing money today because of these policies. In Texas, anti-ESG laws like the one you are proposing are costing the State nearly \$700 million in lost economic activity and more than 3,000 jobs.

In Kansas, the State budget office has estimated that anti-ESG laws there would cost retirees \$3.6 billion in lost returns over 10 years. That is what you are imposing on the rest of the world if you accomplished this.

Madam Speaker, I get it, competition is hard. It is scary. Climate change is real, and no matter how nightmarish certain White folks of low character might find the realization of Martin Luther King's dream, it is the only way that we move forward as a society. In the name of free markets and a brighter tomorrow, I would urge a "no" vote.

Ms. FOXX. I ask that the speaker's words be taken down.

Mr. CASTEN. On what basis?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend. The Clerk will report the words.

The gentleman will take a seat.

□ 1515

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my demand.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BENTZ). The demand is withdrawn.

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, I reiterate, as I hope was clear from the plain text of my remarks, they were not directed at anybody in the Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, I close by saying, in the name of free markets and a brighter, more tolerant tomorrow, I urge a "no" vote on this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is important, I think, that we again set the record straight. The RETIRE Act codifies the principles in the Trump Labor Department rule on retirement plan ESG investing. Under this bill, as with the Trump rule, if a fiduciary finds that an ESG factor is a pecuniary or financial factor, then that factor can be considered when investing and exercising shareholder rights. Nothing in the Trump rule prevents a fiduciary from appropriately considering any material risk with respect to investment.

Like the Trump rule, the RETIRE Act recognizes ESG factors can present an economic risk or opportunity, which qualified investment professionals

would appropriately treat as material economic considerations under generally accepted investment principles.

This bill neutrally applies financial investment principles to all investment decisions. To suggest that this bill bars a fiduciary from appropriately considering any factors that may be material to an investment is blatantly false. Unlike the Biden-Harris rule, this legislation is neutral regarding fiduciaries' prudent decisions.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, contrary to what we have heard this afternoon, the Biden-Harris administration has put forth a sensible rule related to ESG investing that puts the decisionmaking where it belongs: with the retirement plan professionals who are best positioned and bound by law to make sound decisions on behalf of workers. They, not Members of Congress, know what is best for their particular retirement plan.

H.R. 5339 reflects a mistaken premise that House Republicans, not retirement plan professionals bound by fiduciary responsibilities, know what is best. A diverse group of stakeholders, including the AFL-CIO, AFSCME, Americans for Financial Reform, League of Conservation Voters, National Women's Law Center, Oxfam America, and others weighed in against this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD two letters.

AFL-CIO,
September 17, 2024.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I urge you to oppose H.R. 5339, RETIRE Act, which is composed of the following four anti-ESG bills:

No Discrimination in My Benefits Act (H.R. 5338).

Retirement Proxy Protection Act (H.R. 5337).

Providing Complete Information to Retirement Investors Act (H.R. 5340).

Roll Back ESG to Increase Retirement Earnings Act (H.R. 5339).

H.R. 5339 would roll back or block the inclusion of relevant investment factors in retirement plans, which include environmental, social, and governance ("ESG") risks. Pension plans represent the deferred wages of hard working Americans, and ERISA requires plan fiduciaries to invest plan assets according to the duties of prudence and loyalty in order to maximize benefits.

H.R. 5339 would limit the criteria fiduciaries can consider when selecting investments to solely pecuniary or financial factors. The only exception is when two investments are indistinguishable based purely on pecuniary factors or the fiduciary satisfies burdensome documentation requirements. Similarly, provisions from H.R. 5337 will discourage fiduciaries from voting proxies on ESG issues that might be considered "non-pecuniary." This bill would effectively disfranchise retirement plan participants from having their shares voted on important ESG issues. The Department of Labor ("DOL") has wisely rejected the distinction between pecuniary and non-pecuniary factors based on concerns that this terminology causes confusion and has a chilling effect on

investment choices that may increase plan participants' retirement income security.

Provisions from H.R. 5338 prohibit the consideration of diversity by ERISA plans when selecting a fiduciary, counsel, employee, or service provider. We oppose this bill as a blatant attempt to obstruct efforts to address under representation of minority- and women-owned firms in asset management. DOL rules permit ERISA plans to consider the benefits of investment advisor diversity so long as the plan does not sacrifice risk-adjusted returns. Indeed, studies have shown that diversity can be a source of investment outperformance by casting a wider net for professional talent.

Provisions from H.R. 5340 were intended to deter self-directed defined contribution plan participants from selecting ESG investments, for example those in a 401(k) plan. This legislation would require defined contribution plans to provide a written warning to participants who are choosing from investments through a brokerage window rather than those selected by the plan. While we do not oppose suitable warnings for plan participants that choose to invest through a brokerage window, we are concerned that this bill is intended to interfere with the freedom of 401(k) plan participants to invest in ESG-related funds of their own choosing.

Continued attempts to block plans from considering ESGs have deep impacts on retirees. ESGs are critical factors in assessing and mitigating risks and creating opportunities for enhanced returns. Therefore, AFL-CIO urges you to oppose H.R. 5339.

Sincerely,

JODY CALEMINE,
Director, Government Affairs.

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024.

Re Opposition to anti-ESG bills that threaten workers' retirement security and our financial system, and weaken tools of corporate accountability.

HON. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

HON. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Minority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: Americans for Financial Reform (AFR) and the 39 undersigned organizations write in opposition to Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act (H.R. 4790) and the Protecting Americans' Investments from Woke Policies Act (H.R. 5339), which are packages of several bills that are part of a broader, unpopular campaign against common sense investment practices. This campaign seeks to both force financial actors to ignore a slew of financial risks to the detriment of workers' retirement security and the integrity of our financial system, and weaken tools of corporate accountability. The bills at issue were marked up by the House Financial Services Committee (HFSC) and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. If passed, they would represent a giveaway to corporations at the expense of workers, investors, and the public.

The bills marked up by HFSC in July of last year were the culmination of what the committee's majority publicly characterized as "ESG month"—a series of six hearings and a markup designed to discourage financial actors from taking into account environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors in their investment decision-making and undermine corporate accountability. The bills can be categorized based on the effects they would have: (1) undermine regulations that would equip investors with more information to make better investment decisions (H.R. 4790); (2) insulate the management of public companies from investor

input and accountability, including by eliminating fundamental investor rights to file shareholder proposals (H.R. 4767 and H.R. 4655); and (3) hamstringing the ability of federal banking regulators to respond effectively to micro- and macro-prudential risks to the financial system (H.R. 4823). For a more detailed discussion of these bills, see AFR's letter of opposition submitted ahead of the markup.

The bills marked up by the House Committee on Education and the Workforce in September would amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) with the effect of undermining workers' retirement security. Two of the bills—H.R. 5339 and H.R. 5337—have a longer history, mirroring two Trump-era Department of Labor (DOL) rules. Those rules were widely criticized and have since been rescinded because they produced significant confusion about what fiduciaries are allowed to consider when making investment decisions, and had a chilling effect on the consideration of financially relevant information—thereby putting workers' retirement security at risk. The other two bills would also harm workers saving for retirement, H.R. 5338 by interfering with efforts to increase diversity among asset managers managing workers' savings and H.R. 5340 by mandating confusing and misleading information be sent to investors. For a more detailed discussion of these bills, see AFR's letter of opposition submitted ahead of the markup.

Congress should not lend support to an effort that would harm the public interest and has triggered fierce and effective opposition from a broad coalition of diverse stakeholders. For example, state-level anti-ESG legislation—which included 161 pieces of legislation introduced in 28 states this year—faced significant pushback from public pension beneficiaries, retirement system officials, bank and local business associations, and unions. As a result, the vast majority of the bills were defeated. A strong coalition has also opposed past anti-ESG congressional actions.

Voters overwhelmingly oppose measures like these. Although the anti-ESG campaign is well-funded, polling decidedly shows a strong majority of voters do not support its goals. For example, 63 percent of voters do not believe the government should set limits on corporate ESG investments. And when it comes to how companies should operate in our society, “most voters (76 percent) feel companies play a vital role in society and should be held accountable to make a positive impact on the communities in which they operate.” This includes both the majority of Republicans (69 percent) and the majority of Democrats (82 percent), reflecting strong bipartisan support. Additionally, a recent poll by Public Citizen found that voters oppose Congress passing legislation to limit the type of information about a corporation's business record that is disclosed to pension and retirement fund managers, investors, and the public, and that voters would reward an elected official who favors requiring corporations to disclose environmental, social, and governance information about their business dealings to investors and the public.

For all the reasons stated above, the undersigned organizations urge you to oppose these anti-ESG bills. Thank you for your consideration of our perspective.

Sincerely,

Americans for Financial Reform; 17 Communications; 350.org; Adrian Dominican Sisters, Portfolio Advisory Board; AFL-CIO; Alabama Interfaith Power & Light; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME); American Federation of Teachers; Center for Popular De-

mocracy; ClientEarth USA; Communications Workers of America; Congregation of St. Joseph; Daughters of Charity, Province of St. Louise; Environmental Defense Fund; For the Long Term; Global Reporting Initiative (GRI); Green America; Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility; International Brotherhood of Teamsters; Invest Vegan.

League of Conservation Voters; Majority Action; Mercy Investment Services, Inc.; National Education Association; National Women's Law Center; NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice; Oxfam America; Private Equity Stakeholder Project; Public Citizen; RFK Human Rights; Rhia Ventures; Rise Economy (formerly California Reinvestment Coalition); Sierra Club; SOC Investment Group; Stance Capital; Strong Economy For All Coalition; Take on Wall Street; The People's Justice Council; Tulipshare; Sustainable Investment Fund; Unlocking America's Future.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, we should reject this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we have heard today about the riskiness of ESG. We have heard about the radicalness of ESG. We have heard about the racism inherent in ESG investing.

If today's debate has proven one thing, it is that wokeness will not be satisfied until the entire country thinks the same way.

To my colleagues, I urge that we return to the neutral fiduciary standard. Let's quit playing ideological games that have a real impact on workers' livelihoods.

To my banking-sector friends, I will put it this way: There is no alpha in ESG. Our adversaries will surpass the American financial industry if we continue down this path.

The Protecting Americans' Investments from Woke Policies Act would safeguard our financial system from politically driven agendas, ensuring that capital is allocated based on merit and performance, not ideology.

For these reasons, I support its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Kildee of Michigan moves to recommit the bill H.R. 5339 to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

The material previously referred to by Mr. KILDEE is as follows:

Mr. Kildee moves to recommit the bill H.R. 5339 to the Committee on Education and the Workforce with instructions to report the

same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

Page 1, strike line 1 and all that follows and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Susan Muffley Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. GUARANTEED BENEFIT CALCULATION FOR CERTAIN PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) INCREASE TO FULL VESTED PLAN BENEFIT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of determining what benefits are guaranteed under section 4022 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (in this section referred to as “ERISA”) with respect to an eligible participant or beneficiary under a covered plan specified in paragraph (4) in connection with the termination of such plan, the amount of monthly benefits shall be equal to the full vested plan benefit with respect to the participant.

(B) NO EFFECT ON PREVIOUS DETERMINATIONS.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to change the allocation of assets and recoveries under sections 4044(a) and 4022(c) of ERISA as previously determined by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (in the section referred to as the “corporation”) for the covered plans specified in paragraph (4), and the corporation's applicable rules, practices, and policies on benefits payable in terminated single-employer plans shall, except as otherwise provided in this section, continue to apply with respect to such covered plans.

(2) RECALCULATION OF CERTAIN BENEFITS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which the amount of monthly benefits with respect to an eligible participant or beneficiary described in paragraph (1) was calculated prior to the date of enactment of this Act, the corporation shall recalculate such amount pursuant to paragraph (1), and shall adjust any subsequent payments of such monthly benefits accordingly, as soon as practicably after such date.

(B) LUMP-SUM PAYMENTS OF PAST-DUE BENEFITS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the corporation, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Labor, shall make a lump-sum payment to each eligible participant or beneficiary whose guaranteed benefits are recalculated under subparagraph (A) in an amount equal to—

(i) in the case of an eligible participant, the excess of—

(I) the total of the full vested plan benefits of the participant for all months for which such guaranteed benefits were paid prior to such recalculation, over

(II) the sum of any applicable payments made to the eligible participant; and

(ii) in the case of an eligible beneficiary, the sum of—

(I) the amount that would be determined under clause (i) with respect to the participant of which the eligible beneficiary is a beneficiary if such participant were still in pay status; plus

(II) the excess of—

(aa) the total of the full vested plan benefits of the eligible beneficiary for all months for which such guaranteed benefits were paid prior to such recalculation, over

(bb) the sum of any applicable payments made to the eligible beneficiary.

Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the corporation shall increase each lump-sum payment made under this subparagraph to account for foregone interest in an amount determined by the corporation designed to reflect a 6 percent annual interest rate on each past-due amount attributable to the underpayment of guaranteed benefits for each month prior to such recalculation.

(C) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS AND BENEFICIARIES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, an eligible participant or beneficiary is a participant or beneficiary who—

(I) as of the date of the enactment of this Act, is in pay status under a covered plan or is eligible for future payments under such plan;

(II) has received or will receive applicable payments in connection with such plan (within the meaning of clause (ii)) that does not exceed the full vested plan benefits of such participant or beneficiary; and

(III) is not covered by the 1999 agreements between General Motors and various unions providing a top-up benefit to certain hourly employees who were transferred from the General Motors Hourly-Rate Employees Pension Plan to the Delphi Hourly-Rate Employees Pension Plan.

(ii) APPLICABLE PAYMENTS.—For purposes of this paragraph, applicable payments to a participant or beneficiary in connection with a plan consist of the following:

(I) Payments under the plan equal to the normal benefit guarantee of the participant or beneficiary.

(II) Payments to the participant or beneficiary made pursuant to section 4022(c) or otherwise received from the corporation in connection with the termination of the plan.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) FULL VESTED PLAN BENEFIT.—The term “full vested plan benefit” means the amount of monthly benefits that would be guaranteed under section 4022 of ERISA as of the date of plan termination with respect to an eligible participant or beneficiary if such section were applied without regard to the phase-in limit in subsection (b)(1) of such Act and the maximum guaranteed benefit limitation in subsection (b)(3) of such Act (including the accrued-at-normal limitation).

(B) NORMAL BENEFIT GUARANTEE.—The term “normal benefit guarantee” means the amount of monthly benefits guaranteed under such section with respect to an eligible participant or beneficiary without regard to this Act.

(4) COVERED PLANS.—The covered plans specified in this paragraph are the following:

(A) The Delphi Hourly-Rate Employees Pension Plan.

(B) The Delphi Retirement Program for Salaried Employees.

(C) The PHI Non-Bargaining Retirement Plan.

(D) The ASEC Manufacturing Retirement Program.

(E) The PHI Bargaining Retirement Plan.

(F) The Delphi Mechatronic Systems Retirement Program.

(5) TREATMENT OF PBGC DETERMINATIONS.—Any determination made by the corporation under this section concerning a recalculation of benefits or lump-sum payment of past-due benefits shall be subject to administrative review by the corporation. Any new determination made by the corporation under this section shall be governed by the same administrative review process as any other benefit determination by the corporation.

(b) TRUST FUND FOR PAYMENT OF INCREASED BENEFITS.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known as the “Delphi Full Vested Plan Benefit Trust Fund” (hereafter in this subsection referred to as the “Fund”), consisting of such amounts as may be appropriated or credited to the Fund as provided in this section.

(2) FUNDING.—There is appropriated from the general fund such amounts as are nec-

essary for the costs of the payment of the portion of monthly benefits guaranteed to a participant or beneficiary pursuant to subsection (a) and for necessary administrative and operating expenses of the corporation relating to such payment. The Fund shall be credited with amounts from time to time as the Secretary of the Treasury, in conjunction with the Director of the corporation, determines appropriate, from the general fund of the Treasury.

(3) EXPENDITURES FROM FUND.—Amounts in the Fund shall be available for the payment of the portion of monthly benefits guaranteed to a participant or beneficiary pursuant to subsection (a) and for necessary administrative and operating expenses of the corporation relating to such payment.

(c) REGULATIONS.—The corporation, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Labor, may issue such regulations as necessary to carry out this section.

(d) TAX TREATMENT OF LUMP-SUM PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Unless the taxpayer elects (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may provide) to have this paragraph not apply with respect to any lump-sum payment under subsection (a)(2)(B), the amount of such payment shall be included in the taxpayer's gross income ratably over the 3-taxable-year period beginning with the taxable year in which such payment is received.

(2) SPECIAL RULES RELATED TO DEATH.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the taxpayer dies before the end of the 3-taxable-year period described in paragraph (1), any amount to which paragraph (1) applies which has not been included in gross income for a taxable year ending before the taxable year in which such death occurs shall be included in gross income for such taxable year.

(B) SPECIAL ELECTION FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES OF ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS.—If—

(i) a taxpayer with respect to whom paragraph (1) applies dies,

(ii) such taxpayer is an eligible participant,

(iii) the surviving spouse of such eligible participant is entitled to a survivor benefit from the corporation with respect to such eligible participant, and

(iv) such surviving spouse elects (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may provide) the application of this subparagraph,

subparagraph (A) shall not apply and any amount which would have (but for such taxpayer's death) been included in the gross income of such taxpayer under paragraph (1) for any taxable year beginning after the date of such death shall be included in the gross income of such surviving spouse for the taxable year of such surviving spouse ending with or within such taxable year of the taxpayer.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Avery M. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

ANTI-BDS LABELING ACT

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1455, I call up the bill (H.R. 5179) to require the maintenance of the country of origin markings for imported goods produced in the West Bank or Gaza, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means, printed in the bill, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

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

H.R. 5179

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Anti-BDS Labeling Act”.

SEC. 2. CONTINUATION IN EFFECT OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN MARKING POLICY FOR IMPORTED GOODS PRODUCED IN THE WEST BANK OR GAZA.

The policy of the Government of the United States with respect to country of origin marking of imported goods produced in the West Bank or Gaza, notice of which was published by U.S. Customs and Border Protection in the Federal Register on December 23, 2020 (85 Fed. Reg. 83984), shall remain in effect until repealed by an Act of Congress.

SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS TO RE-SCIND OR CHANGE THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN MARKING POLICY FOR IMPORTED GOODS PRODUCED IN THE WEST BANK OR GAZA.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of State or U.S. Customs and Border Protection on or after the date of the enactment of this Act may be obligated or expended to prepare or promulgate any policy; guidance; regulation; notice; or Executive order or to otherwise implement, administer, or enforce any policy that rescinds or changes the policy of the Government of the United States with respect to country of origin marking of imported goods produced in the West Bank or Gaza, notice of which was published by U.S. Customs and Border Protection in the Federal Register on December 23, 2020 (85 Fed. Reg. 83984).

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

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in

which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Anti-BDS Labeling Act introduced by my good friend and Committee on Ways and Means colleague, Ms. TENNEY.

For years, far-left progressives have targeted Israel through the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement. In fact, many of the recent campus protests that we saw that came in the wake of the horrific terrorist attacks on Israel shut down elite universities to try to force university endowments to divest from Israel. For these protesters, no step is too far to achieve their goals. The incidents of harassment, bullying, and intimidation of Jewish students are at this point too numerous to count.

The Ways and Means Committee will not stop holding these elite universities accountable until every Jewish student feels safe on campus.

This small, loud minority does not speak for the vast majority of Americans. Let me be clear: America stands with Israel.

Under President Trump, the alliance between the United States and Israel was stronger than ever before. He moved the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. He brokered the Abraham Accords, sending a message to Iran that Israel does not stand alone. He canceled President Obama's disastrous Iran nuclear deal. The list goes on and on. One of the items on that list of accomplishments was a move to counter the same BDS movement fueling the chaos on college campuses.

In 2020, the Trump administration's Customs and Border Protection clarified the labeling of items imported from Israel. Items coming from regions of the West Bank under Israeli authority must be labeled as coming from Israel, just as labels on items coming from Hamas-controlled Gaza or areas of the West Bank outside of Israeli control must reflect its origin as coming from one of those two areas.

This bill before us codifies this Trump rule into law and bans the use of any Federal dollars to reverse or alter it. American families should have this information in order to buy products that support Israel's economy, particularly in a time of war.

Conversely, people should know if an item comes from a region controlled by terrorists that kidnapped and killed their fellow Americans. Public reports earlier this year indicated that the Biden-Harris administration considered reversing this policy.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, Democrats are putting the demands of radical progressives ahead of our best ally and our

largest trading partner in the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Democratic colleagues to vote "yes" on this legislation and join us in empowering Americans looking to show their support for Israel.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose H.R. 5179, the so-called Anti-BDS Labeling Act.

Let me start with an observation. Since October 7, President Biden, the United States Congress, and the United States people have overwhelmingly stood in support of Israel as they fight an existential war on multiple fronts. President Biden has stood with Israel longer than any U.S. President in a time of war throughout Israel's 76-year history.

Let me also be clear that the BDS movement is inherently anti-Semitic. It is a harmful, discriminatory effort aimed at delegitimizing Israel, the democratic Jewish State of Israel, and undermining Israel's right to exist as a Jewish and democratic state.

I will agree with my colleague Chairman SMITH, when he says there is no place for harassment or intimidation of Jewish students or, for that matter, any students on campus for what they believe in.

The protesters are loud. They scream. They yell. They have yelled outside my house in the middle of the night. Being loud does not make them right. It just means they are loud.

So while this body here, Republicans and Democrats, stands united in opposing BDS, today's debate is much less about genuine support of Israel and much more about political posture.

□ 1530

I have consistently opposed BDS and worked to ensure U.S. policy does not endorse discriminatory aims. However, H.R. 5179 is a symbolic gesture with no real path forward in the Senate.

It does little to combat the global BDS effort and distracts from the meaningful action required to strengthen our partnership with Israel and promote a peaceful future for the region and all the people in the region.

This issue isn't just about geopolitics or trade. It is about consumer transparency. Americans want to know under what conditions their products are made.

Whether it is Israeli law in a settlement, Palestinian Authority control, or formerly Hamas-controlled Gaza, consumers deserve to understand the governance and standards behind the products they buy.

The lack of clarity of the current framework does not meet their demand for nuanced information about environment, labor, human rights, or the quality of inspections of their purchases on products from anywhere around the world including within Israel.

H.R. 5179 fails to address these concerns. It is a short-term political move that ignores the complexity of the region and the demand for thoughtful policies.

This bill won't help consumers make informed decisions, nor will it move the needle on the broader challenges facing Israel. More broadly, it doesn't help dismantle Hamas or rescue the hostages and restore a political horizon for a two-state solution.

While I share the goal with my colleagues of countering BDS, H.R. 5179 does not achieve that. It is about showmanship, not about substance. We need real bipartisan solutions that reflect the region's complexities and offer the transparency consumers demand.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" and focus on actions that will make a real difference.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY).

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 5179, the Anti-BDS Labeling Act.

The Anti-BDS Labeling Act would codify the Trump administration's 2020 U.S. Customs and Border Protection rule titled: "Country of Origin Marking of Products from the West Bank and Gaza."

In 1997, the Palestinian Authority requested that the U.S. require all goods made in Judea and Samaria, and Gaza to be labeled as "Made in West Bank/Gaza." This not only recognized Judea and Samaria, and Gaza as one territorial unit, which is inaccurate, but also failed to recognize that areas of Judea and Samaria are governed by Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

The Trump administration's rule required goods made in Area C of Judea and Samaria, which is fully controlled by Israel under the Oslo Accords, to be labeled as "Made in Israel." Under this rule, goods made in Palestinian Authority-controlled Areas A and B of Judea and Samaria to be labeled as "Made in West Bank." This rule appropriately recognizes the different governing authorities of various areas of Judea and Samaria, as well as ensuring that Gaza and Judea and Samaria are recognized as two different political areas.

The Anti-BDS Labeling Act would codify the Trump-era rule and prohibit Federal funds to be used by the White House or executive branch to alter the rule that is already in place.

For years, the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement has sought to cripple the Israeli economy and impoverish individuals living in Israeli-controlled areas of Judea and Samaria, and Israel at large.

The BDS movement has long targeted goods made in Israeli-controlled areas of Judea and Samaria, sometimes referred to by anti-Israel advocates as the "occupied West Bank." I would like to remind individuals who use this ridiculous term that the Oslo Accords, as

signed by Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat, divided Judea and Samaria into three areas, with Israel administering security control over 82 percent of Judea and Samaria, and civil control of 60 percent of Judea and Samaria.

This bill ensures that there is no distinction in labeling between goods made in Israel and Israeli-controlled areas of Judea and Samaria. During this difficult time, Congress must stand with Israel and support our greatest ally in the region, the lone beacon of freedom and democracy.

I am grateful to Chairman SMITH and all my Ways and Means Republican colleagues who are supporting this critical legislation, especially when it passed through the House Ways and Means Committee. We must stand with our greatest ally in the Middle East, Israel, and demand accuracy in the labeling of goods imported to the United States, as required by law.

This legislation sends a very clear signal that we will not tolerate arbitrary differentiations in the labeling of goods from different parts of Israel. Whether a good is made in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Efrat, the Golan Heights, or Gush Etzion, it should be labeled as "Made in Israel."

This is not about political posturing as the ranking member in opposition says. This is about making sure that American citizens know that when they are purchasing a product in Israeli-controlled Judea and Samaria that they are purchasing a product that is made in Israel. There is nothing discriminatory about that. It is about preventing the erasing of the existence of Israel in this region of Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to support this legislation. It is not political posturing. It is something to protect Israeli products, Israeli individuals who are producing these products and also to protect American citizens who would be purchasing this product and who get to make a decision about what they would choose to buy, whether it was made in Israel or not. They make that choice. That is something that all Americans are entitled to under this labeling act.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) who is a member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, this bill wrongfully seeks to codify Trump's one-state solution.

Strangely, Benjamin Netanyahu and Hamas completely agree on one subject, they want from the river to the sea. The only question is: Who gets to control and subjugates the other one?

I believe that subjugation is not security. Rather, it is a time bomb that is just getting ready to explode causing more grief and misery to all, as we are seeing now with the repeated rocket firing into Israel, the ongoing destruction of Gaza, and the escalating settler violence in the West Bank.

I strongly believe in Israel as a democratic Jewish state. The Hamas attackers were not martyrs, they were murderers and rapists. They can never be a partner for peace, but neither can Netanyahu's cohorts, Ben-Gvir and Smotrich. They cannot be partners for peace. They have refused to be partners for peace, nor do they prioritize the release of the hostages. They continue to endanger Israeli security.

Smotrich, a self-described Fascist, wrongly insists that a hostage deal would be surrender. He is responsible for the largest seizure of land in the West Bank since the 1993 Oslo Accords. His myopic vision for Israel is to annex everything and create a greater Israel that incorporates all the so-called Palestinians.

In a June speech, he said: "[We] created a separate civilian system" . . . "It will be easier to swallow in the international and legal context."

Ben-Gvir told Israeli settlers: "We are behind you. Run for the hilltops, settle them."

He promotes an exclusive Israeli control of the land from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. The same message that those people protesting Israel are advocating, he is also advocating. He has distributed thousands of assault weapons to Israeli settlements to drive Palestinians from the West Bank.

When dozens of armed Israeli settlers stormed one West Bank village, firing bullets and setting homes on fire, they said that they were "Ben-Gvir's gang here to kill the Arabs."

Smotrich and Ben-Gvir should be sanctioned for their incitement of violence. It has led to 1,000 incidents of settlers driving over 1,300 Palestinians from their homes since October 7, with 600 Palestinians killed.

Unfortunately, at the same time that Gaza is being rendered uninhabitable, Netanyahu's refusal to stop settler violence in the West Bank and the expansion of these West Bank settlements are all designed to prevent a Palestinian state from ever coming into being in a viable way.

Like this very bill, their goal is to block creation of any Palestinian state and to refer to it as Judea and Samaria, rather than many of us, who consider ourselves to be strongly for Israel, calling it the occupied territories because it has been occupied since the 1967 war.

The only hope for lasting peace and security is for a Jewish state and a Palestinian state to be side by side and find security guarantees for each. That will be a long, difficult, and challenging process. We have been unable to accomplish it for decades, but it is the only process that we can undertake that will truly lead to the survival and the viability of Israel, so it is not a matter of a temporary peace and another threat to innocent people on either side of the line.

Efforts to conflate the occupied territories with Israel defeat any real hope

of a lasting solution. We should reject the approach that Trump, Ben-Gvir, Smotrich, Netanyahu, and Hamas all share, of a river to the sea, a one-state approach, because that is only a recipe for an endless war and untold suffering.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEUBE).

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Ms. TENNEY's Anti-BDS Labeling Act. The United States is Israel's single largest trade partner. This bill would codify a Trump administration notice that required products made in certain areas of Judea and Samaria be labeled as originating from Israel.

In April, I led a letter to the Biden-Harris administration slamming them for considering reversing the labeling policy. It is common sense for goods produced in certain areas of Judea and Samaria, also known as the West Bank, to be labeled as made in Israel because Israel exercises relevant authorities in these areas. President Trump was absolutely right to issue the product of Israel policy because Israel is exactly where these products originated.

Current law already requires accurate labeling. This should not be a bill that we need to pass. This should be settled law, but the Biden-Harris administration refuses to accept reality so they can, once again, pander to certain radical terrorist sympathizers in their political base.

If the Biden-Harris administration goes through with reversing trade policy decision, it will legitimize anti-Semitic efforts to weaken and isolate our closest ally in the Middle East.

In a time of global uncertainty, the last thing we should be doing is abandoning our strongest ally in the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I am thankful that the House of Representatives is taking up this important bill, and I urge all my colleagues to vote for this important piece of legislation.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB).

Ms. TLAIB. Anti-Arab, anti-Muslim, and anti-Palestinian hate was in full display at the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing yesterday, a hearing that was intended, Mr. Speaker, to highlight the deadly hatred that killed a 6-year-old boy, Wadea. He was stabbed 26 times in Chicago. That is what our Senators used that moment for, to promote the very hate that is against many of our communities.

Not to be outdone, my House colleagues are now pushing through legislation right here to spread anti-Arab, anti-Muslim, and anti-Palestinian rhetoric. So I am not surprised to see this bill.

What does this bill do?

It seeks to erase Palestine from products produced by Palestinians on Palestinian farms. It requires products from large portions of Palestine, including on illegal settlements defined

under international law in the West Bank to be labeled, "Made in Israel."

So let's be clear. A vote for this bill would further support the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians. A "yes" vote for this bill is erasing the existence of Palestinians.

That is right, Mr. Speaker. Palestinians also have a right to exist.

The provisions of this bill, Mr. Speaker, have hateful and discriminatory implications. We must stand against it and vote "no."

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN).

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, before I begin debate, I want to remind everybody who is watching in America that Hamas is still holding Americans hostage, and just recently they executed an American.

We still want to urge this administration to do all they can to bring home not only Americans but release all of the hostages.

Mr. Speaker, anti-Semitism has no place in America. Disturbingly radical activists and members of the anti-Semitic BDS movement continue to wage economic warfare against the Jewish state.

In a world where anti-Semitism and acts of violence against the Jewish people are more and more commonplace, we need to reassure our close ally that the United States will not delegitimize her authority nor punish her economy, rather, we must send a clear message that the United States stands with Israel.

□ 1545

We stand with Israel today. We will stand with Israel tomorrow. We will stand with Israel always.

That is why I am proud to support Congresswoman CLAUDIA TENNEY and Chairman JASON SMITH's bill prohibiting the Biden-Harris administration from assisting the anti-Semitic BDS movement in their efforts to target specific goods made in portions of the West Bank controlled entirely by Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in denouncing the anti-Semitic BDS movement and standing with Israel by voting in favor of H.R. 5179, the Anti-BDS Labeling Act.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), the ranking member of the House Judiciary Committee.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, this partisan bill does nothing to combat the BDS movement. Rather, it seeks to codify the policy of labeling products that come from West Bank settlements as made in Israel.

In truth, such action is a backhanded attempt to illuminate a congressional green light for Israeli annexation of area C of the West Bank. Let's be clear. This measure is aimed at undermining American support for a two-state solu-

tion and, therefore, the Biden-Harris administration's critical and delicate efforts at diplomacy in the region.

Mr. Speaker, as a lifelong Zionist and a deeply committed Jew, I take Israel's safety and security incredibly seriously, so seriously that I believe that Israel should not be used as a partisan football to advance an electoral agenda.

Bringing this legislation to the floor is a Republican politically motivated misadventure to force Democrats to oppose a bill with "anti-BDS" in the title weeks before an election.

Republicans are seeking to use the United States' House of Representatives to strengthen the foreign policy legacy of a desperate former President Trump in the lead-up to November.

Mr. Speaker, we should not stand for it. I am sick and tired of the Republicans' blatantly bad-faith maneuvers to further politicize Israel, especially as we approach the 1-year anniversary of the horrific attack of October 7, the deadliest day in Jewish history since the Holocaust.

We deserve better, Mr. Speaker. The American people deserve better. The Israeli and Palestinian people deserve better.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues not to take the bait and to oppose this bill.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first off, this bill was marked up in committee back in April, so it wasn't like it was done yesterday, and we have been bringing this forward.

Also, Mr. Speaker, it is extremely important to note that what this bill does is it codifies current rules that were put into place by the Trump administration, but the Biden administration has rescinded almost everything of Trump's except for tariffs and this policy.

They have not rescinded it. If Democrats thought it was bad, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would have rescinded it. I would hope the President's own party would support it, but we will see today.

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. In closing, I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the old saying is, "knowledge is power." By codifying the Trump-era rule that currently labels items coming from Israel as originating in Israel, this body can empower individual Americans to buy products supporting our ally.

I thank Representatives CLAUDIA TENNEY and GREG STEUBE, both of whom have been leaders on this issue, for sounding the alarm about the at-

tempt by the Biden-Harris administration to weaken Israel.

Congress should not even have to debate this topic, but the Customs and Border Protection rule in question provides no special treatment to Israel, but it does extend fair treatment to their exports. After more than 3 years in office, the Biden-Harris administration has not changed this policy.

Unfortunately, reports earlier this year indicated that the Biden-Harris administration was preparing to overturn this policy. Such a change could still happen at any time unless Congress acts.

This proposed reversal would hurt both American consumers and our ally. Israel's economy is slowing from the strain of a war it didn't start. The last thing Israel needs as it fights to end this war are trade barriers that make it harder to choose Israeli products.

The loss of revenue from American businesses and consumers would only magnify the harm done to Israel by this war. More importantly, this proposed reversal of sound policy seems to be driven more by political pandering than a consideration for Israel's ability to defend and provide for itself while under attack.

House Republicans have made our commitment to supporting our friend and ally crystal clear. We have not left Israel wondering and worrying whether Republicans will support them.

This bill is a clear opportunity to stand with Israel and empower American families, and I hope that the minority will join us in sending a clear message that Congress and America will support our ally.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to vote "yes" on the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT TERRORISM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-168)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message

from the President of the United States; which was read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, as amended, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2024.

The crisis constituted by the grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, in New York and Pennsylvania and against the Pentagon, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. This crisis continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224, as amended, with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 18, 2024.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Financial Services:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: I hereby resign from the Committee on Financial Services. Thank you.

STEVEN HORSFORD,

Member of Congress, Nevada's 4th District.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN BY ILLEGAL ALIENS ACT

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1455, I call up the bill (H.R. 7909) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been con-

victed of or who have committed sex offenses or domestic violence are inadmissible and deportable, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary, printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-47 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

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

H.R. 7909

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act".

SEC. 2. INADMISSIBILITY AND DEPORTABILITY RELATED TO SEX OFFENSES, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, STALKING, CHILD ABUSE, OR VIOLATION OF PROTECTION ORDER.

(a) INADMISSIBILITY.—Section 212(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(J) SEX OFFENSES.—Any alien who has been convicted of, who admits having committed, or who admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of a sex offense (as such term is defined in section 111(5) of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (34 U.S.C. 20911(5))), or a conspiracy to commit such an offense, is inadmissible.

“(K) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, STALKING, CHILD ABUSE, OR VIOLATION OF PROTECTION ORDER.—Any alien who has been convicted of, who admits having committed, or who admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of—

“(i) a crime of domestic violence (as such term is defined in section 237(a)(2)(E));

“(ii) a crime of stalking;

“(iii) a crime of child abuse, child neglect, or child abandonment; or

“(iv) a crime of violating the portion of a protection order (as such term is defined in section 237(a)(2)(E)) that involves protection against credible threats of violence, repeated harassment, or bodily injury to the person or persons for whom the protection order was issued, is inadmissible.”.

(b) DEPORTABILITY.—Section 237(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1227(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E)—

(A) in the heading, by striking “CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN AND” and inserting “AND CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN”; and

(B) in clause (i), by inserting before the period at the end the following “, and includes any crime that constitutes domestic violence, as such term is defined in section 40002(a) of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291(a), regardless of whether the jurisdiction receives grant funding under that Act”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(G) SEX OFFENSES.—Any alien who has been convicted of a sex offense (as such term is defined in section 111(5) of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (34 U.S.C. 20911(5))) or a conspiracy to commit such an offense, is deportable.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by

the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary, or their respective designees.

The gentleman from California (Mr. McCLINTOCK) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. McCLINTOCK).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. McCLINTOCK. 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.R. 7909.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, just last week, the Judiciary Committee heard from moms whose daughters were brutally assaulted and murdered by illegal aliens who have been welcomed into our country by President Biden and Vice President HARRIS.

The statistics tell us how broad this threat has become, but the individual cases tell us how deep and painful it is. It seems that every few days we learn of little girls and young teens or moms abducted by illegals, raped by illegals, and murdered by illegals, none of whom have any right to be here, and all of whom have been trafficked into our country by this administration's policies. These entirely preventable tragedies will continue as long as these policies continue.

The Democrats often talk about the war on women over abortion or employment policy, but it seems my colleagues couldn't care less about allowing into our country a flood of sexual offenders, domestic violence offenders, and child abusers, and allowing them to stay indefinitely, free from any fear of deportation.

When these monsters commit these ghastly acts and their grief-stricken moms appear before our committee, the Democrats put on their best long faces, assure everyone how much my colleagues on the other side of the aisle grieve with the families, and then argue to continue precisely the same policies that have produced this nightmare in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7909, the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act, removes any loopholes in current law and requires that illegal aliens who commit sex offenses or domestic violence are not to be allowed into this country anymore and must be immediately removed from our country when they are found, period.

The Democrats say this is duplicative of existing law. If that is true, why do they oppose it? The Democrats say it is unnecessary. Tell that to the growing number of families who are paying the butcher's bill for these open-border policies.

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

□ 1600

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

Mr. Speaker, here we are again debating a bill that is another attempt by the majority to scapegoat and fearmonger about immigrants. This legislation purports to add new grounds of inadmissibility and deportability for sexual offenses, adds a new ground of inadmissibility for domestic violence and other related offenses, and expands the current grounds for deportability for domestic violence.

Sexual offenses and domestic violence are serious crimes, and if this bill fixed some gap in current law, I would have no problem supporting this legislation, but that is not the case here.

In reality, the redundancies in this bill all but ensure that no additional dangerous individuals would face immigration consequences if it were to become law. Instead, the overly broad definition and lack of any waiver authority in this bill would result in extremely harsh and unintended consequences, including the removal of survivors of domestic violence.

Let's be very clear: All serious sexual offenses are already grounds for deportability and inadmissibility. For example, an individual is rendered deportable if they are convicted of an aggravated felony, which includes rape, sexual abuse of a minor, or a crime of violence, which is defined as any "offense that has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the person."

Individuals who are convicted, or admit committing the act, of a crime involving moral turpitude, or a CIMT, are already subject to inadmissibility. Crimes in which there is intent to cause bodily harm have long been considered CIMTs. As such, people who are convicted or admit committing an act of any crime where there is an intent to cause bodily harm like sexual assaults are already inadmissible.

Where this bill has serious problems is in the sections relating to domestic violence. Under current law, people are rendered deportable if they are convicted of domestic violence and other related crimes and can be deemed inadmissible if they commit the acts or are convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, where the domestic violence or related offense has intent to cause bodily harm. The crime of domestic violence is already well covered by current law.

However, this bill attempts to significantly expand the definition of domestic violence to include the Violence Against Women Act definition that is used for grants and funding. This is a much broader definition that was never meant to be used in criminal law. We know that because the definition explicitly says it covers conduct "that may or may not constitute criminal behavior."

The definition for domestic violence under Federal criminal law focuses on physical force. This broader VAWA-based definition sweeps in a wider range of behaviors that domestic violence organizations say will implicate survivors who have used violence in self-defense or who were accused by their abusers and were either unable to defend themselves or pled guilty to avoid having to go through the court process.

The bill would also make it less likely that immigrant communities will report incidents of domestic violence.

We recently celebrated the 30th anniversary of the passage of VAWA, and we should continue our work to combat domestic violence, but this legislation would actually set back our efforts to protect survivors.

That is why over 200 national and local groups, as part of the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, the experts in the field, oppose this legislation. I think we ought to listen to them. We need to work together to solve our immigration problems, but this bill takes us in the wrong direction.

It attempts to fearmonger and demonize immigrants, just like the disgusting and absurd comments by former President Trump and many of his colleagues related to Haitians eating pets in Springfield, Ohio, a claim that has been thoroughly debunked, including by the Republican mayor of Springfield and Republican Governor DeWine of Ohio. Those comments have led to Springfield City Hall and several of its schools being evacuated and closed and multiple hospitals being locked down due to bomb threats.

My Republican colleagues may think that their words and lack of care have no impact, but sadly, we have seen that they can set off a deadly chain reaction.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this misguided bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida). The Chair would remind Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward nominees for the Office of the President.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LEE) will control the balance of time of the majority.

There was no objection.

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7909, the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act.

In 3½ years, President Joe Biden and border czar Vice President KAMALA HARRIS have allowed more than 7.5 million unvetted illegal aliens into the United States.

At the same time that they facilitated the collapse of our southwest border, President Biden and Vice President HARRIS have abandoned any semblance of interior immigration enforcement.

In a September 2021 memo, the Biden-Harris administration made en-

forcement more difficult for Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers. In training materials obtained by the Judiciary Committee and published in a staff report earlier this year, DHS failed to answer seemingly clear-cut questions, such as whether an alien who served a 20-year drug-related prison sentence or an alien who discharged a firearm outside of a police station should be priorities for arrest and deportation.

Those are the training materials required for all of ICE's enforcement personnel nationwide. Instead of making clear that ICE officers should carry out their duties to remove criminal aliens from American streets, the Biden-Harris administration instructs ICE officers to develop a full profile of a criminal alien before deciding whether to arrest someone who is in the country illegally.

In the training examples, that includes determining whether an alien has high blood pressure or is a caregiver, rather than focusing on appropriate considerations such as criminal history and whether the illegal alien is a danger to the community.

In a transcribed interview with the Judiciary Committee, a former top ICE official admitted that the Biden-Harris administration's policies have made immigration enforcement more dangerous for ICE officers, more difficult to carry out, and less efficient overall.

The ICE official even acknowledged that because of the border crisis, fewer ICE officers are available to track down public safety and national security threats because they are left to do border-related tasks, but this shouldn't be a surprise.

In 2019, KAMALA HARRIS told the ACLU she would slash funding for immigration detention, close private immigration detention centers, and even use taxpayer funding to provide transgender surgeries for illegal aliens detained in the United States.

Here is how her policies are working out.

In fiscal year 2019, the Trump administration arrested aliens who accounted for 5,435 convictions and charges for family offenses. That number dropped to a mere 3,439 in fiscal year 2023, a 36.7 percent decrease.

In fiscal year 2019, ICE arrested aliens who were responsible for 6,650 sex offenses and 5,061 sexual assault offenses. Under the Biden administration in fiscal year 2023, ICE arrested aliens responsible for only 5,746 sex offenses and 4,390 sexual assault offenses, drops of 13 percent in each category.

These aren't just hypotheticals or just numbers. They are a reality for families across America who need these offenders to be arrested and prosecuted and, more importantly, need them to be prevented from entering the United States of America in the first place.

They are emblematic of the Biden-Harris administration's war on women. Just last week, the Judiciary Committee heard from three moms whose

daughters were brutally assaulted and murdered by illegal aliens welcomed into the country by President Biden and Vice President HARRIS.

Tammy Nobles recounted how Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS released into the country the MS-13 gang member who went on to murder and sexually assault her daughter, Kayla Hamilton. The killer later admitted to four additional murders and two additional rapes.

Patty Morin told how an illegal alien raped and strangled her daughter, Rachel, and then stuffed her body into a drainpipe. The alleged murderer entered the country through border czar KAMALA HARRIS' wide-open southern border.

Alexis Nungaray spoke about how Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS released at the border the two illegal aliens who went on to viciously assault and murder her 12-year-old daughter, Jocelyn. Ms. Nungaray said: "She had no clothing from the waist down. Her hands and her ankles were tied and thrown under the bridge of water like she was nothing but garbage."

Victim advocate April Aguirre also told the tragic story of 11-year-old Maria Gonzalez. The Biden-Harris administration released her alleged murderer into the United States. Just 7 months earlier, the illegal alien assaulted and killed Maria, wrapped her body in a trash bag, and stuffed her in a laundry basket that he placed under her bed.

These are not isolated incidents.

In February, an illegal alien was arrested in Alabama for allegedly raping a 14-year-old girl who could not consent to the intercourse as she was physically helpless or mentally incapacitated.

In April, an illegal alien was arrested in Indiana for allegedly breaking into a Michigan mobile home park and sexually assaulting two young girls.

In May, authorities arrested a 20-year-old illegal alien for allegedly snatching an 11-year-old girl off the street in front of her Lake Worth, Florida, home and sexually assaulting her. According to local officials, the Guatemalan national crossed the U.S.-Mexico border in early January, made his way to Florida shortly afterward, and does not have an immigration court date until 2027.

That is Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS' immigration legacy: more unvetted aliens released into American communities, more criminal aliens on American streets, and more Americans endangered by radical, reckless policies.

KAMALA HARRIS' war on women is fueled by her open-border policies, which allow more sexual offenders, domestic violence offenders, and child abusers not only into the country but also to remain in the country indefinitely, free from fear of deportation.

The American people can end this nightmare in just 2 months. If voters choose to end this crisis, Republicans

have proposed new laws that will allow the next President to secure the border and increase interior immigration enforcement on day one.

H.R. 7909 is just one of many of those bills. H.R. 7909, the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act, makes crystal clear that illegal aliens who commit sex offenses are inadmissible to and removable from the United States.

The bill also fixes a discrepancy in current immigration law by creating a ground of inadmissibility for domestic violence to mirror the existing ground of removability for the same offenses. In addition, the bill expands the current ground of inadmissibility for domestic violence by cross-referencing the existing statutory definition for sex offenses.

Although many aliens can already be found inadmissible to and removable from the United States for certain sex offenses and domestic violence offenses, H.R. 7909 expands and clarifies the conduct for which an alien can be found removable from the country.

The time is now to take seriously the danger of criminal aliens in the United States. Anything that makes it easier for adjudicators and officials to ensure a criminal alien's arrest and removal should receive overwhelming bipartisan support, particularly when it comes to sex offenses and domestic violence.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1615

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I must say I find the gentlewoman's references to the Harris or the Biden-Harris war on women ironic coming from the Representative of a political party, the Republican Party, whose abortion policies have caused countless women to die, to bleed out while the doctors wait to operate, fearing felonies because of the anti-abortion laws in various States.

I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL), a distinguished member of the Judiciary Committee.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, here we are again, debating another partisan bill that promotes fearmongering about immigrants, instead of working together to fix the immigration system.

I probably shouldn't be too surprised. Scapegoating immigrants and attempting to weaponize the crime of domestic violence is appearing to be a time-honored tradition for Republicans.

The Trump administration reversed protections for asylum seekers who were fleeing unspeakable domestic violence in their home countries, and that is exactly what will happen again under another Trump Presidency as described in Trump's Project 2025.

Aminta Cifuentes is emblematic of the many survivors of gender-based violence who would be harmed by this legislation.

For over 10 years, Aminta Cifuentes' husband beat, raped, and tormented her. He tried to set her on fire. It resulted in her permanent hearing loss. He once hit her so hard that she gave birth prematurely, and she still has difficulty breathing and speaking.

Ms. Cifuentes tried to get protection from Guatemalan law enforcement multiple times, but the police dismissed her complaints as marital problems.

When she tried to leave her husband, he hunted her down. She finally fled to the United States where even here, her husband's threats still followed her.

This is exactly the kind of person that apparently my Republican colleagues do not think deserves protection.

Back in 2013 when the Senate passed its bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform legislation with 68 votes, it was then blocked by the Republican Speaker of the House because he knew that it would pass if it were to come to a vote.

That legislation would have legalized 10 million people, updated the legal immigration system, and added significant amounts of new enforcement.

One of the provisions that was forced in by Senate Republicans actually included a section making the crime of domestic violence a new inadmissibility ground.

We supported that provision because it also contained important exceptions to protect survivors of domestic violence. There are absolutely no such protections in this legislation.

This misguided bill would take the Violence Against Women Act definition of domestic violence and weaponize it into grounds for deportation.

Let me be clear: VAWA, or the Violence Against Women Act, is landmark legislation, and it is actually a testament to a time when Democrats and Republicans could come together and legislate on issues of fundamental importance to this Nation, despite our differences.

The initial iteration of VAWA passed the House by voice vote. It was a significant law. It reshaped how we as a country talk about gender-based violence and how we treat survivors.

Now, we have to fight tooth and nail to reauthorize it, and Republicans regularly let it languish, expired now for 3 years.

While VAWA is a great law, its definition was never meant to capture criminal conduct. In fact, it explicitly says in the definition itself that it intends to capture conduct that may or may not be criminal.

There is a reason that advocacy organizations for domestic violence survivors are coming out in droves to oppose this legislation.

They know how this expanded definition will harm survivors and create a chilling effect for reporting future crimes.

There are so many reasons why individuals in domestic violence situations

are forced into the criminal legal system.

Too often, survivors are arrested alongside their abuser, and they are charged and even convicted of crimes involving violence. Using this definition makes it more likely that we harm the very people that we want to protect.

In that same vein, this bill also has no waivers or exceptions. Under current law, any crime involving moral turpitude, which would cover much of the conduct in this bill, is eligible for a waiver if the individual can meet very strict criteria.

Current law also has specific and important options for waivers for survivors when dealing with a conviction for domestic violence or stalking.

These allow the government to waive a conviction if certain criteria are met, including showing that the individual was not the primary perpetrator, and that the crime was committed in self-defense.

Unfortunately, the Republican majority is attempting to add a new inadmissibility ground, and they don't even require a conviction or include any waivers. This makes absolutely no sense.

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

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

Ms. JAYAPAL. As it is, domestic violence survivors say that these waivers are not as strong as they could be, but to not include them at all shows a shocking lack of empathy and understanding of what survivors of domestic violence experience.

I guess I shouldn't be surprised considering that this is the same party supporting a man who was found liable for sexual assault and bragged about grabbing and forcibly kissing women without their consent.

Last week, we celebrated the 30th anniversary of VAWA's enactment, and now, as Trump's Project 2025 threatens to decimate key protections enshrined in VAWA, congressional Republicans are attempting to contort the law to hurt the very people it was designed to protect. What a disgrace.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this misleading bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The chair would remind Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward nominees for the Office of President.

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE).

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman JIM JORDAN for his leadership.

I find the debate on my bill, the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act, shameful. I, myself, am a survivor of rape. I understand the lifelong trauma as someone who has survived rape, as someone who has been in a domestic violence situation where I was also the victim.

I don't want to hear it. If you are here illegally at all, you should be gone. Today, we are only dealing with a very limited number of issues, meaning the worst of the worst, the criminal illegal aliens who are here illegally, committing some of the worst crimes against women and underage girls.

Joe Biden and border czar KAMALA HARRIS have opened the floodgates, welcoming countless criminal illegal aliens into our country to prey upon American women and American girls.

Thanks to the policies of Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS, these criminal illegal aliens who have no business, they have no right to step foot into our country now roam the streets of our communities, inflicting senseless acts of sexual and domestic violence and murder while they hurt American women and girls.

These Biden-Harris criminal illegal aliens have molested American children, battered and bruised American spouses, and violently raped American women and girls.

In April 2022, an illegal alien was arrested in my home State of South Carolina for sexually abusing an 11-year-old girl, after being previously deported not once but twice.

In May of 2022, an illegal alien and Guatemalan national raped and impregnated a 9-year-old girl in Ohio.

In April 2023, an illegal alien broke into a woman's house in Indiana in the middle of the night, physically assaulted her, and held a box cutter to her throat while he raped her.

In July 2023, an illegal alien and Honduran national raped a 13-year-old girl in neighboring Virginia, just 25 miles from where we stand today.

In March of this year, an illegal alien followed a woman from a train station, grabbed her, robbed her, and sexually assaulted her.

On March 25th of this year, an illegal alien was arrested and charged with raping a mentally incapacitated 14-year-old girl in Alabama.

On May 13th of this year, a serial rapist illegal alien was arrested in California for raping two women in a van which authorities referred to as his "rape dungeon on wheels."

In April of this year, an illegal alien was charged after breaking into a mobile home in Michigan and viciously sexually assaulting two young girls under the age of 13.

In May of this year, an illegal alien abducted an 11-year-old girl in Florida, forcing her into his van and brutally raping her.

On June 17th of this year, two illegal aliens raped and strangled 12-year-old Jocelyn Nungaray in Texas.

Just last month, an illegal alien was arrested after raping a 10-year-old boy in Mississippi.

Earlier this month, an illegal alien convicted of a violent assault in Massachusetts was released and went on to rape a child.

This is hardly an exhaustive list. We see more tragedies like these with

every passing week. The blood and the physical and emotional scars of these tragedies rest on the hands of Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS. Not only has the Biden-Harris administration caused this problem, they are actively enabling it.

Listen to this. In a September of 2021 memo, Secretary Mayorkas specifically argued domestic violence shouldn't be categorical grounds to apprehend and remove an illegal alien. How many American women and girls have been battered and bloodied due to this insanity?

Under my bill, any illegal alien who commits a sex crime or act of domestic violence is inadmissible to our country and immediately deportable.

We shouldn't let them into our country under any circumstances, and if we catch them, we send them back. They have to go.

As a survivor of rape, I know firsthand the devastating toll these heinous acts can take on a woman and the lifelong scars and the lifelong trauma that they leave behind. One woman or one child violated by an illegal alien is one too many.

Each and every sex crime or act of domestic violence committed by an illegal alien was preventable. They have no single right to be here today.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to put politics aside and protect American women and children from being victimized by criminal illegal aliens.

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

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

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO).

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, I too rise in support of the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act. Since President Biden took office, over 11 million individuals have come into this country illegally. Hundreds of thousands of these illegal immigrants have come to New York State.

Thanks to sanctuary city policies established both in the city of New York and in the State of New York, the Governor of New York allowed the mayor of the city to transport illegal immigrants to hotels and motels across upstate New York, forcing Democrats and Republicans to take executive action to block this action.

Just in the past year alone, upstate New York has seen several heinous crimes committed against women by illegal immigrants.

To name just a few, in June, a Turkish migrant raped a 14-year-old girl in Albany after attacking her inside her vehicle.

A migrant from Ecuador suffocated a woman in Syracuse on her 21st birthday and then hid her body in a community park.

In Delaware County, New York, an illegal immigrant raped and strangled a

woman. To make matters worse, this illegal immigrant was out on Governor Hochul's cashless bail for previously raping someone.

One instance of a woman being raped or assaulted should be enough and should have been enough for President Biden and Vice President HARRIS to take executive action to close the border.

The Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act will ensure that these evil individuals, these criminals, are arrested and deported.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill so that we can remove any illegal immigrant who commits awful crimes against women.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill does not close any gaps in the law, does not fix any of the myriad problems with our immigration system or the southern border, and would actually harm the very people it purports to protect.

It is another excuse for the Republican majority to play politics with immigration without doing any of the hard work involved in finding bipartisan solutions.

I urge Members to oppose this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1630

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Democrats assert today that this bill is unnecessary, but that ignores the clear reality of the crisis affecting our southern border and how it has affected those who are victims of these crimes in our country.

Take, for example, the fact that under current immigration law, there is no explicit ground for inadmissibility of illegal aliens who commit domestic violence offenses, despite a ground of removability for such aliens.

Consider that despite certain sex offenses making aliens removable from the country, there is currently not a ground of inadmissibility or removability for certain sex offenses.

The Biden-Harris administration's war on women must come to an end. H.R. 7909 is one step toward that. Making people inadmissible to and removable from the United States because they have committed a sex offense or a domestic violence offense should be something that even open-border Democrats can agree with us on.

The Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act is a straightforward, commonsense bill that I urge my colleagues to support.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

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

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AND OTHER MATTERS ACT, 2025

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1430, I call up the bill (H.R. 9494) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2025, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1430, the amendment printed in part D of House Report 118-656 is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

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

H.R. 9494

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Continuing Appropriations and Other Matters Act, 2025".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
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- Sec. 3. References.

DIVISION A—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2025

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- Sec. 201. Short title.
- Sec. 202. Ensuring only citizens are registered to vote in elections for Federal office.
- Sec. 203. Election assistance commission guidance.
- Sec. 204. Inapplicability of paperwork reduction act.
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- Sec. 206. Rule of construction regarding provisional ballots.
- Sec. 207. Rule of construction regarding effect on state exemptions from other Federal laws.
- Sec. 208. Effective date.

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to "this Act" contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

DIVISION A—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2025

The following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds, for the several departments, agencies, corporations, and other organizational units of Government for fiscal year 2025, and for other purposes, namely:

SEC. 101. Such amounts as may be necessary, at a rate for operations as provided in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2024 and under the authority and conditions provided in such Acts, for continuing projects or activities (including the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees) that are not otherwise specifically provided for in this Act, that were conducted in fiscal year 2024, and for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were made available in the following appropriations Acts:

(1) The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024 (division B of Public Law 118-42).

(2) The Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024 (division C of Public Law 118-42).

(3) The Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024 (division A of Public Law 118-47).

(4) The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024 (division D of Public Law 118-42).

(5) The Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2024 (division B of Public Law 118-47), except section 637.

(6) The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2024 (division C of Public Law 118-47), except section 546(e).

(7) The Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024 (division E of Public Law 118-42), except section 447.

(8) The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024 (division D of Public Law 118-47).

(9) The Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2024 (division E of Public Law 118-47), except the matter under the heading "Joint Items—Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies of 2025", and section 7 in the matter preceding division A of Public Law 118-47.

(10) The Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024 (division A of Public Law 118-42), except section 259.

(11) The Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2024 (division F of Public Law 118-47), except section 7075(a).

(12) The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024 (division F of Public Law 118-42).

SEC. 102. (a) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used for:

(1) the new production of items not funded for production in fiscal year 2024 or prior years;

(2) the increase in production rates above those sustained with fiscal year 2024 funds; or

(3) the initiation, resumption, or continuation of any project, activity, operation, or organization (defined as any project, subproject, activity, budget activity, program element, and subprogram within a program element, and for any investment items defined as a P-1 line item in a budget activity within an appropriation account and an R-1 line item that includes a program element and subprogram element within an appropriation account) for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2024.

(b) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used to initiate multi-year procurements utilizing advance procurement funding for economic order quantity procurement unless specifically appropriated later.

SEC. 103. Appropriations made by section 101 shall be available to the extent and in the manner that would be provided by the pertinent appropriations Act.

SEC. 104. Except as otherwise provided in section 102, no appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 shall be used to initiate or resume any project or activity for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 105. Appropriations made and authority granted pursuant to this Act shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred for any project or activity during the period for which funds or authority for such project or activity are available under this Act.

SEC. 106. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2025, appropriations and funds made available and authority granted pursuant to this Act shall be available until whichever of the following first occurs:

(1) The enactment into law of an appropriation for any project or activity provided for in this Act.

(2) The enactment into law of the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2025 without any provision for such project or activity.

(3) March 28, 2025.

SEC. 107. Expenditures made pursuant to this Act shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization whenever a bill in which such applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization is contained is enacted into law.

SEC. 108. Appropriations made and funds made available by or authority granted pursuant to this Act may be used without regard to the time limitations for submission and approval of apportionments set forth in section 1513 of title 31, United States Code, but nothing in this Act may be construed to waive any other provision of law governing the apportionment of funds.

SEC. 109. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, except section 106, for those programs that would otherwise have high initial rates of operation or complete distribution of appropriations at the beginning of fiscal year 2025 because of distributions of funding to States, foreign countries, grantees, or others, such high initial rates of operation or complete distribution shall not be made, and no grants shall be awarded for such programs funded by this Act that would impinge on final funding prerogatives.

SEC. 110. This Act shall be implemented so that only the most limited funding action of that permitted in the Act shall be taken in order to provide for continuation of projects and activities.

SEC. 111. (a) For entitlements and other mandatory payments whose budget authority was provided in appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2024, and for activities under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, activities shall be continued at the rate to maintain program levels under current law, under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2024, to be continued through the date specified in section 106(3).

(b) Notwithstanding section 106, obligations for mandatory payments due on or about the first day of any month that begins after October 2024, but not later than 30 days after the date specified in section 106(3) may continue to be made, and funds shall be available for such payments.

SEC. 112. Amounts made available under section 101 for civilian personnel compensation and benefits in each department and agency may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to avoid furloughs within such department or agency, consistent with the applicable appropriations

Act for fiscal year 2024, except that such authority provided under this section shall not be used until after the department or agency has taken all necessary actions to reduce or defer non-personnel-related administrative expenses.

SEC. 113. Funds appropriated by this Act may be obligated and expended notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91-672 (22 U.S.C. 2412), section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2680), section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 6212), and section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)).

SEC. 114. (a) Each amount incorporated by reference in this Act that was previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of such Act or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act, respectively.

(b) Section 6 of Public Laws 118-42 and 118-47 shall apply to amounts designated in subsection (a) and in sections 130 and 146 of this Act as an emergency requirement.

(c) Each amount incorporated by reference in this Act that was previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget shall continue to be treated as amounts specified in section 103(b) of division A of Public Law 118-5.

(d) This section shall become effective immediately upon enactment of this Act, and shall remain in effect through the date in section 106(3).

SEC. 115. (a) Rescissions or cancellations of discretionary budget authority that continue pursuant to section 101 in Treasury Appropriations Fund Symbols (TAFS)—

(1) to which other appropriations are not provided by this Act, but for which there is a current applicable TAFS that does receive an appropriation in this Act; or

(2) which are no-year TAFS and receive other appropriations in this Act, may be continued instead by reducing the rate for operations otherwise provided by section 101 for such current applicable TAFS, as long as doing so does not impinge on the final funding prerogatives of the Congress.

(b) Rescissions or cancellations described in subsection (a) shall continue in an amount equal to the lesser of—

(1) the amount specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101 of this Act; or

(2) the amount of balances available, as of October 1, 2024, from the funds specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101 of this Act.

(c) No later than November 18, 2024, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a comprehensive list of the rescissions or cancellations that will continue pursuant to section 101: *Provided*, That the information in such comprehensive list shall be periodically updated to reflect any subsequent changes in the amount of balances available, as of October 1, 2024, from the funds specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101, and such updates shall be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate upon request.

SEC. 116. In addition to amounts otherwise provided by section 101, there is appropriated

to the Department of Defense for “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, \$1,950,000,000, for an additional amount for fiscal year 2025, to remain available until September 30, 2029, for the Virginia Class Submarine program.

SEC. 117. Notwithstanding sections 101 and 104, amounts provided by section 101 for “Corps of Engineers—Civil—Operation and Maintenance” may be used up to an amount not to exceed \$37,600,000, adjusted for inflation beginning August 1, 2024, as compensation for reserving and operating 3.6 million acre-feet of pre-planned flood storage at Hugh Keenleyside Dam to minimize the flood risk in the Columbia River Basin in the United States.

SEC. 118. (a) Funds made available by section 101 for “Department of Energy—Atomic Energy Defense Activities—Environmental and Other Defense Activities—Other Defense Activities” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to sustain specialized security activities.

(b) The Secretary of Energy shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 3 days after each use of the authority provided in subsection (a).

SEC. 119. Notwithstanding section 101, the matter under the heading “Election Assistance Commission—Election Security Grants” in division B of Public Law 118-47 shall be applied by substituting “\$0” for “\$55,000,000”.

SEC. 120. (a) Notwithstanding section 101, for “General Services Administration—Expenses, Presidential Transition”, there is appropriated \$10,202,314, for necessary expenses to carry out the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 (Public Law 88-277), as amended, of which \$6,971,863 is available for activities authorized by sections 3(a)(1) through 3(a)(7) and 3(a)(10) of such Act; \$2,730,451 is available for activities authorized by section 5 of such Act; and not to exceed \$500,000 is available for activities authorized by sections 3(a)(8) and 3(a)(9) of such Act: *Provided*, That such amounts may be transferred and credited to the “Acquisition Services Fund” or the “Federal Buildings Fund” to reimburse obligations incurred prior to enactment of this Act for the purposes provided herein related to the Presidential election in 2024: *Provided further*, That amounts available under this section shall be in addition to any other amounts available for such purposes.

(b) Notwithstanding section 101, no funds are provided by this Act for “General Services Administration—Pre-Election Presidential Transition”.

SEC. 121. In addition to amounts otherwise provided by section 101, amounts are provided for “District of Columbia—Federal Payment for Emergency Planning and Security Costs in the District of Columbia” at a rate for operations of \$47,000,000, for an additional amount for costs associated with the Presidential Inauguration to be held in January 2025: *Provided*, That such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain emergency planning and security activities relating to such Presidential Inauguration.

SEC. 122. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, except section 106, the District of Columbia may expend local funds made available under the heading “District of Columbia—District of Columbia Funds” for such programs and activities under the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2024 (title IV of division B of Public Law 118-47) at the rate set forth in the Fiscal Year 2025 Local Budget Act of 2024 (D.C. Act 25-501), as modified as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 123. Notwithstanding section 101, for “Executive Office of the President and Funds

Appropriated to the President—Office of Administration—Presidential Transition Administrative Support”, there is appropriated \$8,000,000, for expenses necessary to carry out the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 and other similar expenses: *Provided*, That such funds may be transferred to other accounts that provide funding for offices within the Executive Office of the President and the Office of the Vice President in this Act or any other Act, to carry out such purposes: *Provided further*, That such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out such responsibilities.

SEC. 124. Notwithstanding section 106, for the duration of fiscal year 2025, amounts made available under section 601(f)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 801(f)(3)) shall be available for any necessary expenses of the Department of the Treasury Office of Inspector General with respect to section 601 of that Act, subtitle A of title V of division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, or section 3201 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

SEC. 125. Notwithstanding section 101, the second proviso under the heading “Office of Personnel Management—Salaries and Expenses” in title V of division B of Public Law 118-47 shall be applied by substituting “\$204,975,000” for “\$192,975,000”.

SEC. 126. (a) Notwithstanding section 101, section 747 of title VII of division B of Public Law 118-47 shall be applied during the period covered by this Act by—

- (1) substituting “2026” for “2025”;
- (2) substituting “2025” for “2024” each place it appears;
- (3) substituting “2024” for “2023” each place it appears; and
- (4) substituting “section 747 of title VII of division B of Public Law 118-47, as in effect on September 30, 2024” for “section 747 of division E of Public Law 117-328” each place it appears.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not take effect until the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2025.

SEC. 127. Notwithstanding section 104, amounts provided by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security for “Coast Guard—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” may be used for closeout costs relating to the C-27J missionization program.

SEC. 128. During the period covered by this Act, section 11223(b)(2) of division K of Public Law 117-263 shall be applied by substituting “shall not apply” for “shall apply”.

SEC. 129. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out response and recovery activities under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

SEC. 130. In addition to amounts otherwise provided by section 101, for “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund”, there is appropriated \$10,000,000,000, for an additional amount for fiscal year 2025, to remain available until expended, of which \$9,500,000,000 shall be for major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 131. Amounts provided by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security for “United States Secret Service—Operations and Support” may be apportioned up to the

rate for operations necessary to carry out protective operations, including activities related to National Special Security Events and the 2024 Presidential Campaign.

SEC. 132. In addition to amounts otherwise provided by section 101, amounts are provided for “Department of the Interior—National Park Service—Operation of the National Park System” at a rate for operations of \$5,000,000, for an additional amount for security and visitor safety activities related to the Presidential Inaugural Ceremonies.

SEC. 133. During the period covered by this Act, section 113 of division G of Public Law 113-76, as amended by Public Law 116-6, shall be applied by substituting “2025” for “2024”.

SEC. 134. During the period covered by this Act, section 8206(b)(2)(C)(ii) of the Agriculture Act of 2014 (16 U.S.C. 2113a(b)(2)(C)(ii)) shall be applied by substituting the date that is 1 day after the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “October 1, 2024”.

SEC. 135. (a) In addition to amounts otherwise provided by section 101, amounts are provided for “Department of Health and Human Services—Indian Health Service—Indian Health Services” at a rate for operations of \$24,262,000, for an additional amount for costs of staffing and operating facilities that were opened, renovated, or expanded in fiscal years 2024 and 2025, and such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to staff and operate such facilities.

(b) In addition to amounts otherwise provided by section 101, amounts are provided for “Department of Health and Human Services—Indian Health Service—Indian Health Facilities” at a rate for operations of \$2,060,000, for an additional amount for costs of staffing and operating facilities that were opened, renovated, or expanded in fiscal years 2024 and 2025, and such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to staff and operate such facilities.

SEC. 136. Amounts provided by section 101 for “Department of Agriculture—Forest Service—Wildland Fire Management” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary for wildfire suppression activities.

SEC. 137. Amounts made available by section 101 for “Domestic Food Programs—Food and Nutrition Service—Commodity Assistance Program” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain current program caseload in the Commodity Supplemental Food Program.

SEC. 138. Amounts provided by section 101 for “Rural Housing Service—Rural Community Facilities Program Account” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain activities as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act.

SEC. 139. Amounts made available by section 101 for “Farm Service Agency—Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund Program Account” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate approved applications for direct and guaranteed farm ownership loans, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1922 et seq.

SEC. 140. Section 260 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1636i) and section 942 of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1635 note; Public Law 106-78) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2024”.

SEC. 141. Amounts made available by section 101 for “Domestic Food Programs—Food and Nutrition Service—Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)” may be apportioned at the rate for operations necessary to maintain participation.

SEC. 142. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution, there is appropriated:

(1) For payment to Beatrice Y. Payne, widow of Donald M. Payne, Jr., late a Representative from the State of New Jersey, \$174,000.

(2) For payment to the heirs at law of Sheila Jackson Lee, late a Representative from the State of Texas, \$174,000.

(3) For payment to Elsie M. Pascrell, widow of William Pascrell, Jr., late a Representative from the State of New Jersey, \$174,000.

SEC. 143. Notwithstanding section 101, section 126 of division A of Public Law 118-42 shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020” for “fiscal year 2017, 2018, and 2019”.

SEC. 144. (a) Amounts made available by section 101 for “Veterans Health Administration—Medical Services” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain current program operations including inpatient and outpatient care and treatment to beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs and veterans described in section 1705(a) of title 38, United States Code.

(b) Amounts made available by section 101 for “Veterans Health Administration—Medical Support and Compliance” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain administration of medical, hospital, nursing home, domiciliary, supply, construction and research activities authorized by law.

SEC. 145. Amounts provided by section 101 for “Department of Transportation—Office of the Secretary—Payments to Air Carriers” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain Essential Air Service program operations.

SEC. 146. Notwithstanding section 106 of this Act, for the duration of fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may use the unobligated balances of amounts made available in prior fiscal years in the second paragraph under the heading “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Public and Indian Housing—Tenant-Based Rental Assistance” to support additional allocations under subparagraph (D) of paragraph (1) and subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4) of such heading to prevent the termination of rental assistance for families as a result of insufficient funding in the calendar year 2024 funding cycle: *Provided*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That such amounts shall be available only if the President designates such amounts as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i).

SEC. 147. (a) Sections 1309(a) and 1319 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4016(a) and 4026) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2024”.

(b)(1) Subject to paragraph (2), this section shall become effective immediately upon enactment of this Act.

(2) If this Act is enacted after September 30, 2024, this section shall be applied as if it were in effect on September 30, 2024.

DIVISION B—SAVE ACT

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “Safe-guard American Voter Eligibility Act” or the “SAVE Act”.

SEC. 202. ENSURING ONLY CITIZENS ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE IN ELECTIONS FOR FEDERAL OFFICE.

(a) **DEFINITION OF DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP.**—Section 3 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20502) is amended—

(1) by striking “as used” and inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—As used”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) **DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP.**—As used in this Act, the term ‘documentary proof of United States citizenship’ means, with respect to an applicant for voter registration, any of the following:

“(1) A form of identification issued consistent with the requirements of the REAL ID Act of 2005 that indicates the applicant is a citizen of the United States.

“(2) A valid United States passport.

“(3) The applicant’s official United States military identification card, together with a United States military record of service showing that the applicant’s place of birth was in the United States.

“(4) A valid government-issued photo identification card issued by a Federal, State or Tribal government showing that the applicant’s place of birth was in the United States.

“(5) A valid government-issued photo identification card issued by a Federal, State or Tribal government other than an identification described in paragraphs (1) through (4), but only if presented together with one or more of the following:

“(A) A certified birth certificate issued by a State, a unit of local government in a State, or a Tribal government which—

“(i) was issued by the State, unit of local government, or Tribal government in which the applicant was born;

“(ii) was filed with the office responsible for keeping vital records in the State;

“(iii) includes the full name, date of birth, and place of birth of the applicant;

“(iv) lists the full names of one or both of the parents of the applicant;

“(v) has the signature of an individual who is authorized to sign birth certificates on behalf of the State, unit of local government, or Tribal government in which the applicant was born;

“(vi) includes the date that the certificate was filed with the office responsible for keeping vital records in the State; and

“(vii) has the seal of the State, unit of local government, or Tribal government that issued the birth certificate.

“(B) An extract from a United States hospital Record of Birth created at the time of the applicant’s birth which indicates that the applicant’s place of birth was in the United States.

“(C) A final adoption decree showing the applicant’s name and that the applicant’s place of birth was in the United States.

“(D) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a citizen of the United States or a certification of the applicant’s Report of Birth of a United States citizen issued by the Secretary of State.

“(E) A Naturalization Certificate or Certificate of Citizenship issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security or any other document or method of proof of United States citizenship issued by the Federal government pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act.

“(F) An American Indian Card issued by the Department of Homeland Security with the classification ‘KIC’.”

(b) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 4 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20503) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “subsection (b)” and inserting “subsection (c)”; and

(2) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

“(b) **REQUIRING APPLICANTS TO PRESENT DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP.**—Under any method of voter registration in a State, the State shall not accept and process an application to register to vote in an election for Federal office unless the applicant presents documentary proof of United States citizenship with the application.”

(c) **REGISTRATION WITH APPLICATION FOR MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER’S LICENSE.**—Section 5 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20504) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “Each State motor vehicle driver’s license application” and inserting “Subject to the requirements under section 8(j), each State motor vehicle driver’s license application”;

(2) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “Each State shall include” and inserting “Subject to the requirements under section 8(j), each State shall include”;

(3) in subsection (c)(2)(B)—

(A) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in clause (ii), by adding “and” at the end; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) verify that the applicant is a citizen of the United States.”;

(4) in subsection (c)(2)(C)(i), by striking “(including citizenship)” and inserting “, including the requirement that the applicant provides documentary proof of United States citizenship”;

(5) in subsection (c)(2)(D)(iii), by striking “; and” and inserting the following: “, other than as evidence in a criminal proceeding or immigration proceeding brought against an applicant who knowingly attempts to register to vote and knowingly makes a false declaration under penalty of perjury that the applicant meets the eligibility requirements to register to vote in an election for Federal office; and”.

(d) **REQUIRING DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP WITH NATIONAL MAIL VOTER REGISTRATION FORM.**—Section 6 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20505) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) by striking “Each State shall accept and use” and inserting “Subject to the requirements under section 8(j), each State shall accept and use”;

(B) by striking “Federal Election Commission” and inserting “Election Assistance Commission”;

(2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the following: “The chief State election official of a State shall take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that residents of the State are aware of the requirement to provide documentary proof of United States citizenship to register to vote in elections for Federal office in the State.”;

(3) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) the person did not provide documentary proof of United States citizenship when registering to vote.”;

(4) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) **ENSURING PROOF OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP.**—

“(1) **PRESENTING PROOF OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP TO ELECTION OFFICIAL.**—An applicant who submits the mail voter registration

application form prescribed by the Election Assistance Commission pursuant to section 9(a)(2) or a form described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a) shall not be registered to vote in an election for Federal office unless—

“(A) the applicant presents documentary proof of United States citizenship in person to the office of the appropriate election official not later than the deadline provided by State law for the receipt of a completed voter registration application for the election; or

“(B) in the case of a State which permits an individual to register to vote in an election for Federal office at a polling place on the day of the election and on any day when voting, including early voting, is permitted for the election, the applicant presents documentary proof of United States citizenship to the appropriate election official at the polling place not later than the date of the election.

“(2) **NOTIFICATION OF REQUIREMENT.**—Upon receiving an otherwise completed mail voter registration application form prescribed by the Election Assistance Commission pursuant to section 9(a)(2) or a form described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a), the appropriate election official shall transmit a notice to the applicant of the requirement to present documentary proof of United States citizenship under this subsection, and shall include in the notice instructions to enable the applicant to meet the requirement.

“(3) **ACCESSIBILITY.**—Each State shall, in consultation with the Election Assistance Commission, ensure that reasonable accommodations are made to allow an individual with a disability who submits the mail voter registration application form prescribed by the Election Assistance Commission pursuant to section 9(a)(2) or a form described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a) to present documentary proof of United States citizenship to the appropriate election official.”

(e) **REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTER REGISTRATION AGENCIES.**—Section 7 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20506) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (4)(A), by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iv) Receipt of documentary proof of United States citizenship of each applicant to register to vote in elections for Federal office in the State.”; and

(B) in paragraph (6)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)(i)(I), by striking “(including citizenship)” and inserting “, including the requirement that the applicant provides documentary proof of United States citizenship”;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C); and

(iii) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

“(B) ask the applicant the question, ‘Are you a citizen of the United States?’ and if the applicant answers in the affirmative require documentary proof of United States citizenship prior to providing the form under subparagraph (C);”;

(2) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting “who are citizens of the United States” after “for persons”.

(f) **REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO ADMINISTRATION OF VOTER REGISTRATION.**—Section 8 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “In the administration of voter registration” and inserting “Subject to the requirements of subsection (j), in the administration of voter registration”; and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking “or” at the end; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(D) based on documentary proof or verified information that the registrant is not a United States citizen; or

“(E) the registration otherwise fails to comply with applicable State law;”;

(2) by redesignating subsection (j) as subsection (l); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (i) the following new subsections:

“(j) ENSURING ONLY CITIZENS ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, a State may not register an individual to vote in elections for Federal office held in the State unless, at the time the individual applies to register to vote, the individual provides documentary proof of United States citizenship.

“(2) ADDITIONAL PROCESSES IN CERTAIN CASES.—

“(A) PROCESS FOR THOSE WITHOUT DOCUMENTARY PROOF.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to any relevant guidance adopted by the Election Assistance Commission, each State shall establish a process under which an applicant who cannot provide documentary proof of United States citizenship under paragraph (1) may, if the applicant signs an attestation under penalty of perjury that the applicant is a citizen of the United States and eligible to vote in elections for Federal office, submit such other evidence to the appropriate State or local official demonstrating that the applicant is a citizen of the United States and such official shall make a determination as to whether the applicant has sufficiently established United States citizenship for purposes of registering to vote in elections for Federal office in the State.

“(ii) AFFIDAVIT REQUIREMENT.—If a State or local official makes a determination under clause (i) that an applicant has sufficiently established United States citizenship for purposes of registering to vote in elections for Federal office in the State, such determination shall be accompanied by an affidavit developed under clause (iii) signed by the official swearing or affirming the applicant sufficiently established United States citizenship for purposes of registering to vote.

“(iii) DEVELOPMENT OF AFFIDAVIT BY THE ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION.—The Election Assistance Commission shall develop a uniform affidavit for use by State and local officials under clause (ii), which shall—

“(I) include an explanation of the minimum standards required for a State or local official to register an applicant who cannot provide documentary proof of United States citizenship to vote in elections for Federal office in the State; and

“(II) require the official to explain the basis for registering such applicant to vote in such elections.

“(B) PROCESS IN CASE OF CERTAIN DISCREPANCIES IN DOCUMENTATION.—Subject to any relevant guidance adopted by the Election Assistance Commission, each State shall establish a process under which an applicant can provide such additional documentation to the appropriate election official of the State as may be necessary to establish that the applicant is a citizen of the United States in the event of a discrepancy with respect to the applicant's documentary proof of United States citizenship.

“(3) STATE REQUIREMENTS.—Each State shall take affirmative steps on an ongoing basis to ensure that only United States citizens are registered to vote under the provisions of this Act, which shall include the establishment of a program described in paragraph (4) not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection.

“(4) PROGRAM DESCRIBED.—A State may meet the requirements of paragraph (3) by establishing a program under which the State identifies individuals who are not United States citizens using information supplied by one or more of the following sources:

“(A) The Department of Homeland Security through the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (‘SAVE’) or otherwise.

“(B) The Social Security Administration through the Social Security Number Verification Service, or otherwise.

“(C) State agencies that supply State identification cards or driver's licenses where the agency confirms the United States citizenship status of applicants.

“(D) Other sources, including databases, which provide confirmation of United States citizenship status.

“(5) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—At the request of a State election official (including a request related to a process established by a State under paragraph (2)(A) or (2)(B)), any head of a Federal department or agency possessing information relevant to determining the eligibility of an individual to vote in elections for Federal office shall, not later than 24 hours after receipt of such request, provide the official with such information as may be necessary to enable the official to verify that an applicant for voter registration in elections for Federal office held in the State or a registrant on the official list of eligible voters in elections for Federal office held in the State is a citizen of the United States, which shall include providing the official with such batched information as may be requested by the official.

“(B) USE OF SAVE SYSTEM.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may respond to a request received under paragraph (1) by using the system for the verification of immigration status under the applicable provisions of section 1137 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-7), as established pursuant to section 121(c) of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-603).

“(C) SHARING OF INFORMATION.—The heads of Federal departments and agencies shall share information with each other with respect to an individual who is the subject of a request received under paragraph (A) in order to enable them to respond to the request.

“(D) INVESTIGATION FOR PURPOSES OF REMOVAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall conduct an investigation to determine whether to initiate removal proceedings under section 239 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229) if it is determined pursuant to subparagraph (A) or (B) that an alien (as such term is defined in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101)) is unlawfully registered to vote in elections for Federal office.

“(E) PROHIBITING FEES.—The head of a Federal department or agency may not charge a fee for responding to a State's request under paragraph (A).

“(K) REMOVAL OF NONCITIZENS FROM REGISTRATION ROLLS.—A State shall remove an individual who is not a citizen of the United States from the official list of eligible voters for elections for Federal office held in the State at any time upon receipt of documentation or verified information that a registrant is not a United States citizen.”.

(g) CLARIFICATION OF AUTHORITY OF STATE TO REMOVE NONCITIZENS FROM OFFICIAL LIST OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 8(a)(4) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507(a)(4)) is amended—

(A) by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (A);

(B) by adding “or” at the end of subparagraph (B); and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) documentary proof or verified information that the registrant is not a United States citizen;”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 8(c)(2)(B)(i) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20507(c)(2)(B)(i)) is amended by striking “(4)(A)” and inserting “(4)(A) or (C)”.

(h) REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO FEDERAL MAIL VOTER REGISTRATION FORM.—

(1) CONTENTS OF MAIL VOTER REGISTRATION FORM.—Section 9(b) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20508(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “(including citizenship)” and inserting “(including an explanation of what is required to present documentary proof of United States citizenship)”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) shall include a section, for use only by a State or local election official, to record the type of document the applicant presented as documentary proof of United States citizenship, including the date of issuance, the date of expiration (if any), the office which issued the document, and any unique identification number associated with the document.”.

(2) INFORMATION ON MAIL VOTER REGISTRATION FORM.—Section 9(b)(4) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20508(b)(4)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating clauses (i) through (iii) as subparagraphs (A) through (C), respectively; and

(B) in subparagraph (C) (as so redesignated and as amended by paragraph (1)(C)), by striking “; and” and inserting the following: “, other than as evidence in a criminal proceeding or immigration proceeding brought against an applicant who attempts to register to vote and makes a false declaration under penalty of perjury that the applicant meets the eligibility requirements to register to vote in an election for Federal office; and”.

(i) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—Section 11(b)(1) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20510(b)(1)) is amended by striking “a violation of this Act” and inserting “a violation of this Act, including the act of an election official who registers an applicant to vote in an election for Federal office who fails to present documentary proof of United States citizenship.”.

(j) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—Section 12(2) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20511(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (A);

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (D); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraphs:

“(B) in the case of an officer or employee of the executive branch, providing material assistance to a noncitizen in attempting to register to vote or vote in an election for Federal office;

“(C) registering an applicant to vote in an election for Federal office who fails to present documentary proof of United States citizenship; or”.

(k) APPLICABILITY OF REQUIREMENTS TO CERTAIN STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 4 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20503), as redesignated by subsection (b), is amended by striking “This Act does not apply to a State” and inserting

"Except with respect to the requirements under subsection (i) and (j) of section 8 in the case of a State described in paragraph (2), this Act does not apply to a State".

(2) PERMITTING STATES TO ADOPT REQUIREMENTS AFTER ENACTMENT.—Section 4 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20503) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) PERMITTING STATES TO ADOPT CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS AFTER ENACTMENT.—Subsections (i) and (j) of section 8 shall not apply to a State described in subsection (c)(2) if the State, by law or regulation, adopts requirements which are identical to the requirements under such subsections not later than 60 days prior to the date of the first election for Federal office which is held in the State after the date of the enactment of the SAVE Act."

SEC. 203. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION GUIDANCE.

Not later than 10 days after the date of the enactment of this division, the Election Assistance Commission shall adopt and transmit to the chief State election official of each State guidance with respect to the implementation of the requirements under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.), as amended by section 202.

SEC. 204. INAPPLICABILITY OF PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.

Subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44 (commonly referred to as the "Paperwork Reduction Act") shall not apply with respect to the development or modification of voter registration materials under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.), as amended by section 202, including the development or modification of any voter registration application forms.

SEC. 205. DUTY OF SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO NOTIFY ELECTION OFFICIALS OF NATURALIZATION.

Upon receiving information that an individual has become a naturalized citizen of the United States, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall promptly provide notice of such information to the appropriate chief election official of the State in which such individual is domiciled.

SEC. 206. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING PROVISIONAL BALLOTS.

Nothing in this division or in any amendment made by this division may be construed to supercede, restrict, or otherwise affect the ability of an individual to cast a provisional ballot in an election for Federal office or to have the ballot counted in the election if the individual is verified as a citizen of the United States pursuant to section 8(j) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (as added by section 202(f)).

SEC. 207. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING EFFECT ON STATE EXEMPTIONS FROM OTHER FEDERAL LAWS.

Nothing in this division or in any amendment made by this division may be construed to affect the exemption of a State from any requirement of any Federal law other than the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.).

SEC. 208. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This division and the amendments made by this division shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this division, and shall apply with respect to applications for voter registration which are submitted on or after such date.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, is debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) and the gentlewoman from Con-

necticut (Ms. DELAURO) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9494, the Continuing Appropriations and Other Matters Act of 2025.

Today's bill arises at a particularly challenging time for our country. For 4 years, President Biden and Vice President HARRIS' self-inflicted border crisis has caused chaos in communities across our country. Our national debt has risen to over \$35 trillion, threatening the future financial stability of our country.

Across the world, America's adversaries continue to march forward, threatening our friends and democratic partners, and now we are facing a looming deadline to fund the government and keep it serving the American people.

Given the state of the world and our approaching election, this is no time to shut the government down. That means Congress needs to act, and we need to do so today.

The appropriations process is one that is never easy. It requires time and hard work to complete. Frankly, I am proud of what this body has accomplished this year. Even after a late start due to the delay of the fiscal year 2024 process and the President's late budget request, the Appropriations Committee succeeded in passing all 12 of our fiscal year 2025 bills out of committee.

The House also passed five of those bills across the floor, representing nearly 71 percent of overall discretionary spending. Unfortunately, time is drawing short, and our colleagues in the Senate, who have yet to pass a single fiscal year 2025 bill across the floor, have not kept pace with the House.

It is clear that we are unable to complete the full appropriations process by September 30. That means that a continuing resolution is needed. The bill before us extends government funding through March 28, 2025, ensuring that the government remains open and providing critical services to our constituents.

This extension will not only give us the time we need to complete our appropriations process for 2025 but also will allow the American people to have a say in the appropriations process.

The bill includes certain key extensions, including essential programs like flood insurance, WIC, and TANF. It also provides needed funding for dis-

aster relief, helping communities across the country that have faced natural disasters this year or that will face them in the coming months.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, in just 2 short months, Americans will go to the polls to elect a new President of the United States. This is a critical time for American democracy, and it is more important than ever that our elections are secure.

That is why H.R. 9494 includes the text of the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act, or SAVE Act, which will ensure that only American citizens may vote in Federal elections. This commonsense legislation is necessary to protect the sanctity and security of our elections, making sure that it is American citizens alone who will choose the future direction of our country. This is as the Founding Fathers intended and as it should be.

Mr. Speaker, governance by continuing resolution is not ideal. It is always better to pass full-year appropriations bills through regular order, but we are out of time and we cannot afford a government shutdown, which would be greatly damaging to our national security, to critical government programs, and to the American people.

The stakes could not be higher. That is why I urge all of my colleagues to vote in support of H.R. 9494 today. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I oppose this continuing resolution, which would shortchange our veterans, absolve the House Republican majority of their responsibility to govern, and move us closer to a shutdown. I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

The majority's proposal completely abandons our Nation's veterans. We have been informed by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Office of Management and Budget that \$12 billion more is required to provide necessary medical care for veterans who have been exposed to toxic substances.

Despite the urgency, the majority has decided to provide nothing, zero, for veterans' medical needs. I cannot understand how anybody who supports this bill can go home and look their veteran constituents in the eye and tell them that they voted to shortchange the medical care they earned with their service.

I am glad that the majority heard House Democrats' protests when we pointed out how cruel and misguided this bill was when it was first introduced. The original proposal would have shut off all funding for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, which would have undercut support for over 1 million families.

While the majority may have fixed that, House Republicans' bill demonstrates a belief that the need to care for veterans who have been exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances is less of a priority than everything else in this bill. It is disgraceful.

We could have solved this issue had the majority considered a bipartisan path forward at any point in this entire process; but instead, just like last year, House Republicans squandered an entire year by taking us down a partisan path, forcing us to waste time considering extreme funding bills based on Trump's Project 2025 that they could not pass and that have no chance of becoming law.

Just like last year, House Republicans' refusal to meet Democrats at the table has left us without time to pass all 12 full-year appropriations bills before the end of September. Rather than admitting the inevitable defeat of their Project 2025 spending bills and passing a bipartisan bill to keep the government open while we finish our work, the majority proposes abandoning their obligation to govern, forcing a new Congress to clean up their mess. They have included an extraneous, partisan, controversial measure, nongermane to appropriations, that guarantees this continuing resolution will not become law.

The majority all but admitted this bill could not pass the House last week, but they are forcing us to waste more time on it anyway. Despite the looming threat of a government shutdown, even if it has the votes in the House, this bill will not pass in the United States Senate. The President has said he would veto it. This bill has no path to becoming law. If the government shuts down, Republicans bear the responsibility.

A 6-month continuing resolution is a ploy to force the extreme Project 2025 manifesto agenda on the American people. They want to slash domestic investments in healthcare, education, job training, and every other discretionary program, which will hurt the middle class and the economy.

This Project 2025 is no wish list, I might add. If you look at the appropriations bills that are coming forward, you can see the direction and the cuts that Project 2025 proposes to make.

The Republican majority believes a continuing resolution to the end of March provides them with more leverage to force their unpopular cuts to services that American families depend on to make ends meet.

The majority knows that the fiscal year ends September 30 and that we cannot fund the government without the support of Democrats and Republicans in the House and in the Senate. However, for the second time in the 118th Congress, the majority does not want Congress to finish its work until March, nearly halfway through the fiscal year, wasting time, avoiding the inevitable, and failing to meet our obligations to the American people. A half-year continuing resolution is no way to govern. This is no way to serve the American people.

The American people have a choice to make in November, and come January, we will have a new President, and we will have a new Congress. While we

presumably disagree on who we think will be leading our country and which side of the aisle will hold the gavel, we should agree that it is not right, not in the interest of the American people for us to punt this year's work deep into next year for a different Congress and a different White House to be confronted with.

We must pass a continuing resolution that allows us to finish our work before the new President and Congress are sworn in and which addresses the immediate needs of American families, workers, and veterans. A continuing resolution that ends in December rather than one that lasts half a year better serves our national security and military readiness, veterans, their families, victims recovering from natural disasters, and all hardworking American taxpayers.

Instead, the majority's bill fails our veterans. The majority's bill fails our military.

Putting government funding on autopilot for 6 months means the Department of Defense cannot execute its strategic priorities, such as investing in cutting-edge technologies and capabilities. Investments in our defense industrial base will be put on hold, including the submarine and shipbuilding bases.

□ 1645

Last weekend, Secretary Austin said in a letter: "Asking the Department to compete with the [People's Republic of China], let alone manage conflicts in Europe and the Middle East, while under a lengthy [continuing resolution], ties our hands behind our back while expecting us to be agile and accelerate progress."

He continued: "The single most important thing that Congress can do to ensure U.S. national security is to pass timely legislation for all 12 appropriations bills for fiscal year 2025."

The majority's bill fails our seniors and Americans with disabilities on Social Security.

In a letter sent last week to the Appropriations Committee, Social Security Administration Commissioner O'Malley warned of the ramifications of a 6-month continuing resolution, stating: "We would likely be forced to reduce the hours field offices are open to the public and would need to close offices over time, extending wait times for seniors and individuals with disabilities."

He continues: "Through a lifetime of hard work, the American people have paid for and earned their Social Security benefits, and they have also paid for and earned the customer service they need to access those benefits. Another 6 months at current funding levels, as the House has proposed, would be devastating for the many Americans we serve every day."

The majority's bill also fails communities devastated by disasters by short-changing emergency funds for FEMA. This one you almost cannot believe.

The bill provides nothing to rebuild the Key Bridge in Maryland, nothing for block grants to help communities recover from devastating natural disasters, including the horrifying wildfires in Hawaii and the tornadoes that devastated communities in places like Oklahoma.

The majority is failing to live up to their own promises to the American people, that they are capable of being trusted to do the hard work of governing. They have unequivocally demonstrated that they cannot.

This bill is an admission that a House Republican majority cannot govern. They would rather gamble on an intervening election than attempt to complete their work on time.

Let us hope the majority does not drive us straight to a Republican shutdown. If they do shut down the government, I have no doubt the American people will know who is to blame.

Vote "no" on this continuing resolution. Abandon this partisan game. Join Democrats at the table. It is past time to govern.

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

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I would quickly make a point to my very good friend, who knows quite well I hold her in very high regard.

On the veterans issue, I just point out that we actually appropriated more to the VA than the administration asked for. We are certainly willing to sit down and have a discussion over any additional needs. Nobody wants veterans to be shortchanged.

Approaching Congress at the last minute, when it gave you more money than you asked for, suggests a high level of incompetence in this administration's management of the Veterans Affairs Department.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT), my very good friend and the chairman of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, we once again find ourselves debating a commonsense measure that would actually safeguard the American people's vote in the upcoming elections.

The rhetoric surrounding this bill is that it fixes a problem that does not exist. My answer is simple. Come to Alabama's Fourth Congressional District where just last week an illegal immigrant pleaded guilty to identity theft and voter fraud after it was discovered that she illegally voted in at least four U.S. elections.

Just last month, our secretary of state for the State of Alabama, Wes Allen, found at least 3,000 noncitizens who were registered to vote in the State of Alabama and removed them from the voting rolls.

Mr. Speaker, these people should never have been allowed to register in the first place. This is exactly what the SAVE Act will prevent.

The SAVE Act, which is included in this continuing resolution, shows the American people that their government will use every tool at our disposal to protect the sanctity of our electoral system and stop illegal votes before they are counted.

My colleagues across the aisle have talked about our shared belief that the Federal Government must remain open. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans have put forward a continuing resolution that would do just that.

Continuing resolutions are never ideal. However, in this instance, a continuing resolution is necessary and the right thing to do.

Republicans have extended an opportunity to our colleagues across the aisle to not only keep the Federal Government open but also to enhance the integrity of our elections.

The eyes of the American people are upon this Chamber this afternoon as we debate this. They are watching carefully to see if their government will take a stand to improve the sanctity and security of our electoral system and see that their Representatives fulfill our constitutional duty of responsibility of funding the United States Federal Government.

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

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

Let me make a point on veterans as well for my dear friend, the chairman. The fact of the matter is that the expansion of the PACT Act, which is a bipartisan piece of legislation, really is so important to the health and welfare of our veterans, our service people, who have been exposed to burn pits and toxic chemicals. That has exploded the participation within the VA for medical services.

This is a success story of reaching out and helping our veterans. In fact, they have a \$12 billion shortfall. Do we say no? Do we say no to what we agreed to on a bipartisan basis for medical services for our veterans? My gosh, who are we and what are we about?

A final note on this: Further on in this continuing resolution, they tell the VA to spend faster the dollars for medical services. Do you know how much those dollars are? Zero. They said to spend zero dollars faster.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM), the distinguished ranking member of the Defense Subcommittee.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the 6-month continuing resolution. It is deeply unfortunate that any CR is necessary.

Once again, the Senate did not get its work done and failed to pass any of the appropriations bills off the floor. The House Republican majority wasted months writing bills loaded with extreme social policy that the American people do not want.

Republicans passed only half their bills. Why? Because they were so unpopular, their own Conference wouldn't vote for them.

Having failed to complete their work, Republicans now want to kick the can down the road for 6 months, wasting half the fiscal year and costing taxpayers billions of dollars.

A CR this long would be irresponsible, and the Department of Defense has identified the consequences for our national security. This CR would have negative impacts on our military personnel and their families. It would not include the funds to cover a 4.5 percent pay raise. It would not fund the nearly \$3 billion increase required by law for the basic housing allowance. It would not include funds needed to cover medical costs for military families and stabilize the military healthcare system.

These services would not be able to offer new enlistment and reenlistment bonuses. New program starts can't happen under a CR, harming innovation and delaying getting weapons and equipment to our personnel. Keeping major programs on time and on budget will be more difficult.

A CR will delay multiyear procurement of platforms like heavy lift helicopters and the Virginia-class submarines. It will prevent fully funding the Columbia-class submarine and will delay procurement on the B-21 Raider.

Finally, the CR damages the readiness of the joint force. Some training exercises and operations just won't happen. The Navy will suffer a delay of 58 ship maintenance availabilities, limiting the work for our public and private shipyards. Air Force flying hours, weapon system sustainment, and ground combat readiness will all suffer.

We just had a nearly 6-month CR in fiscal year 2024, which impacted DOD's ability to budget appropriately. The last thing we should do is compound this problem.

We also have the Fiscal Responsibility Act to consider. If all 12 appropriations bills are not enacted by the end of April, sequestration takes effect. What does that mean? It means across-the-board spending cuts impacting everything: our national security, infrastructure, healthcare, and education.

I strongly believe we should reject this legislation, pass a short-term CR, roll up our sleeves, and get back to work.

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

I just remind my friends, for the VA, which we both support, we offered more money than the administration asked for. It is pretty notorious for not doing a very good job of budgeting. That hasn't changed over the years. That is why we took away their ability to build hospitals.

Finally, I agree with my good friend from Minnesota about the importance of trying to get things done for the military, but I would remind everybody here that there has been a long history of CRs on both sides of the aisle. These aren't that unusual.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS), my very good friend.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I don't know where to begin. I have 5 minutes. I could use 500.

The American people are watching. They recognize that our Nation suffers under the burden of a threatened government shutdown and the very real threat of millions of illegals who have flooded into our country who could potentially vote in this very important election cycle in November.

If you don't think it can happen, you haven't been paying attention. There have been thousands and thousands of illegal voters removed from precincts across the country in any sovereign State that had the courage to pursue the endeavor of looking into those voter rolls.

Many congressional races and the balance of this people's House are determined by hundreds of votes, sometimes less. We just had a colleague lose an election by 317 votes, a man who serves in this body with us right now. If you don't think millions of illegals can potentially influence a Federal election, you are really not being intellectually sound.

To talk about money, the good lady said disgraceful. I will tell you what is disgraceful, Mr. Speaker, is to stand here and say that the Federal Government is too small and doesn't spend enough money. That is outrageous. We have a \$36 trillion debt. If this body were to run a \$1 billion surplus, it would take 36,000 years to address a \$36 trillion debt.

Do you think a 6-month CR at a flat-line spending level is not a compromise, Mr. Speaker, from my perspective as a constitutional conservative? It most certainly is.

I am extending a respectful compromise. I would bring this thing back to 2019 spending if I could.

□ 1700

I cannot find one American in my townhall—and I do many—when I ask them: Does anyone in here think that the Federal Government was too small and didn't spend enough money in 2019? Nobody raises their hand, no matter where they are on the political spectrum. Yet, my colleagues in this body want more and more money in this environment that is supercontentious.

So, we take a 6-month CR that flatlines spending levels and move it into the next Congress, the 119th Congress, and into a new Presidential administration, whoever that may be.

They say they are going to control the White House. Good. Go ahead. I say they are not. We will let the American people determine that, but we will remove this political nightmare show from the entire consideration of the American people.

Let the American people have a clear field to vote in. Let them hear about the policies and principles of the candidates that stand before them and make their determination reflective of their own deep policy principles and their core beliefs.

We have a solid solution to this thing. To say that my colleagues in the Committee on Appropriations have not performed, no, you are not getting that past me. They passed five appropriations bills funding 72 percent of the Federal Government months ago, and where do those bills sit? In the Democrat-controlled Senate.

Pay attention to what is happening, America. This is the future of our country we are talking about. It is the right thing to do to pass this 6-month flatlined spending CR into March.

Let the new Presidential administration, whomever it may be, get situated and name their team. Let the 119th Congress get sworn in and populate our committees. Then, we will continue again.

This is a very important election cycle. We have to protect the integrity of that election, and we have to remove this contentious environment of this threatened government shutdown from this election cycle.

Mr. Speaker, my bill accomplishes that, and I encourage all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 9494.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), the distinguished Democratic leader.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished once and future chair of the House Committee on Appropriations (Ms. DELAURO) for her leadership and for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the extreme MAGA Republican effort to shut down the government and hurt everyday Americans.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have suggested that this is anti-woke week. It is not anti-woke week. It is Project 2025 week because, at the end of the day, my extreme MAGA Republican colleagues are determined to jam Trump's Project 2025 down the throats of the American people.

From the very beginning of this Congress, House Democrats have made clear that we will find bipartisan common ground with our Republican colleagues on any issue whenever and wherever possible in order to make life better for the American people, deliver real results, and solve problems for hardworking American taxpayers, and that is what we have repeatedly done.

House Democrats have repeatedly governed in the minority as if we were in the majority, finding bipartisan common ground to deliver for everyday Americans, and we are prepared to do that once again.

Yet, this extreme MAGA Republican shutdown bill that is on the floor of the House of Representatives today is not a serious effort to meet the needs of the American people in terms of their health, their safety, their national security, and their economic well-being.

The extreme MAGA Republican shutdown bill that is on the floor today would shortchange our veterans by \$12

billion. That is a Project 2025 objective—\$12 billion—shortchanging our veterans who have been suffering from painful exposure to toxic substances, burn pits, and Agent Orange.

People who have served our country, we should stand by them in the way that they have stood by us, but this extreme MAGA Republican shutdown bill will shut out the veterans of the United States of America.

The extreme MAGA shutdown bill will shortchange the administration of Social Security here in the United States of America. Why? Because one of the goals of Project 2025, effectively, is to end Social Security and Medicare as we know it.

There is no circumstance where we can support such legislation that will hurt the well-being of older Americans all across the United States of America. These are people upon whose shoulders we stand.

The extreme MAGA shutdown bill will shortchange everyday Americans who have been suffering harm from extreme weather events all across America, in blue States, purple States, and red States, shortchange our taxpayers by \$25 billion. That is unacceptable. That is unserious. That is unconscionable for people who have had their lives upended.

Now, in the context of whether we are able, capable, to reach a bipartisan resolution, the answer to that is pretty clear because there is already an agreement connected to the bipartisan Fiscal Responsibility Act passed by both Houses of Congress last May, signed into law by President Joe Biden, that sets top-line spending numbers for fiscal year 2025. It also enters into an agreement across the parties that says there will be no partisan policy riders attached to an appropriations bill.

So, why are we here right now with an extreme MAGA Republican shutdown bill that includes elements, partisan elements, rightwing elements, extreme elements of Trump's Project 2025? That is a breach of an agreement that we all reached connected to the bipartisan Fiscal Responsibility Act.

This is a shutdown effort. That is not hype. That is not hysteria. That is not hyperbole. It is history because in the DNA of extreme MAGA Republicans has consistently been an effort to make extreme ransom demands of the American people, and if those extreme ransom demands are not met, we shut down the government. That is history.

The 1990s extreme MAGA Republicans shut down the government because they were determined to end Medicaid as we know it. In 2013, extreme MAGA Republicans shut the government down for 14 days, and the demand at that point was to repeal President Obama's signature legislative accomplishment, the Affordable Care Act, that benefits more than 100 million Americans.

In 2018 and 2019, extreme MAGA Republicans shut the government down for a record 35 days. What was the ran-

som demand in that particular moment? The former President and Republicans in the House and Senate demanded that the American taxpayer fund Trump's ineffective, medieval border wall, notwithstanding the fact that the promise was clearly made that Mexico would pay for that wall. Because we were defending taxpayer interests, they shut the government down for 35 days.

The notion that we are here today facing another extreme MAGA Republican-driven shutdown, concerned about it, the only thing standing between a shutdown and the American people is not hype, not hysteria, not hyperbole, not a hypothetical, it is history.

We are simply asking our traditional Republican colleagues to break with the extreme wing of your party, break with the extremism around a national abortion ban, break with the extremism connected with Trump's Project 2025, which, by the way, includes government surveillance of pregnancies and miscarriages. There is no circumstance that we can ever support such an outrageous agenda.

We are asking our traditional Republican colleagues to stand up for working families, the middle class, older Americans, our children, our veterans, and people from all across the land, in urban America, rural America, small-town America, the heartland of America, suburban America, exurban America.

Stand up for the American people as opposed to standing up for massive tax cuts for the wealthy, the well-off, and big corporations. That is the other part of Project 2025.

This is not anti-woke week. It is extreme MAGA Republican Project 2025 week.

House Democrats right now are the only thing standing between Project 2025 and the extreme agenda you want to jam down the throats of the American people and keeping the government open and doing the right thing for everyday Americans.

Vote "no" on this extreme MAGA Republican shutdown bill and partner with us to do the right thing for the American people.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation before us here today, and I thank the gentleman for his work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the fact is, what we just heard from the minority leader in trying to describe this as a so-called extreme MAGA partisan agenda, let's be very clear what we are talking about for the average American. To the average American listening, what the minority leader, what the radical, progressive Democratic Party, is saying is extreme is a spending freeze into the next year combined with legislation

that would guarantee that only American citizens vote in American elections.

Let's just be very clear. I think the American people need to know this: What our radical, progressive Democratic colleagues deem extreme is a spending freeze combined with only American citizens voting in American elections. That is a really important thing for the American people to know.

We are here, yes, because Congress is not getting the job done, but let's be very clear that the United States Senate, which is controlled by majority Democrats, has passed precisely zero appropriations bills through the body in the Senate.

The House of Representatives and the Republican majority have passed five bills. It would be my preference that we passed 12, but we sit here today trying to make a determination on how to proceed.

I don't think anyone in this body on either side of the aisle, nor my colleagues or friends around this country, to look at me and question whether I would prefer that we cut spending. I would like to cut spending. I don't think we should be funding the agenda that is being driven by Vice President KAMALA HARRIS, President Joe Biden, and my radical, progressive Democratic colleagues.

□ 1715

I don't believe we should continue to fund a Secret Service that can't protect the former President without reforms.

I don't think we should continue to fund at current levels a Department of Homeland Security that leaves our borders wide open so that Laken Riley is killed, so that Rachel Morin is killed, so that Kayla Hamilton is killed, and so that Jocelyn Nungaray is killed and her poor 27-year-old mother is left having to be a witness in a hearing in the House Judiciary Committee talking about the gagging, the raping, the binding, and the murder of her 12-year-old daughter in Houston, Texas.

The ultimate result of all of that is that we now have to wonder whether noncitizens are voting in our elections. The fact is we know they are. We have cleaned up rolls in Texas, 6,500, including the 2,000 we know voted in elections. In Virginia 6,300 were cleaned off with thousands who were included in the election. We have cleaned up 3,251 in Alabama, 300 in Oregon, and we can keep going down the list.

All we are saying is that American citizens should vote. That is it.

So my Democratic colleagues seemingly want noncitizens to vote, and they can't accept a spending freeze as being reasonable.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VAN DREW). The time of the gentleman has expired.

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

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a word to my friends on this side of the aisle. One year ago, 21 of my conservative colleagues opposed a continuing resolution that would have cut nondefense, nonveteran, and non-Homeland Security spending by 30 percent for 30 days and included H.R. 2. A lot of those same people are walking away from a piece of legislation that we are putting forward right now.

I am asking them to stand up with the Republican Party, stand up with President Trump, and stand up with the American people to demand that we freeze spending, hold it in check, take the pen away from the radical, progressive Democrats of Joe Biden in a lameduck, and let's make sure that only American citizens can vote in American elections.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), who is the distinguished ranking member of the Energy and Water Development Subcommittee.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Ranking Member DELAURO for yielding me time to rise in opposition to shutting down our government.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose this resolution.

Frankly, in less than 2 weeks, the Federal fiscal year of 2025 is set to commence the beginning of October, yet this House finds itself embroiled in yet another perilous impasse because the extreme Members of the majority cannot govern.

Why? Why can they not compromise? America needs compromise, not chaos.

As America's economy settles into a steady recovery, House leaders must lead and stop the reckless threats to shut down our Federal Government.

Why does the majority seek to withhold critical resources from those Americans who safeguard our borders and defend our Nation?

House extreme Republicans risk the livelihoods of our border agents. They compromise the readiness of our military. They engage in legislative stunts that do not reflect the decency and worth of the American people and our Federal workers.

Think about some of those workers, those veterans and those military members in the nuclear Navy.

How about our Army Corps of Engineers who function in every single district in our country?

What about those who answer the phones as Social Security recipients have questions about enrollment and difficulties that they are facing in their lives?

Our Nation's security and the well-being of all of our citizens should not be held hostage for an extreme, partisan agenda.

Let the American people know—hear me—illegal immigrants are rightfully barred from voting. Any assertion otherwise is false, and the majority had best talk to their secretary of state.

Illegal immigrants are rightfully barred from voting. If our colleagues

were actually serious about bolstering our border security, then they would advance Senator LANKFORD's bipartisan border bill here. We have been waiting, and so is the Senate waiting. We must pass that bill to provide the necessary resources to pay and equip our Customs and Border Protection agents instead of touting a resolution here that jeopardizes our national security.

Our military leaders have explicitly warned that a 6-month resolution would severely undermine our defense readiness. Hear them. Our adversaries are not just observers. They are keenly watching.

An extreme wing is causing this House to falter in fulfilling our most basic constitutional duties. Chaos is not the message we should be sending on a global stage. We should be compromising and setting a good example.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, chaos is not the message we should be sending on a global stage; compromise is. The consequences of failing to pass essential appropriations bills extend far beyond defense. They touch every corner of American life: seniors waiting for operations and children relying on programs like Head Start.

Obstruction exacerbates the challenges facing everyday Americans. Now is the time for compromise, not chaos. Americans want unity, not division. Frankly, our national security depends on it.

This House must return to regular order. That is what real leadership looks like. This is what our Constitution expects, and that is what our constituents expect, deserve, and pay us for.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN), who is the distinguished chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, go to any community anywhere in this country and walk up to someone on the street and say: Do you think it makes sense—in light of the fact that 10 million migrants have come into the country in 3½ years and 99 of those individuals are on the terrorist watch list—do you think it makes sense before a new voter registers to vote that they demonstrate they are a citizen of this great country?

Any person you ask that question to will say: Well, of course, of course that makes sense.

Every Democrat and Republican district will all say the same thing. Everyone will agree with that except Democrats in the United States House of Representatives. They disagree with that.

They say: No, no, no. We can't have that requirement on a bill that spends

what we are already spending. We can't put that requirement on a bill.

That is ridiculous.

As Sarah Huckabee Sanders said a couple of years ago in response to the state of the Union, the divide in America today is normal versus crazy.

It is a crazy policy position not to agree with that, not to put the SAVE Act on this bill.

Think of the positions the left now takes. It is crazy to defund the police, it is crazy not to have a border, and it is crazy to say that men can compete against women in sports. Those are all positions that the left takes, and they take the position that in light of the 10 million people coming into our country in 3½ years you shouldn't have a requirement to demonstrate you are a citizen before you register as a new voter.

The people see this. The people understand in this country that this is crazy.

Support this legislation. This is a good bill with a commonsense, normal policy that we are putting in the legislation that makes absolute sense. Nonetheless, they are going to vote against it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), who is the distinguished ranking member of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, Americans know that it is crazy to do something you know will not have any effect. That is what is crazy.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this bill.

As majority leader in the last Congress, I put 365 pieces of legislation on the floor that became law.

Under the Republican majority this Congress, our House has only passed 78 pieces of legislation that have become law, and they have the majority. That is fewer than any of the 22 previous Congresses in which I have served.

It is because the Speaker wastes our time on blatantly partisan legislation, including the bill before us today that has no chance of becoming law and risks shutting down the government and which MITCH MCCONNELL, the Republican leader, says makes no sense. He didn't say that it was crazy, but I might add that.

The Senate, including several Senate Republicans, made it clear that this bill's impact on military readiness, veterans' healthcare, and disaster response will make it dead on arrival. It is crazy to send it as dead on arrival.

Furthermore, the President has said that he would not sign it.

Mr. Speaker, this House's most basic constitutional responsibility is to fund the government, not to appease a handful of far-right Members.

We know how this situation ends. It will end the same way as the fight for

supplemental aid for Ukraine and Israel. It will end the same way as the battle to raise the debt ceiling. It will end the same way as the effort to fund the government at the start of this year and, very frankly, throughout the year. It will end with this partisan appeasement failing. A period of finger pointing will follow.

Finally, after much hand-wringing and some strongly worded tweets, the Speaker will ask Democrats for our votes to pass a bipartisan alternative that avoids shutting down the government of the American people.

Everyone knows how this ends because this deeply divided and dysfunctional majority hasn't accomplished anything of substance without Democratic support.

There were compromises, compromises that Democrats agreed to so that our government could function effectively for the American people, not because we agreed on everything that was in the bill any more than you will agree on the Republican side with everything in the bill. We did it because it was the responsible thing to do. It was the right thing to do.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we have seen this film before. Let's just skip to the ending today. Put a CR on the floor.

I don't like CRs. We should have done our work. We should have passed 12 bills, sent them to the President, and had him sign it.

Let's skip this pretense that we have been involved in. Let's get to the nub of the issue. We haven't done our work, and therefore we need a short-term solution. Let's do it.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, a very fine gentleman and good friend by the name of Bill Rosado, who is a first-generation, very successful, and self-made Mexican-American entrepreneur in my district, recently said that allowing a free-for-all immigration system is in total violation of the law and unacceptable for most of us who came here legally.

Mr. Speaker, a free-for-all, out-of-control immigration system is exactly what the Biden-Harris administration and far too many in this House have delivered over the past 3½ years.

Mr. Speaker, 10 to 15 million-plus illegal crossings, drug cartels, human trafficking, migrant crime, and, yes, noncitizens registering to vote is an unmitigated disaster.

Nonetheless, the legislation we are considering here gives us an opportunity to address part of the problem

by prohibiting noncitizens from voting while keeping our government running.

Mr. Speaker, while it is written in our Constitution that only U.S. citizens can vote, the SAVE Act attached to this continuing resolution prohibits bad actors from registering noncitizens and noncitizens from registering to vote and requires States to purge their voter rolls of all noncitizens, such as illegal immigrants.

To anyone considering opposing this bill, a "no" vote implies and states to the American people why the Biden administration has left the border open in the first place. It is for potentially more votes.

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

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. MEUSER. The American people want this bill to pass. They need this bill to pass. It will help, as well, restore confidence in our elections. Let's do the right thing on a bipartisan basis as we head towards this momentous election. We came here today to ensure that only U.S. citizens can register and vote in Federal elections.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass the SAVE Act, safeguard our elections, and fund our government.

□ 1730

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO), the distinguished ranking member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 9494, a fundamentally flawed attempt by the Republican leadership to save face for their inability to govern and a bill which lacks \$12 billion in critical funding for the Veterans Health Administration.

Leaving out this critical funding for veterans' healthcare is the latest in a cynical political game playing that we have seen in this Congress. It is blatant, and I know my stating this fact will cause some howling complaints on the other side, just as it did last night when the House approved almost \$3 billion in funding for the Veterans Benefit Administration.

This was done with a lot of misinformation and mudslinging about how this is all the fault of the Biden-Harris administration rather than recognition that this is the bill coming due for the true cost of war and what we owe to veterans, which we finally started paying with the Honoring our PACT Act.

This is not a last-minute request, and it is certainly not grounded in mismanagement, despite my Republican colleagues making this accusation.

This \$12 billion shortfall is a direct result of President Biden and the VA's rapid implementation of the Honoring our PACT Act, which I got signed into law in 2022.

The VA Secretary McDonough told Congress in July that the Veterans Health Administration will need the \$12 billion to continue to provide world-class care and ensure it has the resources and staff to uphold that standard.

Therefore, why not include the needed funds in the CR? My colleagues think that I am somehow opposed to oversight on this issue, which is not true. I support oversight when it is well-intentioned, and we want to ensure we improve the budget process and not put veterans in a position that they become concerned about the availability of healthcare or benefits.

I agree with my colleagues' calls for more oversight, but let's be honest about that oversight because what is needed is significantly more oversight of the funding going from VHA direct care to for-profit healthcare, a part of the budget that has grown over 15 percent year after year, and this is unsustainable.

With these growing costs, I would think the Veterans' Affairs Committee would have held several oversight hearings to determine whether veterans are receiving the same quality of care by the for-profit providers and that taxpayers are getting the best value from these providers.

We have held no such hearings.

The VA has been transparent about both the VBA and VHA shortfalls. The VBA supplemental passed the House unanimously last night and is awaiting prompt action in the Senate.

The need for the VHA funding is fast approaching, so why add the uncertainty for veterans who receive their care at VA? Let's end the political games and get serious.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO).

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, have my colleagues across the aisle proposed a plan to leadership to address these additional funds needed by the VA? No. Of course not. My Republican colleagues would rather point fingers under the guise of accountability than legislate. In the process, my colleagues are shortchanging veterans.

Why do my colleagues insist on wasting time? We are wasting time voting today on a CR we know will not pass and will never become law, and we are wasting time by not doing our jobs and prioritizing funding for the VA.

Mr. Speaker, we have the opportunity to stand with veterans and fix this now.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN), my very good friend.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, one citizen, one vote. It is the foundation of our government, and it is the ability to vote in a free and fair election, but the pillar of our democracy is under vicious attack be-

cause the Biden-Harris administration refuses to enforce the law.

Since 2021, this administration has allowed over 10 million illegal immigrants into our Nation. It is the most, Mr. Speaker, in recorded history. That number is greater than the population of 36 existing States.

Mr. Speaker, the far left claims illegals are not registering to vote. My Democratic colleagues claim illegals are not voting in our election. Members on the other side of the aisle claim it is already illegal. Democrats claim that the SAVE Act is not needed.

Mr. Speaker, I have some breaking news. It is happening. I spoke to my supervisor in Nassau County, Florida, Janet Adkins, yesterday. She has, indeed, found illegals who have already registered to vote and have already voted in previous elections. She is working on cleaning up the rolls.

Our team reached out to other election supervisors in my district in northeast Florida: Duval County, Jacksonville, Florida, the office of Jerry Holland, and in Clay County, the office of Chris Chambless. Both of them also found illegal immigrants who have voted. Oh, wait a minute. Is it not happening? I hear that it is not needed, but it is.

I challenge each of my colleagues to call their supervisor and ask them: Is it happening in my county? Then ask: What are you doing to ensure that we have free and fair elections and only citizens vote? How do you know? How do they know?

The best example is it is already illegal for a minor to purchase alcohol, yet we still card them. We still enforce the law. Mr. Speaker, 87 percent of Americans want our election laws enforced.

I guess the 13 percent that don't are sitting on that side of the aisle, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me and pass the SAVE Act.

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this extreme MAGA Republican continuing resolution that will defund our veterans.

We have mere days to fund the government and avoid a shutdown that will force millions of Federal employees to be without pay, halt work on critical infrastructure projects, and prevent Americans from receiving the benefits they rely on.

Unfortunately, extreme MAGA Republicans have abdicated their responsibility to govern even further. This continuing resolution fails to meet the needs of our heroes who have fought and served in our Nation's military. It shortchanges our veterans by \$12 billion.

This is funding that is desperately needed by the Department of Veterans Affairs to maintain its workforce at

VA hospitals across the country, which is critical to providing the quality of medical services our veterans need.

Without the full \$12 billion included in the continuing resolution, the VA is being forced to make choices regarding care that could degrade services for patients, reduce support for veterans who experience homelessness, and limit programs that support caregivers.

We are already seeing the harm being done from a lack of resources for the VA across our country. In my district, the Buffalo VA does not have the funding needed to maintain its workforce, driving nurses to the picket line to call for more hires, all while patients are receiving delayed care in crumbling facilities.

It is unacceptable, and it will directly impact the 40,000 veterans living in my district and more than 18 million veterans across the country. This disastrous budget also comes as the Honoring our PACT Act brings a record number of benefits to our veterans, including those who were exposed to toxic burn pits during tours in Iraq and Afghanistan while defending our Nation, and who deserve to receive the benefits they have earned.

Now is not the time to disinvest from our veterans. We need to follow through with a bipartisan commitment this body made to make the men and women who served in our military whole.

In funding the United States Government, we need to deliver for the heroes who have sacrificed so much for our country.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote against this measure as-is and work with us to pass a clean CR that ensures our Nation's veterans are treated with the dignity and respect that they rightfully deserve.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, let me state a fact. The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 prohibits noncitizens from voting in Federal elections. It is not legal in any State for a noncitizen to vote for a Federal office. It is the law of the land of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, moving to appropriations, vote "no" on this bill. This bill is an admission that the House Republican majority cannot govern. It abandons veterans. It abandons our military, our Social Security recipients, and our cities and families who are grappling with disasters and no disaster relief.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that every appropriator on both sides of the aisle would prefer a 3-month continuing resolution. Republicans and Democrats need to come to the table. Let us move to setting a date in December. Let us get on with the business of governing, hammer out the programs and the numbers with regard to the programs,

and let the American people know that we are working on their behalf.

Mr. Speaker, to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, particularly my Republican colleagues, it is now time to govern. Stop the game playing. Stop the foolishness and the wasting of the time we have, and let's get on to the business of the American people.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as usual, these debates, particularly at these moments, get a little overheated, and I think we have seen a lot of that. I think the essence of what we are talking about here is pretty simple, and I think some of the charges that have been made against my colleagues in the majority are pretty ridiculous.

We are told we want to shut down the government. Really? What we are proposing actually keeps the government open longer than anything my friends on the other side are proposing.

We are told we didn't get our work done. Really? The United States Senate hasn't passed a single bill. It has not passed all of its bills out of committee. To be fair to my friends, and I have been around here a long time, when Democrats were in the majority, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle never got 71 percent of the bills passed in time, the money spent because Democrats couldn't pass a defense bill. My Democratic colleagues have never been able to do that. Once my colleagues on the other side of the aisle do that, the minority, frankly, will exceed whatever the Democratic target was.

All of this stuff about not getting our work done or whatever, or we are not taking care of veterans, we gave this administration more money than it asked for, for veterans. At the last minute, we come back. I am for the Honoring our PACT Act. I voted for the Honoring our PACT Act. I am anxious to make sure it is appropriately funded, but if my colleagues think I am going to take the word of this administration's Department of Veterans Affairs at face value, no, I am not.

Frankly, that agency has a long history of surprising administrations at the last minute, and this one is particularly bad.

We are more than happy to deal with this. It doesn't have to be dealt with in a CR. It ought to be dealt with in the full bill during the final negotiations, and that is true for most of the things my friends have brought up. My colleagues like to talk about a clean CR and then give us a list as long as our arm of what is not in it.

Mr. Speaker, a clean CR is a clean CR. It is not full of all these other things that you are requesting and demanding. My Democratic colleagues need to decide which one it is.

Mr. Speaker, let's talk about what this bill does. It is pretty simple. It keeps the government open until the

end of March, or roughly, March 28, about 6 months. If we can get our business done faster, I am with my friend, the ranking member. I would prefer to do that. Looking at the record of Congress, I wouldn't hold my breath. Having some extra time is not a bad idea.

Second, I am extraordinarily perplexed that the idea of reaffirming, in a time of unmitigated disaster at the southern border, that you have to be an American citizen to vote in an election is somehow controversial. That is mystifying.

Frankly, we have every reason to be worried given the disaster on the immigration front this administration has allowed to unfold. As colleague after colleague of mine have pointed out, they can talk to local supervisors in their district who tell them, yeah, we have some people here who are illegal, and they are registered, and they voted.

What is the big deal about saying we want to make sure, in what we know is going to be a close election, that only American citizens participate. That is incredible that that is a controversial thing.

Mr. Speaker, I conclude by, number one, thanking my friends who participated in the debate and worked so hard to present this. All we are trying to do is what my colleagues are asking us to do: Keep the government open. This bill will do that.

The controversial poison pill, as it is called, is simply saying: If you are going to vote in a Federal American election, you have to be an American citizen, and we are asking for proof to be provided.

□ 1745

I still get carded when I order a drink at a bar in some places. It is pretty flattering, but the requirement is there that I have to pull out my driver's license. I think it is a lot more important when we are talking about somebody voting in a consequential election that they be able to do that, so I think that is a perfectly reasonable thing.

If my friends want to go on record opposing that, that is up to them. I hope my friends on my side of the aisle see the wisdom of keeping the government open, particularly a few weeks before an election, and see the importance of reaffirming that only American citizens can vote in American elections.

We put those two things together. I think that is a very sensible thing to do, and I urge the support of this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1430, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. DeLauro of Connecticut moves to recommit the bill H.R. 9494 to the Committee on Appropriations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

The motion to recommit H.R. 5339;

Passage of H.R. 5339, if ordered;

Passage of H.R. 5179;

Passage of H.R. 7909;

The motion to recommit H.R. 9494; and

Passage of H.R. 9494, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

ROLL BACK ESG TO INCREASE RETIREMENT EARNINGS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 5339) to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to specify requirements concerning the consideration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary factors, and for other purposes, offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 206, nays 213, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 426]

YEAS—206

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Adams | Blunt Rochester | Carson |
| Aguilar | Bonamici | Carter (LA) |
| Allred | Bowman | Cartwright |
| Amo | Boyle (PA) | Casar |
| Auchincloss | Brown | Case |
| Balint | Brownley | Casten |
| Barragán | Budzinski | Castor (FL) |
| Beatty | Bush | Castro (TX) |
| Bera | Caraveo | Cherfilus- |
| Bishop (GA) | Carbajal | McCormick |
| Blumenauer | Cárdenas | Chu |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Clark (MA) | Kaptur | Pressley | Langworthy | Moore (UT) | Smith (NE) | Davidson | Jordan | Pence |
| Clarke (NY) | Keating | Quigley | Latta | Moran | Smith (NJ) | De La Cruz | Joyce (OH) | Perez |
| Cleaver | Kelly (IL) | Ramirez | LaTurner | Murphy | Smucker | DesJarlais | Joyce (PA) | Perry |
| Clyburn | Kennedy | Raskin | Lawler | Nehls | Spartz | Diaz-Balart | Kean (NJ) | Pfleger |
| Cohen | Khanna | Ross | Lee (FL) | Newhouse | Staubert | Donalds | Kelly (MS) | Posey |
| Connolly | Kildee | Ruiz | Lesko | Norman | Steel | Duarte | Kelly (PA) | Reschenthaler |
| Correa | Kilmer | Ruppersberger | Letlow | Nunn (IA) | Stefanik | Duncan | Kiggans (VA) | Rodgers (WA) |
| Costa | Kim (NJ) | Ryan | Lopez | Obernolte | Steil | Edwards | Kiley | Rogers (AL) |
| Courtney | Krishnamoorthi | Salinas | Loudermilk | Ogles | Steube | Ellzey | Kim (CA) | Rogers (KY) |
| Craig | Kuster | Sánchez | Lucas | Owens | Strong | Emmer | Kustoff | Rose |
| Crockett | Landsman | Sarbanes | Luetkemeyer | Palmer | Tenney | Estes | LaHood | Rosendale |
| Crow | Larsen (WA) | Scanlon | Luna | Pence | Thompson (PA) | Ezell | LaMalfa | Rouzer |
| Cuellar | Larson (CT) | Schakowsky | Luttrell | Perry | Tiffany | Fallon | Lamborn | Roy |
| Davids (KS) | Lee (CA) | Mace | Mace | Pfleger | Timmons | Feenstra | Langworthy | Rulli |
| Davis (IL) | Lee (NV) | Maloy | Maloy | Posey | Turner | Ferguson | Latta | Rutherford |
| Davis (NC) | Lee (PA) | Mann | Mann | Reschenthaler | Valadao | Finstad | LaTurner | Salazar |
| Dean (PA) | Leger Fernandez | Massie | Rodgers (WA) | Rodgers (WA) | Van Drew | Fischbach | Lawler | Scalise |
| DeGette | Levin | Mast | Rogers (AL) | Rogers (AL) | Van Duyn | Fitzgerald | Lee (FL) | Schweikert |
| DeLauro | Lieu | McCauley | Rogers (KY) | Rogers (KY) | Van Orden | Fitzpatrick | Lesko | Scott, Austin |
| DeBene | Lofgren | McClain | Rose | Rose | Wagner | Fleischmann | Letlow | Self |
| Deluzio | Lynch | McClintock | Rosendale | Rosendale | Walberg | Fong | Lopez | Sessions |
| DeSaulnier | Magaziner | McCormick | Rouzer | Rouzer | Waltz | Fox | Loudermilk | Smith (MO) |
| Dingell | Manning | McHenry | Roy | Roy | Weber (TX) | Franklin, Scott | Lucas | Simpson |
| Doggett | Matsui | Meuser | Rulli | Rulli | Webster (FL) | Fry | Luetkemeyer | Smith (NE) |
| Escobar | McBath | Miller (IL) | Rutherford | Rutherford | Wenstrup | Fulcher | Luna | Smith (NJ) |
| Eshoo | McClellan | Miller (OH) | Salazar | Salazar | Westerman | Gaetz | Luttrell | Smucker |
| Espallat | McCollum | Miller (WV) | Scalise | Scalise | Williams (NY) | Garbarino | Mace | Spartz |
| Fletcher | McGarvey | Miller-Meeks | Schweikert | Schweikert | Williams (TX) | Garcia, Mike | Maloy | Mann |
| Foster | McGovern | Mills | Scott, Austin | Scott, Austin | Wilson (SC) | Jimenez | Golden (ME) | Staubert |
| Foushee | Meeks | Molinaro | Self | Self | Wittman | Golden (ME) | Massie | Steel |
| Frankel, Lois | Menendez | Moolenaar | Sessions | Sessions | Womack | Gonzales, Tony | Mast | Stefanik |
| Frost | Meng | Mooney | Simpson | Simpson | Yakym | Good (VA) | McCaul | Steil |
| Gallego | Mfume | Moore (AL) | Smith (MO) | Smith (MO) | Zinke | Gooden (TX) | McClain | Steube |
| Garamendi | Moore (WI) | Beyer | Flood | Flood | | Gosar | McClintock | Strong |
| Garcia (IL) | Morelle | D'Esposito | Granger | Granger | Malliotakis | Graves (LA) | McCormick | Tenney |
| Garcia (TX) | Moskowitz | Dunn (FL) | Grijalva | Grijalva | Stansbury | Graves (MO) | McHenry | Thompson (PA) |
| Garcia, Robert | Moulton | Evans | LaLota | LaLota | Underwood | Green (TN) | Meuser | Tiffany |
| Golden (ME) | Mrvan | | | | | Greene (GA) | Miller (IL) | Timmons |
| Goldman (NY) | Mullin | | | | | Griffith | Miller (OH) | Turner |
| Gomez | Nadler | | | | | Grothman | Miller (WV) | Valadao |
| Gonzalez, V. | Napolitano | | | | | Guest | Miller-Meeks | Van Drew |
| Gottheimer | Neal | | | | | Guthrie | Mills | Van Duyn |
| Green, Al (TX) | Neguse | | | | | Hageman | Molinaro | Van Orden |
| Harder (CA) | Nickel | | | | | Harris | Moolenaar | Wagner |
| Hayes | Norcross | | | | | Harshbarger | Mooney | Walberg |
| Himes | Ocasio-Cortez | | | | | Hern | Moore (AL) | Waltz |
| Horsford | Omar | | | | | Higgins (LA) | Moore (UT) | Weber (TX) |
| Houlahan | Pallone | | | | | Hill | Moran | Webster (FL) |
| Hoyer | Panetta | | | | | Hinson | Murphy | Wenstrup |
| Hoyle (OR) | Pappas | | | | | Houchin | Nehls | Westerman |
| Huffman | Pelosi | | | | | Hudson | Newhouse | Williams (NY) |
| Ivey | Peltola | | | | | Huizenga | Norman | Williams (TX) |
| Jackson (IL) | Perez | | | | | Hunt | Nunn (IA) | Wilson (SC) |
| Jackson (NC) | Peters | | | | | Issa | Obernolte | Wittman |
| Jacobs | Pettersen | | | | | Jackson (TX) | Ogles | Womack |
| Jayapal | Phillips | | | | | James | Owens | Yakym |
| Jeffries | Pingree | | | | | Johnson (LA) | Palmer | Zinke |
| Johnson (GA) | Pocan | | | | | Johnson (SD) | Peltola | |
| Kamllager-Dove | Porter | | | | | | | |

NAYS—213

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Aderholt | Cole | Gooden (TX) |
| Alford | Collins | Gosar |
| Allen | Comer | Graves (LA) |
| Amodei | Crane | Graves (MO) |
| Armstrong | Crawford | Green (TN) |
| Arrington | Crenshaw | Greene (GA) |
| Babin | Curtis | Griffith |
| Bacon | Davidson | Grothman |
| Baird | De La Cruz | Guest |
| Balderson | DesJarlais | Guthrie |
| Banks | Diaz-Balart | Hageman |
| Barr | Donalds | Harris |
| Bean (FL) | Duarte | Harshbarger |
| Bentz | Duncan | Hern |
| Bergman | Edwards | Higgins (LA) |
| Bice | Ellzey | Hill |
| Biggs | Emmer | Hinson |
| Bilirakis | Estes | Houchin |
| Bishop (NC) | Ezell | Hudson |
| Boebert | Fallon | Huizenga |
| Bost | Feenstra | Hunt |
| Brecheen | Ferguson | Issa |
| Buchanan | Finstad | Jackson (TX) |
| Bucshon | Fischbach | James |
| Burchett | Fitzgerald | Johnson (SD) |
| Burgess | Fitzpatrick | Jordan |
| Burlison | Fleischmann | Joyce (OH) |
| Calvert | Fong | Joyce (PA) |
| Cammack | Fox | Kean (NJ) |
| Carey | Franklin, Scott | Kelly (MS) |
| Carl | Fry | Kelly (PA) |
| Carter (GA) | Fulcher | Kiggans (VA) |
| Carter (TX) | Gaetz | Kiley |
| Chavez-DeRemer | Garbarino | Kim (CA) |
| Ciscomani | Garcia, Mike | Kustoff |
| Cline | Jimenez | LaHood |
| Cloud | Gonzales, Tony | LaMalfa |
| Clyde | Good (VA) | Lamborn |

NOT VOTING—11

Mmes. HINSON, McCLAIN and Mr. PFLUGER changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. CUELLAR, NORCROSS, GARAMENDI, RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. SCHOLTEN, and Mrs. PELTOLA changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote today on Roll Call No. 426. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 426.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CRAWFORD). The question is on passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 206, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 427]

YEAS—217

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| Aderholt | Bice | Carl |
| Alford | Biggs | Carter (GA) |
| Allen | Bilirakis | Carter (TX) |
| Amodei | Bishop (NC) | Chavez-DeRemer |
| Armstrong | Boebert | Ciscomani |
| Arrington | Bost | Cline |
| Babin | Brecheen | Cloud |
| Bacon | Buchanan | Clyde |
| Baird | Bucshon | Cole |
| Balderson | Burchett | Collins |
| Banks | Burgess | Comer |
| Barr | Burlison | Crane |
| Bean (FL) | Calvert | Crawford |
| Bentz | Cammack | Crenshaw |
| Bergman | Carey | Curtis |

NAYS—206

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Adams | Connolly | Himes |
| Aguilar | Correa | Horsford |
| Allred | Costa | Houlahan |
| Amo | Courtney | Hoyer |
| Auchincloss | Craig | Hoyle (OR) |
| Balint | Crockett | Huffman |
| Barragán | Crow | Ivey |
| Beatty | Cuellar | Jackson (IL) |
| Bera | Davids (KS) | Jackson (NC) |
| Beyer | Davis (IL) | Jacobs |
| Bishop (GA) | Davis (NC) | Jayapal |
| Blumenauer | Dean (PA) | Jeffries |
| Blunt Rochester | DeGette | Johnson (GA) |
| Bonamici | DeLauro | Kamllager-Dove |
| Bowman | DeBene | Kaptur |
| Boyle (PA) | Deluzio | Keating |
| Brown | DeSaulnier | Kelly (IL) |
| Brownley | Dingell | Kennedy |
| Budzinski | Doggett | Khanna |
| Bush | Escobar | Kildee |
| Caraveo | Eshoo | Kilmer |
| Carbajal | Espallat | Kim (NJ) |
| Cárdenas | Fletcher | Krishnamoorthi |
| Carson | Foster | Kuster |
| Carter (LA) | Foushee | Landsman |
| Cartwright | Frankel, Lois | Larsen (WA) |
| Casar | Frost | Larson (CT) |
| Case | Gallego | Lee (CA) |
| Casten | Garamendi | Lee (NV) |
| Castor (FL) | Garcia (IL) | Lee (PA) |
| Castro (TX) | Garcia (TX) | Leger Fernandez |
| Cherfilus- | Garcia, Robert | Levin |
| McCormick | Goldman (NY) | Lieu |
| Chu | Gomez | Lofgren |
| Clark (MA) | Gonzalez, V. | Lynch |
| Clarke (NY) | Gottheimer | Magaziner |
| Cleaver | Green, Al (TX) | Manning |
| Clyburn | Harder (CA) | Matsui |
| Cohen | Hayes | McBath |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| McClellan | Porter | Strickland | Fischbach | LaMalfa | Posey | Mullin | Salinas | Thanedar |
| McCollum | Pressley | Suozzi | Fitzgerald | Lamborn | Reschenthaler | Nadler | Sánchez | Thompson (CA) |
| McGarvey | Quigley | Swailwell | Fitzpatrick | Langworthy | Rodgers (WA) | Napolitano | Sarbanes | Thompson (MS) |
| McGovern | Ramirez | Sykes | Fleischmann | Latta | Rogers (AL) | Neal | Scanlon | Titus |
| Meeks | Raskin | Takano | Flood | LaTurner | Rogers (KY) | Neguse | Schakowsky | Tlaib |
| Menendez | Ross | Thanedar | Fong | Lawler | Rose | Ocasio-Cortez | Schiff | Tokuda |
| Meng | Ruiz | Thompson (CA) | Fox | Lee (FL) | Rosendale | Omar | Schneider | Tonko |
| Mfume | Ruppersberger | Thompson (MS) | Franklin, Scott | Lee (NV) | Rouzer | Panetta | Scholten | Torres (CA) |
| Moore (WI) | Ryan | Titus | Fry | Lesko | Roy | Pelosi | Schrier | Trahan |
| Morelle | Salinas | Tlaib | Fulcher | Letlow | Rulli | Peters | Scott (VA) | Trone |
| Moskowitz | Sánchez | Tokuda | Gaetz | Lopez | Rutherford | Pettersen | Sherman | Underwood |
| Moulton | Sarbanes | Tonko | Garbarino | Loudermilk | Salazar | Phillips | Sherrill | Vasquez |
| Mrvan | Scanlon | Torres (CA) | Garcia, Mike | Lucas | Scalise | Pingree | Slotkin | Veasey |
| Mullin | Schakowsky | Torres (NY) | Gimenez | Luetkemeyer | Schweikert | Pocan | Smith (WA) | Velázquez |
| Nadler | Schiff | Trahan | Golden (ME) | Luna | Scott, Austin | Porter | Sorensen | Wasserman |
| Napolitano | Schneider | Trone | Gonzales, Tony | Luttrell | Scott, David | Pressley | Spanberger | Schultz |
| Neal | Scholten | Underwood | Gonzalez, V. | Mace | Self | Quigley | Stansbury | Waters |
| Neguse | Schrier | Vargas | Good (VA) | Maloy | Sessions | Ramirez | Stanton | Watson Coleman |
| Nickel | Scott (VA) | Vasquez | Gooden (TX) | Mann | Simpson | Raskin | Stevens | Wexton |
| Norcross | Scott, David | Veasey | Gosar | Massie | Smith (MO) | Ross | Strickland | Wild |
| Ocasio-Cortez | Sewell | Velázquez | Gottheimer | Mast | Smith (NE) | Ruiz | Suozzi | Williams (GA) |
| Omar | Sherman | Wasserman | Graves (LA) | McCauley | Smith (NJ) | Ruppersberger | Swalwell | Wilson (FL) |
| Pallone | Sherrill | Schultz | Graves (MO) | McClain | Smucker | Ryan | Sykes | |
| Panetta | Slotkin | Waters | Green (TN) | McClintock | Soto | | | |
| Pappas | Smith (WA) | Watson Coleman | Greene (GA) | McCormick | Spartz | | | |
| Pelosi | Sorensen | Wexton | Griffith | McHenry | Stauber | D'Esposito | Grijalva | Peltola |
| Peters | Soto | Wild | Grothman | Meng | Steel | Dunn (FL) | LaLota | Sewell |
| Pettersen | Spanberger | Williams (GA) | Guest | Meuser | Stefanik | Evans | Malliotakis | Takano |
| Phillips | Stansbury | Wilson (FL) | Guthrie | Miller (IL) | Steil | Granger | Nickel | |
| Pingree | Stanton | | Hageman | Miller (OH) | Steube | | | |
| Pocan | Stevens | | Harris | Miller (WV) | Strong | | | |
| | | | Harshbarger | Miller-Meeks | Tenney | | | |
| | | | Hern | Mills | Thompson (PA) | | | |
| | | | Higgins (LA) | Molina | Tiffany | | | |
| | | | Hill | Moolenaar | Timmons | | | |
| | | | Hinson | Mooney | Torres (NY) | | | |
| | | | Houchin | Moore (AL) | Turner | | | |
| | | | Hudson | Moore (UT) | Valadao | | | |
| | | | Huizenga | Moran | Van Drew | | | |
| | | | Hunt | Moskowitz | Van Dwyne | | | |
| | | | Issa | Murphy | Van Orden | | | |
| | | | Jackson (TX) | Nehls | Vargas | | | |
| | | | James | Newhouse | Wagner | | | |
| | | | Johnson (LA) | Norcross | Walberg | | | |
| | | | Johnson (SD) | Norman | Waltz | | | |
| | | | Jordan | Nunn (IA) | Weber (TX) | | | |
| | | | Joyce (OH) | Oberholte | Webster (FL) | | | |
| | | | Joyce (PA) | Ogles | Wenstrup | | | |
| | | | Kean (NJ) | Owens | Westerman | | | |
| | | | Kelly (MS) | Pallone | Williams (NY) | | | |
| | | | Kelly (PA) | Palmer | Williams (TX) | | | |
| | | | Kiggans (VA) | Pappas | Wilson (SC) | | | |
| | | | Kiley | Pence | Wittman | | | |
| | | | Kim (CA) | Perez | Womack | | | |
| | | | Kustoff | Perry | Yakym | | | |
| | | | LaHood | Pfluger | Zinke | | | |

NOT VOTING—8

| | | |
|------------|----------|-------------|
| D'Esposito | Flood | LaLota |
| Dunn (FL) | Granger | Malliotakis |
| Evans | Grijalva | |

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1818

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANTI-BDS LABELING ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 5179) to require the maintenance of the country of origin markings for imported goods produced in the West Bank or Gaza, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 231, nays 189, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 428]

YEAS—231

| | | |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Aderholt | Brecheen | Crawford |
| Alford | Buchanan | Crenshaw |
| Allen | Bucshon | Cuellar |
| Amodei | Burchett | Curtis |
| Armstrong | Burgess | Davidson |
| Arrington | Burlison | Davis (NC) |
| Babin | Calvert | De La Cruz |
| Bacon | Cammack | DesJarlais |
| Baird | Carey | Diaz-Balart |
| Balderson | Carl | Donalds |
| Banks | Carter (GA) | Duarte |
| Barr | Carter (TX) | Duncan |
| Bean (FL) | Chavez-DeRemer | Edwards |
| Bentz | Ciscomani | Ellzey |
| Bergman | Cline | Emmer |
| Bice | Cloud | Estes |
| Biggs | Clyde | Ezell |
| Bilirakis | Cole | Fallon |
| Bishop (NC) | Collins | Feenstra |
| Boebert | Comer | Ferguson |
| Bost | Crane | Finstad |

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Adams | Costa | Jackson (NC) |
| Aguilar | Courtney | Jacobs |
| Allred | Craig | Jayapal |
| Amo | Crockett | Jeffries |
| Auchincloss | Crow | Johnson (GA) |
| Balint | Davidson (KS) | Kamlager-Dove |
| Barragán | Davis (IL) | Kaptur |
| Beatty | Dean (PA) | Keating |
| Bera | DeGette | Kelly (IL) |
| Beyer | DeLauro | Kennedy |
| Bishop (GA) | DelBene | Khanna |
| Blumenauer | Deluzio | Kildee |
| Blunt Rochester | DeSaulnier | Kilmer |
| Bonamici | Dingell | Kim (NJ) |
| Bowman | Doggett | Krishnamoorthi |
| Boyle (PA) | Escobar | Kuster |
| Brown | Eshoo | Landsman |
| Brownley | Espallat | Larsen (WA) |
| Budzinski | Fletcher | Larson (CT) |
| Bush | Foster | Lee (CA) |
| Caraveo | Foushee | Lee (PA) |
| Carbajal | Frankel, Lois | Leger Fernandez |
| Cárdenas | Frost | Levin |
| Carson | Galleo | Lieu |
| Carter (LA) | Garamendi | Lofgren |
| Cartwright | Garcia (IL) | Lynch |
| Casas | Magaziner | Magaziner |
| Case | Garcia, Robert | Manning |
| Casten | Goldman (NY) | Matsui |
| Castor (FL) | Gomez | McBath |
| Castro (TX) | Green, Al (TX) | McClellan |
| Cerfilius- | Harder (CA) | McCollum |
| McCormick | Hayes | McGarvey |
| Chu | Himes | McGovern |
| Clark (MA) | Horsford | Meeks |
| Clarke (NY) | Houlahan | Menendez |
| Cleaver | Hoyer | Mfume |
| Clyburn | Hoyle (OR) | Moore (WI) |
| Cohen | Huffman | Morelle |
| Connolly | Ivey | Moulton |
| Correa | Jackson (IL) | Mrvan |

NAYS—189

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Costa | Jackson (NC) | Krishnamoorthi |
| Courtney | Jacobs | Kuster |
| Craig | Jayapal | Landsman |
| Crockett | Jeffries | Larsen (WA) |
| Crow | Johnson (GA) | Larson (CT) |
| Davidson (KS) | Kamlager-Dove | Lee (CA) |
| Davis (IL) | Kaptur | Lee (PA) |
| Dean (PA) | Keating | Leger Fernandez |
| DeGette | Kelly (IL) | Levin |
| DeLauro | Kennedy | Lieu |
| DelBene | Khanna | Lofgren |
| Deluzio | Kildee | Lynch |
| DeSaulnier | Kilmer | Magaziner |
| Dingell | Kim (NJ) | Manning |
| Doggett | Krishnamoorthi | Matsui |
| Escobar | Kuster | McBath |
| Eshoo | Landsman | McClellan |
| Espallat | Larsen (WA) | McCollum |
| Fletcher | Larson (CT) | McGarvey |
| Foster | Lee (CA) | McGovern |
| Foushee | Lee (PA) | Meeks |
| Frankel, Lois | Leger Fernandez | Menendez |
| Frost | Levin | Mfume |
| Galleo | Lieu | Moore (WI) |
| Garamendi | Lofgren | Morelle |
| Garcia (IL) | Lynch | Moulton |
| Magaziner | Magaziner | Mrvan |
| Garcia, Robert | Manning | |
| Goldman (NY) | Matsui | |
| Gomez | McBath | |
| Green, Al (TX) | McClellan | |
| Harder (CA) | McCollum | |
| Hayes | McGarvey | |
| Himes | McGovern | |
| Horsford | Meeks | |
| Houlahan | Menendez | |
| Hoyer | Mfume | |
| Hoyle (OR) | Moore (WI) | |
| Huffman | Morelle | |
| Ivey | Moulton | |
| Jackson (IL) | Mrvan | |

NOT VOTING—11

| | | |
|------------|-------------|---------|
| D'Esposito | Grijalva | Peltola |
| Dunn (FL) | LaLota | Sewell |
| Evans | Malliotakis | Takano |
| Granger | Nickel | |

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1824

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN BY
ILLEGAL ALIENS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 7909) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed sex offenses or domestic violence are inadmissible and deportable, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 266, nays 158, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 429]

YEAS—266

| | | |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Aderholt | Bucshon | Crenshaw |
| Alford | Budzinski | Cuellar |
| Allen | Burchett | Curtis |
| Allred | Burgess | Davis (KS) |
| Amodei | Burlison | Davidson |
| Armstrong | Calvert | Davis (NC) |
| Arrington | Cammack | De La Cruz |
| Babin | Caraveo | Deluzio |
| Bacon | Carey | DesJarlais |
| Baird | Carl | Diaz-Balart |
| Balderson | Carter (GA) | Donalds |
| Banks | Carter (TX) | Duarte |
| Barr | Cartwright | Duncan |
| Bean (FL) | Chavez-DeRemer | Edwards |
| Bentz | Ciscomani | Ellzey |
| Bergman | Cline | Emmer |
| Bice | Cloud | Estes |
| Biggs | Clyde | Ezell |
| Bilirakis | Cole | Fallon |
| Bishop (NC) | Collins | Feenstra |
| Boebert | Comer | Ferguson |
| Bost | Courtney | Finstad |
| Buchanan | Craig | Fischbach |
| | Crane | Fitzgerald |
| | Crawford | Fitzpatrick |

Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxy
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallo
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez, V.
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy

Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lopez
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Maloy
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Moskowitz
Mrvan
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Nickel
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose

Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Scalise
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Spanberger
Spartz
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Suozi
Swalwell
Sykes
Tenneny
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dyne
Van Orden
Vasquez
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—158

Adams
Aguilar
Amo
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Brown
Brownley
Bush
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Clyburn

Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Crockett
Crow
Davis (IL)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Goldman (NY)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Green, Al (TX)
Himes
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman

Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lieu
Lofgren
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume

Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Pelosi
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley

Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Soto
Stansbury
Stevens
Strickland
Takano
Thanedar

Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—7

D'Esposito
Dunn (FL)
Evans

Granger
Grijalva
LaLota

Malliotakis

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1830

So the bill was passed.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:
Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call Vote number 429 on H.R. 7909, I mistakenly recorded my vote as YEA when I should have voted NAY.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS
AND OTHER MATTERS ACT, 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 9494) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2025, and for other purposes, offered by the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAULO), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 209, nays 214, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 430]

YEAS—209

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amo
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush

Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly

Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo

Espaillat
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin

Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Peltola
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez

Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NAYS—214

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson

De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxy
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Gonzales, Tony
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Mace
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)

Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Letlow
Lopez
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Maloy
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick

McHenry Resenthaler Steube
 Meuser Rodgers (WA) Tenney
 Miller (IL) Rogers (AL) Thompson (PA)
 Miller (OH) Rogers (KY) Tiffany
 Miller (WV) Rose Timmons
 Miller-Meeks Rosendale Turner
 Mills Rouzer Valadao
 Molinaro Roy
 Moolenaar Rulli
 Mooney Rutherford
 Moore (AL) Salazar
 Moore (UT) Scalise
 Moran Schweikert
 Murphy Scott, Austin
 Nehls Self
 Newhouse Sessions
 Norman Simpson
 Nunn (IA) Smith (MO)
 Obernolte Smith (NE)
 Ogles Smith (NJ)
 Owens Smucker
 Palmer Spartz
 Pence Stauber
 Perry Steel
 Pfluger Stefanik
 Posey Steil

NOT VOTING—8

D'Esposito Granger Malliotakis
 Dunn (FL) Grijalva Strong
 Evans LaLota

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1837

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 202, nays 220, answered “present” 2, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 431]

YEAS—202

Aderholt Cole Garcia, Mike
 Alford Collins Gimenez
 Allen Comer Golden (ME)
 Amodei Crawford Gonzales, Tony
 Armstrong Crenshaw Good (VA)
 Arrington Curtis Gooden (TX)
 Babin Davidson Gosar
 Bacon Davis (NC) Graves (LA)
 Baird De La Cruz Graves (MO)
 Balderson DesJarlais Green (TN)
 Barr Diaz-Balart Griffith
 Bean (FL) Donalds Grothman
 Bentz Duarte Guest
 Bergman Duncan Guthrie
 Bice Edwards Hageman
 Bilirakis Ellzey Harris
 Bishop (NC) Emmer Harshbarger
 Bost Estes Hern
 Brecheen Ezell Higgins (LA)
 Buchanan Fallon Hill
 Bucshon Feenstra Hinson
 Burgess Ferguson Houchin
 Burlison Finstad Hudson
 Calvert Fischbach Huizenga
 Cammack Fitzgerald Issa
 Carey Fitzpatrick Jackson (TX)
 Carl Fleischmann James
 Carter (GA) Flood Johnson (LA)
 Carter (TX) Fong Johnson (SD)
 Chavez-DeRemer Foxx Jordan
 Ciscomani Franklin, Scott Joyce (OH)
 Cline Fry Joyce (PA)
 Cloud Fulcher Kean (NJ)
 Clyde Garbarino Kelly (MS)

Kelly (PA) Moolenaar Smith (MO)
 Kiggans (VA) Mooney Smith (NE)
 Kiley Moore (AL) Smith (NJ)
 Kim (CA) Moore (UT) Smucker
 Kustoff Moran Surozi
 LaHood Murphy Spartz
 LaMalfa Nehls Stauber
 Langworthy Newhouse Steel
 Latta Norman Stefanik
 LaTurner Nunn (IA) Steil
 Lawler Obernolte Strong
 Lee (FL) Ogles Tenney
 Lesko Owens Thompson (PA)
 Letlow Palmer Tiffany
 Lopez Pence Timmons
 Loudermilk Perez Turner
 Lucas Perry Valadao
 Luetkemeyer Pfluger Van Drew
 Luna Posey Van Orden
 Luttrell Resenthaler Wagner
 Maloy Rodgers (WA) Walberg
 Mann Rogers (KY) Waltz
 Mast Rose Webster (TX)
 McCaul Rouzer Webster (FL)
 McClain Roy Wenstrup
 McClintock Rulli Westernman
 McCormick Rutherford Williams (NY)
 McHenry Salazar Williams (TX)
 Meuser Scalise Wilson (SC)
 Miller (IL) Miller (OH) Wittman
 Miller (WV) Miller (WV) Womack
 Miller-Meeks Self Yakym
 Molinaro Sessions Zinke
 Simpson

NAYS—220

Adams Eshoo McCollum
 Aguilar Espallat McGarvey
 Allred Fletcher McGovern
 Amo Foster Meeks
 Auchincloss Poushee Menendez
 Balint Frankel, Lois Meng
 Banks Frost Mfume
 Barragan Gaetz Mills
 Beatty Gallego Moore (WI)
 Bera Garamendi Morelle
 Beyer Garcia (IL) Moskowitz
 Biggs Garcia (TX) Moulton
 Bishop (GA) Garcia, Robert Mrvan
 Blumentauer Goldman (NY) Mullin
 Blunt Rochester Gomez Nadler
 Boebert Gonzalez, V. Napolitano
 Bonamici Gottheimer Neal
 Bowman Green, Al (TX) Neguse
 Boyle (PA) Harder (CA) Nickel
 Brown Hayes Norcross
 Brownley Himes Ocasio-Cortez
 Budzinski Horsford Omar
 Burchett Houlihan Pallone
 Bush Hoyer Panetta
 Caraveo Hoyle (OR) Pappas
 Carbajal Huffman Pelosi
 Cárdenas Hunt Peltola
 Carson Ivey Peters
 Carter (LA) Jackson (IL) Pettersen
 Cartwright Jackson (NC) Phillips
 Casar Jacobs Pingree
 Case Jayapal Pocan
 Casten Jeffries Porter
 Castor (FL) Johnson (GA) Pressley
 Castro (TX) Kamlager-Dove Quigley
 Cherfilus-Kaptur Ramirez
 McCormick Keating Raskin
 Chu Kelly (IL) Rogers (AL)
 Clark (MA) Kennedy Rosendale
 Clarke (NY) Khanna Ross
 Cleaver Kildee Ruiz
 Clyburn Kilmer Ruppertsberger
 Cohen Kim (NJ) Ryan
 Connolly Krishnamoorthi Salinas
 Correa Kuster Sánchez
 Costa Lamborn Sarbanes
 Courtney Landsman Scanlon
 Craig Larsen (WA) Schakowsky
 Hill Larson (CT) Schiff
 Crockett Lee (CA) Schneider
 Crow Lee (NV) Scholten
 Cuellar Lee (PA) Schrier
 Davids (KS) Leger Fernandez Scott (VA)
 Davis (IL) Levin Scott, David
 Dean (PA) Lieu Sewell
 DeGette Lofgren Sherman
 DeLauro Lynch Sherrill
 DeBene Mace Slotkin
 Deluzio Magaziner Smith (WA)
 DeSaunier Manning Sorensen
 Dingell Matsui Soto
 Doggett McBath Spanberger
 Escobar McClellan Stansbury

Stanton Titus Vasquez
 Steube Tlaib Veasey
 Stevens Tokuda Velázquez
 Strickland Tonko Wasserman
 Surozi Torres (CA) Schultz
 Swalwell Torres (NY) Waters
 Sykes Trahan Watson Coleman
 Takano Trone Wexton
 Thanedar Underwood Wild
 Thompson (CA) Van Duyne Williams (GA)
 Thompson (MS) Vargas Wilson (FL)

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—2

Greene (GA) Massie

NOT VOTING—7

D'Esposito Granger Malliotakis
 Dunn (FL) Grijalva
 Evans LaLota

□ 1844

So the bill was not passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which was read and referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, September 18, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: On September 18, 2024, pursuant to section 3307 of Title 40, United States Code, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure met in open session, with a quorum being present, to consider 11 resolutions included in the General Services Administration's Capital Investment and Leasing Programs.

I have enclosed copies of the resolutions adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on September 18, 2024.

Sincerely,

SAM GRAVES,
Chairman.

Enclosures.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

ALTERATION—CONSOLIDATION ACTIVITIES PROGRAM VARIOUS BUILDINGS

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for the reconfiguration and renovation of spaces within Government-owned and leased buildings during fiscal year (FY) 2024 to support ongoing consolidation efforts to improve space utilization, optimize inventory, decrease reliance on leased space, and reduce the Governments environmental footprint at a total cost of \$4,000,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair of Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received

September 18, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

H5375

by the Administrator of the General Serv- Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the pro-
ices, the Administrator shall provide such gram.

**PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
CONSOLIDATION ACTIVITIES PROGRAM
VARIOUS BUILDINGS**

Prospectus Number: PCA-0001-MU24

FY 2024 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes the reconfiguration and renovation of space within Government-owned and leased buildings during fiscal year (FY) 2024 to support GSA’s ongoing consolidation efforts to improve space utilization, optimize inventory, decrease reliance on leased space, and reduce the Government’s environmental footprint.

Since the inception of the Consolidation Activities program in FY 2014, GSA has received \$330,531,000 in support of the program and, through FY 2022, has funded 89 projects. When complete, these 89 projects will result in more than a 2 million usable square foot space reduction, thereby reducing agency rental payments to GSA by \$83 million annually and generating more than \$168,000,000 in annual Government lease cost avoidance. These projects will more than recover the initial capital investment after just two years of project completion and will continue to accrue additional savings over the life of these assets.

FY 2024 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested\$50,000,000

Program Summary

As part of its ongoing effort to improve space utilization, optimize inventory, decrease reliance on leased space, and reduce the Government’s environmental footprint, GSA is identifying consolidation opportunities within its inventory of real property assets. These opportunities are presented through surveys and studies, partnering with customer agencies and agency initiatives. Projects will vary in size by location and agency mission and operations; however, no single project will exceed \$20 million in GSA costs. Funds will support consolidation of customer agencies and will not be available for GSA internal consolidations. Preference will be given to projects that result in an office utilization rate of 130 usable square feet per person or less and a total project payback period of 10 years or less.

Typical projects include the following:

- Reconfiguration and alteration of existing Federal space to accommodate incoming agency relocation/consolidation (which may include reconfigurations of existing occupied Federal tenant space);
- Right sizing the federal footprint, including restacking and consolidations, to account for anticipated remote and hybrid work arrangements; and
- Incidental alterations and system upgrades, such as fire sprinklers or heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, needed as part of relocation and consolidation.

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
CONSOLIDATION ACTIVITIES PROGRAM
VARIOUS BUILDINGS**

Prospectus Number: PCA-0001-MU24

Projects will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Preference will be given to projects that are identified as a reduction opportunity by both GSA and the subject agency, and that meet the other criteria.
- Proposed consolidation projects will result in a reduction in annual rent paid by the impacted customer agency.
- Preference is given to consolidations within or into federally owned buildings over consolidations within or into leased space.
- Consolidation of expiring leases into federally owned buildings will be given preference over those business cases for lease cancellations that include a cancellation cost.
- Colocation with other agencies with shared resources and special space will be given preference.
- Links to other consolidation projects will be given preference.

Justification

GSA continually analyzes opportunities to improve space utilization and realize long-term cost savings for the Government. Funding for space consolidations is essential so that GSA can execute those opportunities.

Projects funded under this program will enable agencies to consolidate within Government-controlled leased space or to relocate—from either Government-controlled leased or federally owned space—to federally owned space under the jurisdiction, custody, and control of GSA that more efficiently meets mission needs. These consolidations will result in improved space utilization, cost savings for the American taxpayers and a reduced environmental impact.

Summary of Energy, Water, Sustainability, and Climate Risk Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of *PBS-P100, Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service*. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions, incorporate sustainable design principles into projects, and identify and minimize climate risk liabilities above the minimum performance criteria in a manner that is life cycle cost effective.

GSA

PBS


**PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
CONSOLIDATION ACTIVITIES PROGRAM
VARIOUS BUILDINGS**

Prospectus Number: PCA-0001-MU24


Certification of Need

GSA has determined that the proposed Consolidation Activities program is the most practical solution to meeting those goals of improved space utilization, lower costs for the Government, and a reduced environmental footprint.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/14/2023

Recommended: 

Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: 

Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

ALTERATION—FIRE PROTECTION AND LIFE-SAFETY PROGRAM, VARIOUS BUILDINGS

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for the alterations to upgrade, replace, and improve fire protection systems and life-safety fea-

tures in buildings under the jurisdiction, custody, and control of the General Services Administration (GSA) during fiscal year 2024 at a total cost of \$5,000,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of the General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the program.

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
FIRE PROTECTION AND LIFE-SAFETY PROGRAM
VARIOUS BUILDINGS**

Prospectus Number: PFP-0001-MU24

FY 2024 Project Summary

This prospectus proposes alterations to upgrade, replace, and improve fire protection systems and life-safety features in buildings under the jurisdiction, custody, and control of the General Services Administration (GSA) during fiscal year (FY) 2024.

Since FY 2010, GSA has received \$171,566,000 in support of this program. These funds supported 136 projects in 109 Government-owned buildings.

FY 2024 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested.....\$32,000,000

Program Summary

As part of its fire protection and life-safety efforts, GSA is currently identifying projects in Federal buildings throughout the country through surveys and studies. These projects will vary in size, location, and delivery method. The approval and appropriation requested in this prospectus is for a set of retrofit projects with engineering solutions to reduce fire and life-safety hazards. Typical projects include:

- Replacing antiquated fire alarm and detection systems that are in need of repair or for which parts are no longer available.
- Installing emergency voice communication systems to facilitate occupant notification and evacuation in Federal buildings during an emergency.
- Installing or expanding, as necessary, fire sprinkler systems to provide a reasonable degree of protection for life and property from fire in Federal buildings.
- Constructing additional exit stairs or enclosing existing exit stairs to facilitate the safe and timely evacuation of building occupants in the event of an emergency.

Justification

GSA periodically assesses all facilities to identify hazards and initiate correction or risk-reduction protection strategies so that its buildings do not present an unreasonable risk to Government personnel or the general public. Completion of these proposed projects will improve the overall level of safety from fire and similar risks in buildings under the jurisdiction, custody, and control of GSA.

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
FIRE PROTECTION AND LIFE-SAFETY PROGRAM
VARIOUS BUILDINGS**

Prospectus Number: PFP-0001-MU24

Summary of Energy, Water, Sustainability, and Climate Risk Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of *PBS-P100, Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service*. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions, incorporate sustainable design principles into projects, and identify and minimize climate risk liabilities above the minimum performance criteria in a manner that is life cycle cost effective.

GSA

PBS


**PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
FIRE PROTECTION AND LIFE-SAFETY PROGRAM
VARIOUS BUILDINGS**

Prospectus Number: PFP-0001-MU24


Certification of Need

The proposed program is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/14/2023

Recommended: 

Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: 

Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

ALTERATION—JUDICIARY CAPITAL SECURITY
PROGRAM, VARIOUS BUILDINGS

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for the alterations to improve physical security in buildings under the jurisdiction, custody, and control of the General Services Adminis-

tration (GSA) occupied by the Federal judiciary and the Department of Justice, U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) during fiscal year 2024 at a total cost of \$3,000,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of the General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the program.

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
JUDICIARY CAPITAL SECURITY PROGRAM
VARIOUS BUILDINGS**

Prospectus Number: PJCS-0001-MU24

FY 2024 Project Summary

This prospectus proposes alterations to improve physical security in buildings under the jurisdiction, custody, and control of the General Services Administration (GSA) occupied by the Federal judiciary and the Department of Justice, U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), during fiscal year (FY) 2024.

Since FY 2012, GSA has received \$167,422,000 in support of this program. These funds were allocated to 15 projects.

FY 2024 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested\$30,000,000

Program Summary

The Judiciary Capital Security program is dedicated to improving physical security in buildings occupied by the Federal judiciary and USMS. These projects are in lieu of constructing new facilities, thereby providing cost savings and expedited delivery. These projects will vary in size, location, and delivery method, and are designed to improve the separation of circulation for the public, judges, and prisoners. Funding provided for the security improvement projects will address elements such as adding doors, reconfiguring, or adding corridors, reconfiguring or adding elevators and sallyports, and constructing physical or visual barriers.

Justification

This program provides funding to address security deficiencies in existing Federal facilities in a timely and less costly manner than constructing a new courthouse. The projects in this program are based on studies undertaken by the judiciary. This prospectus requests separate funding to address security conditions at existing Federal courthouses. GSA uses the judiciary’s asset management planning process to assist in the identification of potential projects that involve courthouses with poor security ratings nationwide.

Summary of Energy, Water, Sustainability, and Climate Risk Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of *PBS-P100, Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service*. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions, incorporate sustainable design principles into projects, and identify and minimize climate risk liabilities above the minimum performance criteria in a manner that is life cycle cost effective.

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS - ALTERATION
JUDICIARY CAPITAL SECURITY PROGRAM
VARIOUS BUILDINGS**

Prospectus Number: PJCS-0001-MU24

Certification of Need

The proposed program is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/14/2023

Recommended: 

Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: 

Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

ALTERATION—FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S.
COURTHOUSE, PADUCAH, KY

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for the repair and alteration project for the Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse (FBCT) located at 501 Broadway Street, Paducah, Kentucky, to address security deficiencies for the U.S. Courts (Courts) and U.S. Marshals Service

(USMS), and addresses the needs and conditions of the FBCT by completing a full building system and infrastructure modernization and a full seismic upgrade to the building at a design cost of \$3,324,000, estimated construction cost of \$34,485,000, and management and inspection cost of \$2,670,000, for a total estimated project cost of \$40,479,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any

agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of the General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the program.

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
PADUCAH, KY**

Prospectus Number: PKY-0059-PA24
Congressional District: 1

FY 2024 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse (FBCT) located at 501 Broadway Street, Paducah, KY. The project will address security deficiencies for the U.S. Courts (Courts) and U.S. Marshals Service (USMS). It will also address the needs and conditions of the FBCT by completing a full building system and infrastructure modernization and a full seismic upgrade to the building.

FY 2024 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection)..... \$40,479,000¹

Major Work Items

Exterior construction; interior construction; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC); electrical; plumbing; fire protection; conveyance; structural upgrades; demolition/hazardous material abatement; and sitework

Project Budget

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Design | \$3,324,000 |
| Estimated Construction Cost (ECC) | 34,485,000 |
| Management and Inspection (M&I)..... | <u>2,670,000</u> |
| Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)* | \$40,479,000 |

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for tenant improvements above the standard normally provided by GSA.

Schedule

| | Start | End |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Design and Construction | FY 2024 | FY 2029 |

¹ The Courts Security Program (CSP) portion of this project was originally funded in FY 2017 as part of GSA’s Judiciary Capital Security Program. With the identification of the FBCT’s seismic risks in GSA’s 2017 Seismic Rating Report, the project was removed from the Program and re-developed to include the scope outlined in this prospectus.

GSAPBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
PADUCAH, KY**

Prospectus Number: PKY-0059-PA24
Congressional District: 1

Building

The FBCT, a Georgian Revival-style building constructed in 1938, consists of 55,824 gross square feet spread over 4 floors, including 3 above grade and a single basement level. This brick and masonry building, designed by Harry B. Carter, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and was designated a contributing structure to the National Register of Historic Places' Paducah Downtown Historic District in 1985. The building still serves its original purpose: to house the U.S. Courts and to provide administrative offices for other related Federal agencies. It is the only Federally owned asset in Paducah, KY.

Tenant Agencies

Judiciary-U.S. District Courts; Judiciary-U.S. Magistrate Courts; Judiciary-U.S. Bankruptcy Courts; Judiciary-U.S. District Court Clerk; Department of Justice-U.S. Marshals Service; and Department of Justice-Office of the U.S. Attorney

Proposed Project²

The proposed project will address various security-related deficiencies identified by the Courts and USMS, provide for a complete seismic upgrade to the structure of the FBCT, and address needed replacements and upgrades to multiple building systems, infrastructure, and exterior envelope.

The project will address elements that improve the separation of circulation for the public, judges, and prisoners, including adding doors, reconfiguring or adding corridors, reconfiguring or adding elevators, secured parking and sally ports, constructing physical or visual barriers and associated demolition, improving physical security systems and site security, and abating hazardous materials as necessary.

Structural improvements to the FBCT will include a complete seismic retrofit and progressive collapse-related upgrades to the structural steel. The seismic retrofit will include installing new shear walls, demolishing or reinforcing interior clay-tile partitions, installing reinforcements at perimeter walls, and installing seismic bracing for new and existing nonstructural components.

Modernization of the FBCT's major systems include replacements/upgrades to the HVAC, plumbing, electrical, and lighting systems, roof replacement, exterior enclosure repairs, compliance with egress requirements, as well as fire and life safety improvements including the installation of a new fire alarm and fire suppression system. The project also

² CSP scope included in project design to follow 2007 United States Courts Design Guide (as partially revised in 2016).

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
PADUCAH, KY**

Prospectus Number: PKY-0059-PA24
Congressional District: 1

includes upgrades to meet Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standard (ABAAS) requirements with the installation of a new ABAAS handicapped accessible ramp and ABAAS compliant restrooms. Improvements to the interior finishes in the FBCT’s common areas will be undertaken and hazardous materials will be abated.

Major Work Items

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Exterior Construction | \$10,629,000 |
| Interior Construction | 6,484,000 |
| HVAC Upgrades | 5,939,000 |
| Electrical Upgrades | 3,488,000 |
| Demolition/Hazardous Material Abatement | 3,407,000 |
| Sitework | 1,519,000 |
| Plumbing Upgrades | 1,241,000 |
| Fire Protection Upgrades | 795,000 |
| Conveyance Upgrades | 573,000 |
| Structural Upgrades | <u>410,000</u> |
| Total ECC | \$34,485,000 |

Justification

The FBCT serves the Western District of Kentucky and houses one resident senior U.S. District judge, one resident U.S. Magistrate judge, and one visiting U.S. Bankruptcy judge for hearings approximately four days per month. Associated judicial staff, a U.S. Attorney’s Office, and the USMS also occupy the facility.

The FBCT lacks secured prisoner movement, separate circulation for judges and the public, and sufficient courtroom holding cells. These issues along with a non-compliant lobby screening station compromise the safety and security of the judges, the Court staff, and the visiting public that the FBCT receives daily.

In August 2017, the Paducah FBCT was identified as an “Extreme High Risk” (EHR) asset on GSA’s Seismic Rating System Report. The EHR rating, coupled with the significant investments required for the previously identified Judicial Capital Security Project (CSP) project, requires GSA to address the seismic deficiencies within the building. The proposed CSP scope did not account for the needed seismic retrofits, and GSA did not have available funding or authorization to provide for the seismic requirements with the FBCT. GSA, along with the Administrative Office of the Courts decided to postpone the CSP project until such time that GSA could prepare for and request the security upgrades and seismic retrofit of the FBCT as a combined project.

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
PADUCAH, KY**

Prospectus Number: PKY-0059-PA24
Congressional District: 1

Due to the extensive nature of the seismic retrofit, the FBCT will need to be vacated during construction. The building vacancy provides the opportunity to address the FBCT’s aging systems and infrastructure, improve building performance, and correct code deficiencies.

Summary of Energy, Water, Sustainability, and Climate Risk Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of *PBS-P100, Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service*. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions, incorporate sustainable design principles into projects, and identify and minimize climate risk liabilities above the minimum performance criteria in a manner that is life cycle cost effective.

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

None

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Alteration | \$34,760,000 |
| New Construction | \$38,646,000 |
| Lease | \$92,003,000 |

The 30-year, present value cost of alteration is \$3,886,000 less than the cost of new construction with an equivalent annual cost advantage of \$188,000.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

GSAPBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
FEDERAL BUILDING AND U.S. COURTHOUSE
PADUCAH, KY**

Prospectus Number: PKY-0059-PA24
Congressional District: 1


Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/14/2023

Recommended: 

Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: 

Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

AMENDED PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—WILLIAM J. HOLLOWAY, JR. U.S. COURTHOUSE AND U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for the construction for Phase II, of a two-phase repair and alteration project, for the William J. Holloway, Jr. United States Courthouse (Holloway CT) at 200 Northwest Fourth Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and the United States Post Office and Courthouse

(PO-CT) at 215 Dean A. McGee Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to address work in the PO-CT including interior alterations; exterior improvements, such as roof replacement at penthouse and window system improvements; modernization of outdated mechanical, electrical, fire alarm, and plumbing systems; and sitework at reduced design cost of \$1,355,000, an additional estimated construction cost of \$63,786,000, and additional management and inspection cost of \$3,243,000 for an additional estimated project cost of \$65,674,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution. This resolution amends Prospectus No. POK-0046/0072-OK23.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of the General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the program.

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**AMENDED PROSPECTUS— ALTERATION
WILLIAM J. HOLLOWAY, JR. U.S. COURTHOUSE
AND
U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK**

Prospectus Number: POK-0046/0072-OK24
Congressional District: 5

FY 2024 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes the construction for Phase II, of a two-phase repair and alteration project, for the William J. Holloway, Jr. United States Courthouse (Holloway CT) at 200 Northwest Fourth Street, Oklahoma City, OK, and the United States Post Office and Courthouse (PO-CT) at 215 Dean A. McGee Avenue. These two buildings are part of a three-building Federal complex that also includes the Federal Parking Garage. Alterations in Phase II will address work in the PO-CT including interior alterations; exterior improvements, such as roof replacement at penthouse and window system improvements; modernization of outdated mechanical, electrical, fire alarm, and plumbing systems; and sitework.

FY 2024 Committee Approval Requested

(Additional Construction and Management & Inspection – Phases I & II) \$65,674,000¹

This prospectus amends Prospectus No. [PTX-0046/0072-OK23](#). GSA is requesting approval of a reduction in design cost of \$1,355,000, additional estimated construction cost of \$63,786,000 and additional management and inspection cost of \$3,243,000 for cost escalation due to time, labor, and market conditions.

FY 2024 Appropriation Requested

(Additional Phase II (PO-CT) Construction and Management & Inspection).....\$65,926,000

Major Work Items

Interior construction; building envelope upgrades, including window replacement; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC)/mechanical replacement; electrical system replacement; fire/life-safety replacement and upgrades; plumbing upgrades; and site work upgrades.

¹ Prospectus PTX-0046/0072-OK23 was approved by the Committee on [Transportation and Infrastructure](#) of the House of Representatives and the Committee on [Environment and Public Works](#) of the Senate on July 20, 2022, and November 29, 2022, respectively, for additional estimated construction cost of \$4,277,000, and management and inspection costs of \$257,000, for a total cost of \$4,534,000.

GSA

PBS

**AMENDED PROSPECTUS— ALTERATION
WILLIAM J. HOLLOWAY, JR. U.S. COURTHOUSE
AND
U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK**

Prospectus Number: POK-0046/0072-OK24
Congressional District: 5

Project Budget

Design (FY 2020)

Holloway U.S. Courthouse\$7,301,000
PO-CT4,828,000
Total Design.....\$12,129,000

Estimated Construction Cost (ECC)

Holloway U.S. Courthouse and PO-CT exterior (Phase I) (future FY)\$131,606,000
PO-CT (Phase II) (FY 2023)3,093,000
Additional PO-CT (Phase II) (FY 2024)62,543,000
Total ECC.....\$197,242,000

Management & Inspection (M&I)

Holloway U.S. Courthouse and PO-CT exterior (Phase I) (future FY)\$6,572,000
PO-CT (Phase II) (FY 2024)3,383,000
Total M&I.....\$9,955,000

Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)*.....\$219,326,000

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for tenant improvements above the standard normally provided by GSA.

Schedule²

| | Start | End |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Design (Phases I and II) | FY 2021 | FY 2023 |
| Construction (Phase II) | FY 2024 | FY 2028 |
| Construction (Phase I) | TBD | TBD |

² Phase I Construction was requested in GSA’s FY 2022 budget, however, was not funded. Phase II Construction was requested in GSA’s FY 2023 budget, received partial funding in the amount of \$3,093,000, with remainder of Phase II funding requested in FY 2024. Phase I construction funding to be requested in a future fiscal year.

GSAPBS

**AMENDED PROSPECTUS— ALTERATION
WILLIAM J. HOLLOWAY, JR. U.S. COURTHOUSE
AND
U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK**

Prospectus Number: POK-0046/0072-OK24
Congressional District: 5

Buildings

The Holloway CT is located at 200 Northwest Fourth Street in downtown Oklahoma City. The site is located immediately to the south of the former Alfred P. Murrah Federal Office Building that was destroyed in the 1995 bombing.

Constructed in 1960, the 5-story building contains 316,360 gross square feet and is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The exterior walls are composed of cast concrete panels with limited ornamental detailing and marble veneer at the upper portion of the front facade. A full basement includes a small parking garage. A steel-framed skywalk connects this building to the PO-CT at the third-floor level.

The PO-CT, located at 215 Dean A. McGee Avenue, opened in 1912. It was the first monumental building in Oklahoma City and was designed in the Beaux-Arts style. The building was expanded in 1919 and again in 1932. In 1988, GSA restored the public areas, including the former postal lobby, second floor courtroom (1912), and sixth floor courtroom (1932).

The 220,438 gross square foot building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1974 and is an early symbol of the Federal presence in the State of Oklahoma. It is a massive, nine-story (plus basement) structure.

Tenant Agencies (both buildings)

Judiciary; U.S. Department of Justice—U.S. Marshals Service; Department of the Interior; Department of Labor; Department of Agriculture; Department of Defense; GSA; and other smaller agencies.

Proposed Project

Design funding was received in FY 2020. Phase I construction addresses the full repair and alteration of the Holloway CT, plus exterior repairs, and an electrical component to the PO-CT. The Holloway CT requires modernization of outdated building systems, including a complete HVAC replacement. Proposed interior construction in this building includes the replacement of finishes and fixtures in restrooms and common areas, reconfiguration of underground parking areas, and upgrades to comply with the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS). Electrical system components and the building's lighting system will be replaced. Building envelope upgrades to both the Holloway CT and the PO-CT include exterior stone restoration, window systems and roof drainage improvements. Fire and life-safety upgrades include replacement of the entire fire alarm

GSA

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**AMENDED PROSPECTUS— ALTERATION
WILLIAM J. HOLLOWAY, JR. U.S. COURTHOUSE
AND
U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK**

Prospectus Number: POK-0046/0072-OK24
Congressional District: 5

and sprinkler systems, installation of additional stairwells for egress, and seismic upgrades. Plumbing fixtures and associated piping will be replaced. Site improvements include replacement of caulking and correction of cracks in the plaza slab, landscape and lighting replacement, and accessibility upgrades.

The second phase includes the remaining repair and alteration of the PO-CT. Proposed interior construction includes replacement of finishes and fixtures in restrooms and common areas, as well as repair of water damage to interior woodwork and stone. The HVAC system also will be upgraded. Electrical work includes additional lighting and replacement of electrical panels. The mechanical penthouse roof will be replaced, and the walls repaired. Fire and life-safety upgrades include seismic modifications and enhancements to the fire sprinkler system. Plumbing fixtures will be replaced in all restrooms and a basement drainage system installed. Site improvements include walkway repair, landscaping upgrades, and the installation of an accessible entry landing and ramp at the main building entry.

Major Work Items (PO-CT Phase II only)

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Interior Construction | \$20,846,000 |
| Building Envelope Upgrades | 15,133,000 |
| HVAC Replacement | 14,355,000 |
| Electrical Replacement | 10,322,000 |
| Fire/Life-Safety Replacement/Upgrades | 2,783,000 |
| Plumbing Replacement/Upgrades | 1,777,000 |
| Site Upgrades | <u>420,000</u> |
| Total | \$65,636,000 |

Justification

Water infiltration has caused damage to building interiors. Interior stairwells are required to bring emergency egress into compliance with fire safety codes. Reconfiguration of underground parking areas will maximize efficiency. The potential failure of the stone exterior in both buildings is a serious life-safety concern and needs to be addressed in the first phase. The HVAC systems have exceeded their useful lives and need to be replaced for tenant comfort and efficient operation. Outdated HVAC control systems and related electronic components need frequent repairs, and parts are no longer available. In addition, new controls will support separate control of air on different floors, which will improve tenant comfort and satisfaction. The supply, return, ventilation, and exhaust fans are all

GSA

PBS

**AMENDED PROSPECTUS– ALTERATION
WILLIAM J. HOLLOWAY, JR. U.S. COURTHOUSE
AND
U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK**

Prospectus Number: POK-0046/0072-OK24
Congressional District: 5

original to the buildings and nearing the end of their useful lives. In both buildings, public restrooms, elevator lobbies, and common areas need upgrades for ABAAS compliance. A replacement of lighting systems and electrical system components is needed to increase efficiency and comply with current code. Together, the buildings obtain only marginal energy performance. Inefficient and leaking windows are original to both buildings. Correction of window system deficiencies, along with repair to plaster, woodwork, and stone damaged by window leaks, is essential to the project. The fire alarm system is outdated and needs to be replaced. Seismic upgrades are included to address increased seismic activity in the area.

Plumbing components have exceeded their useful lives and replacement parts are difficult to locate. Site work is needed to eliminate tripping hazards and comply with ABAAS.

Summary of Energy, Water, Sustainability, and Climate Risk Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of *PBS-P100, Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service*. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions, incorporate sustainable design principles into projects, and identify and minimize climate risk liabilities above the minimum performance criteria in a manner that is life cycle cost effective.

Prior Appropriations

| Appropriations | | | |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|---|
| Public Law | Fiscal Year | Amount | Purpose |
| 116-93 | 2020 | \$12,129,000 | Design (Phases I and II) = \$12,129,000 |
| 117-328 | 2023 | \$3,093,000 | Phase II Construction = \$3,093,000 |

GSAPBS

**AMENDED PROSPECTUS— ALTERATION
WILLIAM J. HOLLOWAY, JR. U.S. COURTHOUSE
AND
U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK**

Prospectus Number: POK-0046/0072-OK24
Congressional District: 5

Prior Committee Approvals

| Prior Committee Approvals | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--|
| Committee | Date | Amount | Purpose |
| Senate EPW | 12/17/19 | \$144,446,000 | Design (Phases I and II) = \$12,129,000 Phase I Construction = \$125,257,000 Phase I M&I = \$7,060,000 |
| House T&I | 9/30/20 | \$144,446,000 | Design (Phases I and II) = \$12,129,000 Phase I Construction = \$125,257,000 Phase I M&I = \$7,060,000 |
| House T&I | 7/28/21 | \$4,672,000 | Additional Design = \$1,355,000 Additional Construction = \$3,922,000 Reduction M&I = (\$605,000) |
| Senate EPW | 1/12/22 | \$4,672,000 | Additional Design = \$1,355,000 Additional Construction = \$3,922,000 Reduction M&I = (\$605,000) |
| House T&I | 7/20/22 | \$4,534,000 | Additional Construction = \$4,277,000 Additional M&I = \$257,000 |
| Senate EPW | 11/29/22 | \$4,534,000 | Additional Construction = \$4,277,000 Additional M&I = \$257,000 |
| Total Approvals | | \$153,652,000 | |

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

Alteration:\$301,459,000
 New Construction:\$347,848,000
 Lease:\$493,886,000

The 30-year, present value cost of alteration is \$46,389,000 less than the cost of new construction, with an equivalent annual cost advantage of \$2,246,000.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

GSAPBS

**AMENDED PROSPECTUS— ALTERATION
WILLIAM J. HOLLOWAY, JR. U.S. COURTHOUSE
AND
U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK**

Prospectus Number: POK-0046/0072-OK24
Congressional District: 5


Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/14/2023

Recommended: 

Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: 

Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

AMENDED PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—TACOMA
UNION STATION, TACOMA, WA

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for the repair and alteration project at the Historic Tacoma Union Station (TUS) located at 1717 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, Washington, to address seismic deficiencies, undertake targeted building system modernizations, ad-

dress life-safety upgrades, modernize the building's outdated systems, alter interior space, and undertake exterior repairs at an additional design cost of \$3,760,000, an additional estimated construction cost of \$23,387,000, and an additional management and inspection cost of \$3,494,000, for a total additional estimated cost of \$30,641,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution. This resolution amends Prospectus No. PWA-0704-TA22.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any

agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of the General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the program.

GSAPBS

**AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
TACOMA UNION STATION
TACOMA, WA**

Prospectus Number: PWA-0704-TA24
Congressional District: 06

FY 2024 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project at the Historic Tacoma Union Station (TUS) located at 1717 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma, WA, to address seismic deficiencies, undertake targeted building system modernizations, and address life-safety upgrades. GSA's *Seismic Rating System Report*, released on March 31, 2016, lists TUS as having one of the highest seismic risk ratings in the GSA portfolio. In addition to the critical structural repairs and upgrades, the proposed project will modernize the building's outdated systems, address life-safety upgrades, alter interior space, and undertake exterior repairs. GSA acquired the building from the City of Tacoma on September 21, 2022.

FY 2024 Committee Approval Requested

(Additional Design, Construction and Management & Inspection)..... \$30,641,000¹

This prospectus amends [Prospectus No. PWA-0704-TA22](#). GSA is requesting approval of an additional design cost of \$3,760,000, additional estimated construction cost of \$23,387,000, and an additional management and inspection cost of \$3,494,000, for a total additional cost of \$30,641,000 to account for modifications to scope, and for cost escalation due to time, labor and market conditions.

FY 2024 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested

(Additional Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection)..... \$79,256,000²

Major Work Items

Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), seismic/structural, and fire protection upgrades; interior construction; exterior construction; and demolition/hazardous materials abatement; and electrical.

¹ Prospectus No. PWA-0704-TA22 was approved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the [House of Representatives](#) on July 28, 2021, and the Committee on [Environment and Public Works](#) of the Senate on September 22, 2021, for a total estimated project cost of \$48,615,000.

² The President's FY 2022 Budget request included \$48,615,000 in support of the Tacoma Union Station repairs and alterations project. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (P.L. 117-103) provided \$3,395,000 in support of the project.

GSA

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**AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
TACOMA UNION STATION
TACOMA, WA**

Prospectus Number: PWA-0704-TA24
Congressional District: 06

Project Budget

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Design | \$7,155,000 |
| Estimated Construction Cost (ECC) | |
| ECC (FY2022) | 3,395,000 |
| ECC (FY2024) | 66,676,000 |
| Total ECC | 70,071,000 |
| Management and Inspection (M&I) | 5,425,000 |
| Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC)* | \$82,651,000 |

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for tenant improvements above the standard normally provided by GSA.

Schedule

| | Start | End |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Design and Construction | FY 2022 | FY 2030 |

Building

The 219,000 gross square foot TUS is made up of 3 buildings: the Historic Building, the Courts Addition Building, and the Link Building. The focal point of TUS is the 90-foot-high central dome, which rests on a central pavilion with large arched openings on each side. Flat-roofed symmetrical wings flank the pavilion to the north and south. Construction of Union Station began in 1909 and was completed in May 1911 in the Beaux-Arts style of architecture. The historic building was completely renovated and restored, and a three-story addition was constructed.

The United States District Court for the Western District of Washington began occupancy in 1992. Ten courtrooms are provided for the federal courts, two within the north and south wings of the 1911 building and eight in the Courts Addition. After a 35-year renovation lease purchase transaction authorized by Congress in 1987, GSA acquired the TUS from the City of Tacoma upon lease expiration on September 21, 2022. Tacoma Union Station is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Tenant Agencies

Judiciary – Bankruptcy, District Court, Magistrate, Probation, Pre-Trial Services; Department of Justice - United States Marshals Service, Office of U.S. Attorneys; Department of Homeland Security - National Protection & Programs Directorate Federal Protective Services; and GSA

GSA**PBS**

**AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
TACOMA UNION STATION
TACOMA, WA**

Prospectus Number: PWA-0704-TA24
Congressional District: 06

Proposed Project

The proposed project includes a full modernization of major building systems to include HVAC, mechanical, and plumbing upgrades, seismic and progressive collapse mitigation, fire protection, interior and exterior construction, and site improvements.

The HVAC and mechanical work include replacement of most HVAC components nearing the end of their useful life. Components to be replaced include air handling units, low pressure ductwork, ceiling diffusers and grilles, exhaust fans, pressurization fans, fan coil units, and unit heaters. Existing cooling towers, boilers and primary heating water pumps will be replaced. Rooftop pressurization fans on the Courts Addition Building roof and exhaust and return fans in the entire TUS complex will be replaced.

Interior construction includes modifications to accommodate the installation of new shear walls in the Historic Building. The rotunda ceiling will be repaired to address damage caused by water infiltration. Other seismic related interior work includes replacement the ceiling system. Historic terrazzo flooring will be restored, and new building signage will be installed throughout Historic and Courts Addition buildings. A temporary lobby area will be constructed with partitions and teller windows for the bankruptcy courts during the construction process. Location of the temporary lobby will be coordinated during the design process. All art in the TUS will be removed, stored offsite, and reinstalled upon project completion.

Structural upgrades include seismic mitigation and progressive collapse protection in the Historic Building to include the installation of shear walls and a concrete tie beam to support the perimeter masonry walls and rotunda dome. Non-structural seismic mitigation includes the installation of bracing for building systems, piping, and fire sprinkler as well as seismic anchoring of mechanical and electrical equipment in the Historic, Courts Addition and Link buildings.

Exterior construction will include reinforcement of window frame anchoring and application of both blast mitigation and thermal window film. It will also include the replacement of approximately 60 ballistic windows in judicial chambers, offices, and courtrooms in the Historic Building due to the failing window seals. Roofing upgrades will include parapet work on both the Historic and Courts Addition Building roofs. The roof membrane on the upper roofs of the Historic Building will be replaced. The proposed work also includes installation of a fall protection system on Courts Addition building roof.

Exterior sitework includes excavation and restoration of courtyard planters and installation of new drains in support of new waterproofing membranes for the prisoner transfer tunnel, cooling tower enclosure, and mechanical chase. It will also include additional security barriers around the existing parking lot.

GSA

PBS

**AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
TACOMA UNION STATION
TACOMA, WA**

Prospectus Number: PWA-0704-TA24
Congressional District: 06

Fire protection upgrades include replacement of the existing fire alarm system and installation of a new fire command center. The dry system compressor will be replaced with a nitrogen generator. A new active smoke control system will be added to the rotunda.

Plumbing upgrades include fixture retrofits, replacement of hot water tanks, and the installation of energy efficient piping insulation. New family accessible restroom and lactation room will be installed in the Courts Addition Building. Electrical upgrades include replacement of all major electrical distribution equipment, panel boards, motor control centers, circuit breakers, transformer feeder wiring, and conduit. All interior and exterior lighting except historic fixtures will be replaced with new light emitting diode (LED) lighting.

Major Work Items

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| HVAC/Mechanical/Plumbing Upgrades | \$17,782,000 |
| Interior Construction | 17,466,000 |
| Seismic/Structural Upgrades | 15,365,000 |
| Exterior Construction | 7,032,000 |
| Fire Protection Upgrades | 4,764,000 |
| Demolition/Hazardous Materials Abatement | 2,137,000 |
| Electrical Upgrades | <u>2,130,000</u> |
| Total ECC | \$66,676,000 |

Justification

Investment in TUS is needed to keep this historic building in the Federal inventory, comply with Executive Order 13717 ("Establishing a Federal Earthquake Risk Management Standard"), and protect building occupants and visitors by meeting current safety codes. GSA's *Seismic Rating System Report*, released on March 31, 2016, lists TUS as having one of the highest seismic risk ratings in the GSA portfolio.

The building systems have reached or exceeded their useful life, are experiencing failures and are more costly to repair. Most building systems were over 30 years old at the time of the building purchase in September 2022. The project will also address life-safety issues, water intrusion, security requirements, seismic code and compliance, and other identified deficiencies.

Summary of Energy, Water, Sustainability, and Climate Risk Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of *PBS-P100, Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service*. GSA will focus on design and construction

GSAPBS

**AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
TACOMA UNION STATION
TACOMA, WA**

Prospectus Number: PWA-0704-TA24
Congressional District: 06

opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies to minimize operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions, incorporate sustainable design principles into projects, and identify and minimize climate risk liabilities above the minimum performance criteria in a manner that is life cycle cost effective.

Prior Appropriations

| Prior Appropriations | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Public Law | Fiscal Year | Amount | Purpose |
| 117-103 | 2022 | \$3,395,000 | Construction |
| Appropriations to Date | | \$3,395,000 | |

Prior Committee Approvals

| Prior Committee Approvals | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---|
| Committee | Date | Amount | Purpose |
| Senate EPW | 09/22/2021 | \$43,289,000 | Design = \$3,395,000 ECC = \$43,289,000 M&I = \$1,931,000 |
| House T&I | 07/28/2021 | \$43,289,000 | Design = \$3,395,000 ECC = \$43,289,000 M&I = \$1,931,000 |
| Approvals to Date | | \$ 48,615,000 | |

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Alteration | \$73,986,000 |
| Lease | \$170,212,000 |
| New Construction | \$165,097,000 |

The 30-year, present value cost of alteration is \$96 million less than the cost of leasing with an equivalent annual cost advantage of \$7,340,000.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

GSAPBS


**AMENDED PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
TACOMA UNION STATION
TACOMA, WA**

Prospectus Number: PWA-0704-TA24
Congressional District: 06


Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/14/2023

Recommended: 

Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: 

Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

ALTERATION—IRS ENTERPRISE COMPUTING
CENTER, MARTINSBURG, WV

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for the repair and alteration project for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Enterprise Computing Center (ECC) located at 250 Murall Drive, Martinsburg, West Virginia, to replace the

roofing system, upgrade both the roof drains and lightning protection, and installation of a fall protection system at a design cost of \$1,994,000, an estimated construction cost of \$19,751,000, a management and inspection cost of \$1,353,000, for an estimated total project cost of \$23,098,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any

agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of the General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the program.

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
IRS ENTERPRISE COMPUTING CENTER
MARTINSBURG, WV**

Prospectus Number: PWV-0191-MA24
Congressional District: 2

FY 2024 Project Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Enterprise Computing Center (ECC) located at 250 Murall Drive, Martinsburg, WV. The proposed project includes replacement of the roofing system, upgrades to both the roof drains and lightning protection and installation of a fall protection system.

FY 2024 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....\$23,098,000

Major Work Items

Exterior Construction

Project Budget

Design\$1,994,000
Estimated Construction Cost (ECC).....19,751,000
Management and Inspection (M&I).....1,353,000
Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC).....\$23,098,000

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by GSA.

Schedule

| | Start | End |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Design and Construction | FY 2024 | FY 2027 |

Building

The ECC is a 497,000 gross square foot building, constructed in 1999 for the sole use of IRS as an office, data center, and warehouse.

Tenant Agencies

U.S. Department of the Treasury - IRS National Office, Office of the Secretary, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and IG for Tax Administration.

Proposed Project

The proposed project will replace the 4 sections of the 200,000 SF roof that spans across the 4 buildings making up the IRS ECC. The proposed project will replace the roofing

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
IRS ENTERPRISE COMPUTING CENTER
MARTINSBURG, WV**

Prospectus Number: PWV-0191-MA24
Congressional District: 2

materials with cooler and more energy efficient materials. Fall protection, accessibility structures, lightning protection, and drainage systems will be installed and upgraded throughout the roof area.

Major Work Items

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Exterior Construction | <u>\$19,751,000</u> |
| Total ECC | \$19,751,000 |

Justification

The ECC is one of two data centers for the IRS that process and store tax return data. It is a critical component of IRS’s operations, which, during peak season, processes over 13 million tax returns each day. Due to the continuous operations year-round and critical mission performed within, this project is viewed as a high priority.

The building’s roof has reached the end of its useful life. Failure of the roofing system could result in catastrophic impact to IRS operations and the Nation’s tax administration system. The existing roof system has required several repairs in recent years to remedy moisture infiltration and active leaks that have interfered with daily operations.

The new roof will address various deficiencies, such as fall protection and access systems throughout. The new roofing system would increase energy efficiency of the building by doubling the thermal resistance of the roof and use materials designed to keep the surface cooler. Lastly, the lightning protection system and drains will be upgraded.

Summary of Energy Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of *PBS-P100, Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service*. GSA encourages design opportunities to increase energy and water efficiency (including renewable energy and fossil free measures), adherence to sustainable design principles, and minimize climate risk liabilities above the minimum performance criteria in a manner that is life cycle cost effective.

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**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
IRS ENTERPRISE COMPUTING CENTER
MARTINSBURG, WV**

Prospectus Number: PWV-0191-MA24
Congressional District: 2

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

None

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

None

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation, and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

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**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
IRS ENTERPRISE COMPUTING CENTER
MARTINSBURG, WV**


Prospectus Number: PWV-0191-MA24
Congressional District: 2

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/14/2023

Recommended: 
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: 
Administrator, General Services Administration

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

CONSTRUCTION—PROSPECTUS FOR DESIGN

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for one design project during fiscal year 2024, for a Long-term Records Storage Facility in the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA, Metropolitan

Statistical Area, at a design cost of \$9,000,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from

the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of the General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the program.

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PROSPECTUS—CONSTURCTION
Prospectus for Design

Description

The General Services Administration (GSA) is seeking approval for one design project during fiscal year (FY) 2024, for which GSA will request funding for site, management and inspection, and construction in a future year. A description of the project is attached.

Justification

Starting the design for the project prior to receipt of construction-phase funding will facilitate an orderly and timely accomplishment of the planned program. Under the separate funding approach, GSA will submit the construction prospectus along with a future year budget request. GSA will work closely with stakeholders, including state and Tribal entities, to determine the site within the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA, Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

The subject project addresses construction of a replacement Federal facility to meet local long-term records storage requirements.

Recommendation

Approve design and related services of \$9,000,000 for the attached project. The construction cost indicated at this time is preliminary and will be refined and finalized prior to future requests for funding.¹

Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested in this Prospectus\$9,000,000

¹ In advance of relocation to a newly constructed facility, funds in support of repairs and alterations to the existing facility that are necessary for continued occupancy and protection of records and materials stored within the facility will be provided annually from GSA’s Basic Repairs and Alterations program. The limitation for any one project is currently \$3.6 million.


GSAPBS

PROSPECTUS – CONSTRUCTION
Prospectus for Design


Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 3/14/2023

Recommended: 

Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: 

Administrator, General Services Administration

GSA

PBS

PROSPECTUS – CONSTRUCTION

Prospectus for Design

FISCAL YEAR 2024 CONSTRUCTION DESIGN PROJECT

| <u>LOCATION</u> | <u>FY 2024 FUNDING</u> |
|---|------------------------|
| Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA MSA Records Storage Facility | \$9,000,000 |
| TOTAL..... | \$9,000,000 |

GSA

PBS

PROSPECTUS – CONSTRUCTION

Prospectus for Design

| | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------|
| | Prospectus Number: | PDS-02024 |
| <u>PROJECT:</u> | Long-term Records Storage Facility | |
| <u>LOCATION:</u> | Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA MSA | |
| <u>ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST:</u> | | \$TBD |
| <u>DESIGN:</u> | | \$9,000,000 |
| <u>AMOUNT REQUESTED IN FY 2024 (Design):</u> | | \$9,000,000 |

WORK ITEM SUMMARY: Program of Requirements and Design for a new Federal Facility.

DESCRIPTION

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes the analysis and design of a future construction project for a facility to meet the long-term crucial records storage space needs of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

Site, construction and management and inspection will be funded in a future fiscal year once the Federal agencies and interested state and Tribal stakeholders agree upon a location and consultation is complete.

Long-term archival and Federal records stored at the facility hold significant value to individuals and organizations, including state agencies, higher education institutions, researchers, scientists, Tribal members, and students. NARA will digitize all records, which will allow for more dense storage and a smaller footprint; however, based on strong interests expressed in previous Tribal consultations, NARA will not permanently relocate records out of the MSA.

The existing National Archives at Seattle is located at 6125 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, Washington. The aging facility, constructed in 1946, requires significant reinvestments that do not make it economically viable to repair and improve. In advance of relocation to a newly constructed facility, funds in support of repairs and alterations to the existing facility that are necessary for continued occupancy and protection of records and materials stored within the facility will be provided annually from GSA’s Basic Repairs and Alterations Program. The limitation for any one project is currently \$3.6 million.

GSA and NARA are committed to the consultative process with impacted state and Tribal nations as the replacement of the Sand Point facility progresses. The program of requirements and building design provided for in this prospectus are essential prerequisites for meaningful consultation with Tribal entities regarding site selection. The current Sand Point facility is 179,000 gross square feet in size. The square footage of the proposed replacement facility will be determined based, in part, upon the results of the stakeholder engagement and program of requirements development processes; however, the replacement facility is anticipated to be smaller.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

LEASE—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
KANSAS CITY, MO

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. §3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease extension of up to 204,607 rentable square feet of space, including 104 official parking spaces, for the Department of Transportation (DOT), currently located at 901 Locust Street in Kansas City, Missouri, at a proposed total annual cost of \$5,299,321 for a lease term of up to three years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, the Administrator of General Services and tenant agency(ies) agree to apply an overall utilization rate of 461 square feet or less per person, except that, if the Administrator determines that the overall utilization rate cannot be achieved, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided that, except for interim leases as described above, the Administrator may not enter into any leases that are below prospectus level for the purposes of meeting any of the requirements, or portions thereof, included in the prospectus that would result in an overall utilization rate of 461 square feet or higher per person.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from

the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services shall require tenant agency(ies) to agree to reporting actual utilization data on at least an annual basis during occupancy and such reports are transmitted to the Committee.

GSA

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**PROSPECTUS – LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
KANSAS CITY, MO**

Prospectus Number: PMO-03-KC24
Congressional District: 05

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a lease extension of up to 3 years for approximately 204,607 rentable square feet (RSF) for the Department of Transportation (DOT), currently located at 901 Locust Street in Kansas City, Missouri. DOT has occupied space in the building since 2009 under a lease that expires on October 14, 2024.

Extension of the current lease will enable DOT to provide continued housing for current personnel and meet its current mission requirements. The office and overall utilization rates will increase from 196 to 239 and 377 to 461 usable square feet (USF) per person respectively.

Description

| | |
|--|---|
| Occupant: | DOT |
| Current RSF: | 204,607 (Current RSF/USF = 1.20) |
| Estimated/Proposed Maximum RSF: | 204,607 (Proposed RSF/USF = 1.20) |
| Expansion/Reduction RSF: | None |
| Current Usable Square Feet/Person: | 377 |
| Estimated/Proposed USF/Person: | 461 |
| Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s): | 10/14/2024 |
| Proposed Maximum Leasing Term: | 3 years |
| Delineated Area: | North: I-70/I-35; East: I-70/Campbell Street; South: 31st Street; West: Summit Street/I-35 |
| Number of Official Parking Spaces: | 104 |
| Scoring: | Operating |
| Current Total Annual Cost: | \$ 5,185,006 (lease effective 10/15/2009) |
| Estimated Rental Rate ¹ : | \$ 25.90 / RSF |
| Estimated Total Annual Cost ² : | \$ 5,299,321 |

¹ This estimate is for fiscal year 2025 and may be escalated by 2.8 percent per year to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is fully serviced including all operating expenses, whether paid by the lessor or directly by the Government. GSA will conduct the procurement using prevailing market rental rates as a benchmark for the evaluation of competitive offers and as the basis for negotiating with offerors to ensure that lease award is made in the best interest of the Government.

² New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes and operating costs.

GSAPBS

**PROSPECTUS – LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
KANSAS CITY, MO**

Prospectus Number: PMO-03-KC24
Congressional District: 05

Background

The DOT mission is to deliver the world's leading transportation system, serving the American people and economy through the safe, efficient, sustainable, and equitable movement of people and goods. This location houses the administration offices of the following five DOT operating administrations: the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA); the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA); the Federal Transit Administration (FTA); and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

Justification

DOT is currently housed at 901 Locust Street in a lease that expires on October 14, 2024. This FAA location houses the regional office and the functions of oversight of airport planning, development, and certification, as well as administration of regulations for airmen, air carriers, and air agencies. The remaining DOT components execute mission functions necessary to perform vital operations. DOT requires continued housing to carry out its mission while it executes a replacement lease project, and while DOT and GSA jointly investigate a future long-term plan to relocate DOT into the Richard Bolling Federal Building (Bolling FB).

A 3-year lease extension will provide DOT and GSA with sufficient time for DOT to secure short-term housing until DOT and GSA formulate a relocation plan to the Bolling FB as well as budget for move and replication costs accordingly.

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required rentable area.

Interim Leasing

GSA will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing of the tenant agency prior to the effective date of the extension. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

GSAPBS


**PROSPECTUS – LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
KANSAS CITY, MO**

Prospectus Number: PMO-03-KC24
Congressional District: 05

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 9/28/2023

Recommended: 

Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: 

Administrator, General Services Administration

April 2023

**Housing Plan
Department of Transportation**

**PMO-03-KC24
Kansas City, MO**

September 18, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

H5421

| Leased Locations | CURRENT | | | | | | ESTIMATED/PROPOSED | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| | Personnel | | Usable Square Feet (USF) ¹ | | | | Personnel | | Usable Square Feet (USF) | | | |
| | Office | Total | Office | Storage | Special | Total | Office | Total | Office | Storage ² | Special ² | Total |
| 901 Locust Street, Kansas City, MO | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DOT - FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) | 294 | 294 | 87,833 | 13,760 | 37,728 | 139,321 | | | | | | |
| DOT - FRA (Federal Railroad Administration) | 7 | 7 | 2,968 | 963 | 673 | 4,604 | | | | | | |
| DOT - NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) | 10 | 10 | 2,184 | 834 | 555 | 3,573 | | | | | | |
| DOT - FTA (Federal Transit Administration) | 20 | 20 | 4,279 | 131 | 668 | 5,078 | | | | | | |
| DOT - PHMSA (Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Admin) | 40 | 40 | 6,988 | 375 | 1,085 | 8,448 | | | | | | |
| VA - Veterans Health Administration | 82 | 82 | 9,400 | 123 | 423 | 9,946 | | | | | | |
| Estimated/Proposed Lease | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DOT - FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) | | | | | | | 294 | 294 | 87,833 | 13,760 | 37,728 | 139,321 |
| DOT - FRA (Federal Railroad Administration) | | | | | | | 7 | 7 | 2,968 | 963 | 673 | 4,604 |
| DOT - NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) | | | | | | | 10 | 10 | 2,184 | 834 | 555 | 3,573 |
| DOT - FTA (Federal Transit Administration) | | | | | | | 20 | 20 | 4,279 | 131 | 668 | 5,078 |
| DOT - PHMSA (Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Admin) | | | | | | | 40 | 40 | 6,988 | 375 | 1,085 | 8,448 |
| Vacant | | | | | | | | | 9,400 | 123 | 423 | 9,946 |
| Total | 453 | 453 | 113,652 | 16,186 | 41,132 | 170,970 | 371 | 371 | 113,652 | 16,186 | 41,132 | 170,970 |

| Office Utilization Rate (UR) ² | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| | Current | Proposed |
| Rate | 196 | 239 |

UR = average amount of office space per person

Current UR excludes 25,003 USF of office support space.

Proposed UR excludes 25,003 USF of office support space.

| Overall UR ³ | | |
|-------------------------|---------|----------|
| | Current | Proposed |
| Rate | 377 | 461 |

| R/U Factor ⁴ | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| | Total USF | RSF/USF | Max RSF |
| Current | 170,970 | 1.20 | 204,607 |
| Estimated/Proposed | 170,970 | 1.20 | 204,607 |

NOTES:

¹ USF means the portion of the building available for use by a tenant's personnel and furnishings and space available jointly to the occupants of the building.

² Calculation excludes the judiciary, Congress and agencies with fewer than 10 people.

³ USF/Person = housing plan total USF divided by total personnel

⁴ R/U Factor (R/U) = Max RSF divided by total USF

⁵ Storage excludes warehouse, which is part of special space.

⁶ Special spaces listed are examples of such spaces and may be subject to change at the time a Request for Lease Proposals (RLP) is issued to meet specific agency requirements.

| Special Space ⁶ | USF |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| ADP Space | 3,052 |
| Conference/Training | 18,023 |
| Copy Center | 1,434 |
| Fitness Center | 1,973 |
| Food Service | 5,527 |
| Health Units | 135 |
| High Density File Rooms | 3,570 |
| Mail Rooms | 2,034 |
| IT Laboratory | 1,291 |
| Restrooms/Shower | 1,124 |
| Lobby/Security | 1,741 |
| Telco Room | 1,228 |
| Total | 41,132 |

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

LEASE—U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS
ENFORCEMENT, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for a lease extension of up to 181,280 rentable square feet of space for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), currently located at 601 West 26th Street in New York, New York, at a proposed total annual cost of \$15,408,800 for a lease term of up to two years, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to the execution of the new lease.

Provided that, the Administrator of General Services and tenant agency(ies) agree to apply an overall utilization rate of 222 square feet or less per person, except that, if the Administrator determines that the overall utilization rate cannot be achieved, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided that, except for interim leases as described above, the Administrator may not enter into any leases that are below prospectus level for the purposes of meeting any of the requirements, or portions thereof, included in the prospectus that would result in an overall utilization rate of 222 square feet or higher per person.

Provided that, to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall include in the lease contract(s) a purchase option that can be exercised at the conclusion of the firm term of the lease.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from

the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the project.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services shall require tenant agency(ies) to agree to reporting actual utilization data on at least an annual basis during occupancy and such reports are transmitted to the Committee.

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS-LEASE
U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT
NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

Prospectus Number: PNY-02-NY24
Congressional District: 10

Executive Summary

The General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a lease extension of up to two (2) years for approximately 181,280 rentable square feet (RSF) for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), currently located at 601 West 26th Street in New York, NY. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has occupied space in the building since 2002 under a lease that expires on December 31, 2023.

Extension of the current lease will enable the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to provide continued housing for current personnel and meet its current mission requirements. ICE will maintain the office and overall utilization at 106 and 222 usable square feet (USF) per person respectively.

Description

| | |
|--|--|
| Occupant: | ICE |
| Current RSF: | 181,280 (Current RSF/USF = 1.34) |
| Estimated/Proposed Maximum RSF: | 181,280 (Proposed RSF/USF = 1.34) |
| Expansion/Reduction RSF: | None |
| Current Usable Square Feet/Person: | 222 |
| Estimated/Proposed USF/Person: | 222 |
| Expiration Dates of Current Lease(s): | 12/31/2023 |
| Proposed Maximum Lease Term: | 2 years |
| Delineated Area: | North: West 34th St.; East: 6th Ave.; South: West 14th St.; West: West Side Highway |
| Number of Official Parking Spaces: | 0 |
| Scoring: | Operating |
| Current Total Annual Cost: | \$ 14,114,848 (lease effective 11/04/2002) |
| Estimated Rental Rate ¹ : | \$ 85.00 / RSF |
| Estimated Total Annual Cost ² : | \$ 15,408,800 |

¹ This estimate is for fiscal year 2024 and may be escalated by 2.8 percent per year to the effective date of the lease to account for inflation. The proposed rental rate is fully serviced including all operating expenses, whether paid by the lessor or directly by the Government. GSA will conduct the procurement using prevailing market rental rates as a benchmark for the evaluation of competitive offers and as the basis for negotiating with offerors to ensure that lease award is made in the best interest of the Government.

² New leases may contain an escalation clause to provide for annual changes in real estate taxes and operating costs.

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**PROSPECTUS-LEASE
U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT
NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

Prospectus Number: PNY-02-NY24
Congressional District: 10

Background

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's mission is to protect America through criminal investigations and enforcing immigration laws to preserve national security and public safety.

This location serves as the New York Field Office of ICE's **Homeland Security Investigations (HSI)** group, which is the principal investigative component of the Department of Homeland Security. HSI investigates, disrupts, and dismantles transnational criminal organizations and terrorist networks that threaten or seek to exploit the customs and immigration laws of the United States. Unlike other HSI offices, the New York Field Office houses a financial task force that investigates Wall Street and other financial institutions in Lower Manhattan and has historically been very successful in identifying fraud and other illegal activities on Wall Street.

Justification

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is currently housed at 601 West 26th Street, New York, NY in a lease that expires December 31, 2023. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement requires continued housing to carry out mission. until ICE can relocate under a long standing plan to move to the 201 Varick Street Federal Office Building in New York, NY. A 2-year lease extension will provide ICE with sufficient time to relocate. GSA will attempt to negotiate a lease term of 2 years with termination rights after the fifth month to provide flexibility for future plans.

Resolutions of Approval

Resolutions adopted by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works approving this prospectus will constitute approval to make appropriations to lease space in a facility that will yield the required rentable area.

Interim Leasing

GSA will execute such interim leasing actions as are necessary to ensure continued housing of the tenant agency prior to the effective date of the extension. It is in the best interest of the Government to avert the financial risk of holdover tenancy.

GSAPBS

**PROSPECTUS-LEASE
U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT
NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

Prospectus Number: PNY-02-NY24
Congressional District: 10

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 10/24/2023

Recommended: Elliot Doomes
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: Admi Carnahan
Administrator, General Services Administration

January 2023

Housing Plan
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

PNY-02-NY24
 New York, NY

H5426

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

September 18, 2024

| Leased Locations | CURRENT | | | | | | ESTIMATED/PROPOSED | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| | Personnel | | Usable Square Feet (USF) ¹ | | | | Personnel | | Usable Square Feet (USF) | | | |
| | Office | Total | Office | Storage | Special | Total | Office | Total | Office | Storage ⁵ | Special ⁶ | Total |
| 601 West 26th St., New York, NY (ICE) | 612 | 612 | 83,400 | | 52,281 | 135,681 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 601 West 26th St., New York, NY (ICE) | | | | | | | 612 | 612 | 83,400 | | 52,281 | 135,681 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 612 | 612 | 83,400 | | 52,281 | 135,681 | 612 | 612 | 83,400 | | 52,281 | 135,681 |

| Office Utilization Rate (UR) ² | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| | Current | Proposed |
| Rate | 106 | 106 |

UR = average amount of office space per person

Current UR excludes 18,348 USF of office support space.

Proposed UR excludes 18,348 USF of office support space.

| Special Space ⁶ | USF |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Non-Standard | 52,281 |
| Total | 52,281 |

| Overall UR ³ | | |
|-------------------------|---------|----------|
| | Current | Proposed |
| Rate | 222 | 222 |

| R/U Factor ⁴ | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| | Total USF | RSF/USF | Max RSF |
| Current | 135,681 | 1.34 | 181,280 |
| Estimated/Proposed | 135,681 | 1.34 | 181,280 |

NOTES:¹ USF means the portion of the building available for use by a tenant's personnel and furnishings and space available jointly to the occupants of the building.² Calculation excludes the judiciary, Congress and agencies with fewer than 10 people.³ USF/Person = housing plan total USF divided by total personnel⁴ R/U Factor (R/U) = Max RSF divided by total USF⁵ Storage excludes warehouse, which is part of special space.⁶ Special spaces listed are examples of such spaces and may be subject to change at the time a Request for Lease Proposals (RLP) is issued to meet specific agency requirements.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

PROSPECTUS—ALTERATION—ANTHONY J. CELEBREZZE FEDERAL BUILDING, CLEVELAND, OH

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3307, appropriations are authorized for the repair and alteration project at the Anthony J. Celebrezze Federal Building located at 1240 E. Ninth Street in Cleveland, Ohio, to install new domestic water piping in the sub-

basement, basement, first, and mezzanine levels of the building at a design cost of \$781,000, an estimated construction cost of \$6,968,000, and a management and inspection cost of \$562,000, for a total estimated cost of \$8,311,000, a prospectus for which is attached to and included in this resolution.

Provided further, that the General Services Administration shall not delegate to any agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Provided further, not later than 30 calendar days after the date on which a request from the Chair or Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives is received by the Administrator of the General Services, the Administrator shall provide such Member a response in writing that provides any information requested regarding the program.

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ANTHONY J. CELEBREZZE FEDERAL BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OH**

Prospectus Number: POH-0192-24
Congressional District: 11

FY 2024 Project Summary

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) proposes a repair and alteration project for the Anthony J. Celebrezze Federal Building (Celebrezze Building) located at 1240 E. Ninth Street in Cleveland, OH. The proposed project will install new domestic water piping in the sub-basement, basement, first, and mezzanine levels of the building.

FY 2024 Committee Approval and Appropriation Requested

(Design, Construction, and Management & Inspection).....\$8,311,000

Major Work Items

Plumbing upgrades; demolition/hazardous materials abatement; sitework; interior construction

Project Budget

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Design | \$781,000 |
| Estimated Construction Cost (ECC) | 6,968,000 |
| Management and Inspection (M&I)..... | <u>562,000</u> |
| Estimated Total Project Cost (ETPC) | \$8,311,000 |

*Tenant agencies may fund an additional amount for alterations above the standard normally provided by GSA.

Schedule

| | Start | End |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Design | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
| Construction | FY 2026 | FY 2027 |

Building

The Celebrezze Building was built in 1966 and houses approximately 4,000 Federal employees. The building has 1,459,000 gross square feet, including 321 inside parking spaces, and is located within the northeast section of downtown Cleveland. There are 32 floors and a mezzanine level above grade, a basement, and a sub-basement. The building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Erieview Historic District.

Tenant Agencies

Department of Defense; Defense Financing and Accounting Service, Chief of Naval Personnel; Veterans Affairs-Veterans Benefits Administration; Internal Revenue Service;

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ANTHONY J. CELEBREZZE FEDERAL BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OH**

Prospectus Number: POH-0192-24
Congressional District: 11

Department of Homeland Security: U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services; Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; National Labor Relations Board.

Proposed Project

The proposed project will install new domestic cold, hot, and recirculation water piping in the lower levels of the building: the sub-basement, basement, first, and mezzanine levels, from the point of origin at the city water mains. The existing domestic water piping will be demolished. Asbestos-containing materials on the existing pipe and fittings will be abated. The piping replacement will require cutting, excavation, infill, and patching of the building’s plaza and sidewalk areas. After the piping work is completed, architectural finishes that were disturbed will be repaired.

Major Work Items

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Plumbing | \$3,814,000 |
| Demolition/Hazardous Materials Abatement | \$1,195,000 |
| Sitework | \$1,119,000 |
| Interior Construction | \$840,000 |
| Total ECC | \$6,968,000 |

Justification

The Celebrezze Building opened in 1966, and the expected service life of its domestic water piping is 50 years. Most of the domestic water piping is original to the building. In 2021, a GSA consultant’s study of the domestic water system showed that the pipes are decaying and need to be replaced. The piping in the lower levels was found to be in the poorest condition. GSA has made two attempts to replace the piping with Basic Repairs and Alterations funding in 2023, but both of GSA’s procurement attempts resulted in bids that exceeded GSA’s annual prospectus threshold and without the necessary funding and approvals to award the contract, GSA was unable to undertake the repairs.

GSA’s subject matter experts recently completed an onsite assessment, reviewed the scope of the project, and confirmed the pipe replacement is an exigent need. They also recommended the inclusion of additional scope and funding to account for related civil engineering work for the project.

If the piping in the lower levels is not replaced, there is a significant chance it will fail and flood the basement levels. Mechanical and electrical systems are also located in the basement levels. If a pipe ruptures, water could cause major damage to these systems, lead to a building shutdown, and create expensive repairs. These system failures would require

GSA

PBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ANTHONY J. CELEBREZZE FEDERAL BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OH**

Prospectus Number: POH-0192-24
Congressional District: 11

the displacement and rehousing of the 30 tenant agencies that currently occupy 665,000 usable square feet in the building. GSA estimates that it could take upwards of 5 years before the repairs/replacements would be completed and the tenants would be able to return to the building.

Summary of Energy, Water, Sustainability, and Climate Risk Compliance

This project will be designed to conform to requirements of *PBS-P100, Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service*. GSA will focus on design and construction opportunities to increase energy and water efficiencies that minimize operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions, incorporate sustainable design principles, reduce the environmental impact of materials, and address climate risk liabilities in a manner that is life cycle cost-effective.

Prior Appropriations

None

Prior Committee Approvals

None

Prior Prospectus-Level Projects in Building (past 10 years)

| Prospectus | Description | FY | Amount |
|---------------|-------------------------------|------|--------------|
| POH-0192-FY18 | VBA renovation - design | 2018 | \$ 7,835,000 |
| POH-0192-FY20 | VBA renovation - construction | 2020 | \$63,928,000 |

Alternatives Considered (30-year, present value cost analysis)

There are no feasible alternatives to this project. This is a limited scope renovation, and the cost of the proposed project is far less than the cost of leasing or constructing a new building.

Recommendation

ALTERATION

GSAPBS

**PROSPECTUS – ALTERATION
ANTHONY J. CELEBREZZE FEDERAL BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OH**

Prospectus Number: POH-0192-24
Congressional District: 11

Certification of Need

The proposed project is the best solution to meet a validated Government need.

Submitted at Washington, DC, on 8/7/2024

Recommended: Elliot Doomes
Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

Approved: Adam Carahan
Administrator, General Services Administration

REMEMBERING DR. CLAY DOTSON

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of Dr. Clay Dotson.

Dr. Dotson, the former Young Harris academic dean and, at times, the interim president, spent over 40 years working in higher education. Even in retirement, he stayed involved through his work on this college board.

He is noted for hiring most of the staff at Young Harris College as well as developing the faculty growth and development program, which helped the university grow enormously.

Dr. Dotson's legacy to Young Harris College reaches beyond the college and into the community. He was an active member of the Towns County Lions Club, which created the Georgia Mountain Fair. He was also a member of the Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church and served on the board of directors for the Bank of Hiawassee.

Dr. Dotson left a lasting impact on Young Harris College and Georgia as a whole. I extend my sympathies and prayers to Dr. Dotson's friends and family.

HONORING REVEREND DR. BOB DENTON

(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 honor the life and mourn the loss of Reverend Dr. Bob Denton, a true advocate and champion for the most vulnerable in Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

Throughout his life, Reverend Denton held many titles. He was an ordained minister, police academy graduate, police chaplain, Ph.D. sociologist, adjunct professor at the University of Akron, and, what he is best known for, the founder of the Victim Assistance Program in Akron.

For over 40 years, Reverend Denton served the program he founded as the executive director, a program that was the first victim assistance agency in Ohio and a pioneer in the national victim assistance advocacy movement, which led to the changes in State and Federal laws to help victims across this country. His leadership in this space was deeply respected across our Nation, as Reverend Denton served as the first president of the National Organization for Victim Assistance.

Without a doubt, Reverend Denton left a mark on Ohio's 13th Congressional District, the State of Ohio, and this country.

Though his presence will be missed, his memory will live on through those he advocated for and the family and friends he so deeply loved. Thus, with deepest sympathy, I pay tribute to a

truly phenomenal individual, Reverend Dr. Bob Denton.

EV MANDATES LIMIT CHOICE, RAISE COSTS

(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, an electric vehicle mandate presents serious challenges for our economy, families, and everyday life. While these vehicles are often promoted as the future, they come with significant limitations and costs.

Long-distance travel can be difficult due to fewer charging stations than are needed, by far, and longer refueling times, rather than just the few minutes it takes to fill up with gasoline or diesel, this compared to gas-powered cars.

Also, we have this futile program with the Federal Government that has so far put aside \$8 billion a while back, and what have we got of it? Seven charging stations. There might be more by now, but it is pathetic.

This is particularly problematic in rural areas like I represent where there isn't the infrastructure at all to have the electricity. The amount of load the power lines would need to carry isn't even there yet.

How are you supposed to travel outside of a city area? Maybe it could just be a city mandate. Who knows?

They have high upfront costs and horrifically high costs when you go to replace the batteries. Heaven knows, we have seen what happens when they catch fire. You can't put them out.

We need not force these vehicles on a public that does not want to buy them.

CLOSING 8,000 CONSTITUENT SERVICE CASES

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

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the amazing casework team in my Orange County office, which recently closed over 8,000 constituent cases. Their hard work and dedication have given Orange County residents a voice with Federal agencies and gotten them the answers that they deserve.

Our casework team has facilitated efficient immigration proceedings, secured last-minute passports, and directly returned over \$24 million to the people of Orange County in Social Security benefits, IRS tax returns, veteran benefits, and more.

Navigating our Federal processes and programs should not be complicated, and my office has helped make that a reality for the people I represent. I am incredibly proud of how this team has cut through red tape, promoted transparency, and delivered for Orange County families.

It is my honor to help constituents with Federal agency issues, and I am

grateful for the trust they have placed in my office.

REPUBLICANS' ANTI-ESG AGENDA

(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, what happened to the Republican Party that once stood for free market capitalism, for for-profit businesses to be allowed to run their companies as they wanted, to be able to have people not be fettered by people like us here in Congress? Seriously, what happened to them?

I rise in opposition to my Republican colleagues and their efforts to strip Americans of their freedom to build, invest in, and do what is right for them, themselves, and their businesses. These bills that these Republican Members are passing and advancing this week will take away these rights from these businesses, investors, and consumers alike.

What does this mean? It means businesses can't account for record storms that impact their bottom line, retirees' hard-earned savings will suffer under limited investment options, or company policies that elevate women and minorities will be ignored.

Simply put, Republicans are trying to cancel freedoms that have been studied and proven to increase profits long term. It is absurd, and dare I say, it is pretty weird.

As co-chair of the Stakeholder Capitalism Caucus and a proud Pennsylvanian business leader, I urge my colleagues to reject this anticapitalist agenda.

END SENIOR HUNGER NOW

(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 highlight a recent article in "Generations Now," a publication from the American Society on Aging, titled "Food is Medicine" and authored by several experts in both nutrition and aging services.

The article makes the case for better leveraging the expertise and broad reach of community-based food programs through the Federal Older Americans Act Nutrition Program to combat hunger, prevent malnutrition, and reduce diet-related chronic disease among older Americans.

Seniors all across the country and from all walks of life trust and rely on Older American Act programs' nutritious meals and community connections.

These programs continue to innovate and bring people together. My home State of Massachusetts is highlighted for its efforts to encourage more locally grown foods and for partnering with local schools to promote intergenerational meals among participants.

Mr. Speaker, I include the text of the article in the RECORD.

FOOD IS MEDICINE—THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT NUTRITION PROGRAM AND COMMUNITY NETWORK ARE VITAL TO DELIVER IT

(By Shirley Chao, Judy Simon, Laura Borth, Lydia McGrath, Jaime Gahche, Mary Beth Arensberg, and Johanna Dwyer)

By 2050, the majority of older Americans will have at least one chronic disease or condition, many of which are diet-related with important health and economic implications. Diet-related chronic diseases are among the leading causes of death and disability in the U.S., intensifying the interest in food is medicine (FIM) interventions. Malnutrition and increasing food insecurity are also concerns for older adults. New data from the 2022 National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants report that up to 20 percent of Older Americans Act nutrition program (OAANP) participants are at high risk for malnutrition, as defined by unintended loss of weight and poor appetite and a majority of OAA participants report at least one chronic disease.

Yet, lack of infrastructure linking community-based food programs to clinical and other supportive services often makes it difficult for older adults to obtain the care they need in the place they live—the community. Older adults have the highest rate of dietary supplement use and may turn to condition-specific dietary supplements of unproven efficacy to help prevent or treat disease, potentially delaying more effective care and increasing risks of polypharmacy-related adverse reactions.

Congress recently required inclusion of reducing malnutrition as part of the OAA Title III Nutrition Services Program's purpose and the Administration on Community Living (ACL), which administers OAA programs, has required OAA state and area plans to include addressing malnutrition. Malnutrition's causes are many and include inadequate intake, disease, or a combination of these and other factors. It occurs in those who are under- as well as overweight. The OAANP helps to combat older adult malnutrition. Indeed, the U.S. Community Services Preventive Task Force recommends "home-delivered and congregate meal services for older adults living independently (i.e., not residents of senior living or retirement community centers) based on sufficient evidence of effectiveness showing reductions in malnutrition." For home-delivered meal services, CPSTF found sufficient evidence of effectiveness for increasing energy intake and improving health-related quality of life and well-being.

The OAA's national network of community nutrition programs is vital for ensuring that older adults receive the nutrition-related supportive services and information necessary to better deal with their health conditions. Further, the OAANP provides a strong foundation to support FIM for older adults in the community setting and it aligns with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) FIM principles.

OAANP EXEMPLIFIES FIM AND ALIGNS WITH HHS FIM PRINCIPLES

The most expedient approach to building a viable and accountable community-based services infrastructure for FIM is to leverage the OAANP's broad expertise and network. The OAANP reaches and serves Americans in all locales and from all socio-economic and racial/ethnic backgrounds. The OAANP has the technical knowledge and federal/state administrative experience with local programs to ensure that federal and state monies are spent in both a cost-effective and accountable manner. In addition, through serv-

ing nearly 1 million meals a day and regularly forging links with clinical providers to combat malnutrition/diet-related diseases, the OAANP's capability is invaluable for guiding FIM services in collaboration with the private sector including foundations, universities and research institutions, employers and others.

Greater prevalence of diet-related chronic disease and increasing food insecurity—including in U.S. households with older adults—were driving factors leading to the 2022 White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and the resulting National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition and Health. Interest in and actions related to the FIM approach continue to grow in the U.S., with support from a variety of private and public sector funding streams including several new Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) initiatives.

The HHS Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion's framing language describes FIM as encompassing a broad range of approaches that "promote optimal health and healing and reduce disease burden by providing nutritious food—in conjunction with human services, education, and policy change—through collaboration at the nexus of healthcare and community." It identifies five FIM principles. The OAANP shares these goals and offers the benefit of federally required oversight and quality assurance. Specifically, the OAANP provides a framework to support these principles in community dwelling older adults in the following ways:

(1) Recognizes that nourishment is essential for good health, well-being, and resilience;

Nutrition is a fundamental health issue for older adults because poor nutrition—particularly protein calorie malnutrition—can lead to poorer health outcomes and risks for other health conditions including frailty and disability as well as increased healthcare costs. ACL requires OAA state plans to include addressing malnutrition, based on the OAA intent for the nutrition program to reduce hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition; promote socialization; and enhance well-being through improved access to nutrition and other disease prevention/health promotion services.

The National Survey of Older Americans Act participants indicates that 70 percent or more of OAANP participants have reported eating healthier foods because of the program and over 80 percent report that OAANP meals help them remain independently in the community. A programmatic evaluation found congregate meal program participants had less likelihood of a hospital/nursing care facility admission or an emergency department visit. A recent U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging report detailed the "OAA Nutrition Program has increased access to healthy and affordable food for older adults, helping to combat hunger, foster social connectedness, promote healthy aging, and prevent adverse health outcomes."

(2) Facilitates easy access to healthy food across the health continuum in the community;

While the OAANP may often be overlooked as a critical food access recourse, it plays a significant role in providing nutritious meals to community-based older adults. In 2019, the OAANP delivered 223 million meals to 2.4 million older adults through 5,000 community providers across the country. While many are familiar with hospitals referring patients to "meals on wheels" after hospital discharge to help with recuperation, the OAANP is modernizing its approaches to meet the needs of current and future older adult populations with a particular focus on underserved communities. For example, by offering online nutrition education, food

truck meals and pop-up meal sites in under-resourced areas, culturally appropriate meals, and restaurant partnerships, OAANP innovations help reduce barriers to accessing OAAANP nutritious meals and other services. (3) Cultivates understanding of the relationship between nutrition and health:

The OAANP services not only include meals but also nutrition education, nutrition assessment and screening, and additional supports like supplemental foods. Further, appropriate social services and healthcare referrals are offered based on person-centered needs. OAANP providers have solid foundations with registered dietitian nutritionists (RDNs) as staff who can ensure nutrition quality, food safety, and provide nutrition education. In some settings, and when funds and nutrition care pathways are in place, RDNs also provide medical nutrition therapy (MNT) directly to OAA participants. In addition, OAANP providers work closely with other medical professionals, hospital discharge staff, and community care coordinators during care transitions. The OAANP draws on objective, evidence-based nutrition research and information from multiple federal agencies including the National Institutes of Health Institute of Aging and Office of Dietary Supplements, the Food and Drug Administration, USDA, the Veterans Administration, the ACL Nutrition and Aging Resource Center, as well as from other organizations.

(4) Unites partners with diverse assets to build sustained and integrated solutions:

The OAANP operates across all states. Its strength lies in its ability to provide critical services that address numerous issues faced by older adults, including malnutrition, food insecurity, chronic disease, and social isolation. The OAANP is positioned to act as a vital link connecting older adults with help from other organizations, such as health clinics, food banks, and USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) and Commodity Supplemental Food Program. For example, the Massachusetts OAANP was identified as the Commonwealth's largest provider of nutrition and health services according to a FIM community inventory. The OAANP encourages the use of locally grown foods and arrangements with schools and other facilities serving meals to children to promote intergenerational meals. It also serves as a lead agency in developing protocols to procure qualified providers and hold vendors accountable to ensure nutrition and food safety standards are followed.

(5) Invests in the capacity of undersourced communities

The OAANP focuses on underserved communities including persons with the greatest social and economic needs, those who are lower income, live in rural areas, and/or are members of minority communities. It also has the capability of expanding service delivery models to support state/community waivers and FIM initiatives.

OAANP FITS WELL IN THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR A NATIONAL PLAN ON AGING

The U.S. Interagency Coordinating Committee on Healthy Aging and Age-Friendly Communities recently released Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) plan, *Aging in the United States: A Strategic Framework for a National Plan on Aging*. It raised awareness of key aging issues and also outlined goals for supporting older adult health and well-being. Nutrition is included as one of the healthcare/supportive services older adults need to improve "health and well-being across the lifespan", "age well in the community", and "advance their quality of life." Further, nutrition is among the important services listed as helping older

adults remain in their “desired homes in the community.” The OAA is specifically identified in that document as a “major vehicle for the organization and delivery of social and nutrition services.” As states move to develop and implement their own OAA and multi-sector aging plans, policymakers and stakeholders will benefit from engaging with the OAA and its experienced staff, to maximize the health and well-being of older Americans.

CONCLUSIONS

The OAA is holistic in scope and national in scale and is experienced in providing FIM-aligned interventions to older adults in the community. Building on its proficiency in collaborating and linking with community-level programs/providers and its existing framework for standards, monitoring, and enforcement, local providers can help ensure an accountable and scalable community services infrastructure for broader and widely impactful FIM initiatives. The OAA also has data, evaluation, and research expertise that could benefit FIM studies with older adults. Finally, policymakers can look to the OAA as a valuable partner for helping develop and implement federal and state plans and legislation that support older adults in aging well and for helping communities employ successful nutrition and health initiatives now and into the future.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs play an integral role in our efforts to end hunger now.

REFLECTING ON TRAJECTORY OF OUR DEMOCRACY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURLISON). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STEVENS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you here this evening, a stormy evening in Washington, D.C., in our Nation’s Capital, to make an address on behalf of my constituents in my district in Michigan, Michigan’s 11th District, representing and covering the bulk of Oakland County.

I make such an address this evening to reflect on the trajectory of our democracy, to reflect on events that have occurred since I booked this Special Order hour address back in July, and also to make some pronouncements around reforms, revisions, and efforts to come together for the health of our Union.

□ 1900

Make no mistake about it, Mr. Speaker, I absolutely recognize the profound and humbling reality that it is to be a duly elected Member of the House of Representatives speaking and maintaining the privilege to speak in this Chamber to anyone who seeks to be watching back at home and on behalf of this profound nature of the discourse of our democracy.

I booked this Special Order hour because so much happens in the days of Congress, the session days of committee markups, of meetings with stakeholders and constituents, and

conversations with colleagues who hail from every ZIP Code around this great Nation. Something that I would like to tell the people back at home is that I have friends, such as the woman from Oakland County, Michigan, who is a champion for advanced manufacturing. Somehow now I have friends from Alaska to Tennessee to Maine to the coasts of California and inland into Nevada and the like, and the experiment of America and the experiment of American democracy really truly manifests in this very Chamber.

Of course, we recognize that all too often it is not celebrated, and it is not covered in the media outlets from the national news to the print journalism to the ongoing nature of social media when and how we come together on behalf of this Nation.

Something that we just witnessed is a failure to vote on passing our budget, and the clock is clearly ticking. The Democrats and Republicans couldn’t come together. In fact, Republicans joined Democrats to tank Republican legislation to fund the government. So we are again faced with the scenario that we have seen ourselves in time and time again in the 118th Congress where the minority party comes forward to act to save the worst from happening.

Proudly, President Biden in the last year of his Presidency can now just about claim that the government hasn’t shut down once under his watch. We have not defaulted on our debt, and, of course, just last term in the Congress, we rescued this Nation from the worst effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, investing in communities, investing in the incredible county I am so privileged to represent in Oakland County.

We gave Oakland County \$300 million, so we didn’t have to go back to our taxpayers and ask for more.

We are a donor-rich area. We all know that. We pay more than our fair share of taxpayer dollars, and then when we want to do more in the communities we have to go back and excise new tax. We have got to do millages.

Oakland County is under the great leadership of Dave Coulter. He is someone whom I am so proud to call a dear friend and collaborator. He is someone I work with really closely on behalf of the constituents of the 11th District because we believe in the table setting of government. We believe that government works best when Federal, State, local, and municipal come together to utilize taxpayer dollars effectively.

So what Coulter and his team were able to do with the moneys that came down from the great American Rescue Plan Act, the tiebreaking vote that Vice President HARRIS placed to pass it, is that they have invested in dozens of senior centers. Senior centers like the one in Waterford that was going back time and time again for a millage and couldn’t achieve that millage, and now they have their funding. Birmingham next has their funding. Med-

ical debt for the people of the 11th district and Oakland County is wiped out. Money is available to invest in 3-D printing, a program designed by Automation Alley, which is now being replicated in several other counties and has received funding from the State.

So that was just one bill that was passed at the beginning of the 117th session of Congress when President Biden rightfully took his oath and was sworn in as the 46th President of the United States.

We didn’t stop there, and we did become bipartisan when we passed an infrastructure bill.

Who knew that infrastructure would become so partisan?

It was somewhat partisan for some who were adamantly against the bill and now they go home and take the credit when the bridge is being repaired and the road is being paved. It is absolutely enormous that, for once, instead of just authorizing, we appropriated money to say we are going to do the maintenance and repair, and we are going to put the contractors to work. We are going to make sure we have got a prevailing wage and good wages and a seat at the table for our unions.

I talk to my building trades. They tell me they are all very busy and that they couldn’t be busier. Of course, when matched with the incredible infrastructure bill, which has done a lot for our water systems and our lead pipes and public transportation as well, of course, Oakland County passed a major transportation millage as well. Here in the Motor City, we now have busing that works very well and goes east to west. It was quite the triumph last term.

What we also have noticed, though, here is that when we did the clean energy investments, when we looked global competition in the face and said: In the last administration in a bipartisan way, we renegotiated NAFTA, we halted USMCA, we plussed up buy American content, we said we are going to have the rules of the road for our auto industry to succeed, a platform for us to go into markets. Yes, this happened under President Trump with Speaker NANCY PELOSI. We renegotiated USMCA.

Then in the next term we said: We are going to make investments in clean energy, not subsidies, not ownership structures, but large capital-intensive investments in industries of scale.

Mr. Speaker, that is so we are not overly reliant on our adversaries on the global stage, the Chinese Communist Party for one. Gosh knows what is going to totally happen over there.

We want to have domestic technologies in innovations. We want to have an ownership structure so that we are not forced to go and buy from overseas markets. We have learned this lesson over and over and over again. We have, frankly, learned this lesson with semiconductors, the microchips that go into anything from our general electronics devices, our cell phones, our

computers, our music players, if we are still listening to those, too, of course, the automobile.

The pandemic hit, and all of a sudden, we couldn't get the shipments in, and we were making all these beautiful cars. We really do salute our auto-workers for their great efforts during a very trying time, certainly protecting and maintaining their safety but staying dedicated to the production and the production efforts of their enterprise as well as their innovation ecosystem.

So you see, Mr. Speaker, Michigan did something enormous. We responded to the industrial call to action during the COVID-19 pandemic. It was, of course, our manufacturers, large and small, that were addressing the supply chain disruptions, from the personal protective equipment to the ventilators that we were running low on, and all that.

Then they continued to innovate, and here we stand at the precipice of this incredible, new mobility moment that is being led by the auto industry. I think some want to say: Oh, my gosh, this is the government dictating the terms.

Of course, I just received an incredible briefing today from the MIT Sloan School of Management. They work across the aisle. They have this unbelievable dataset that shows what we need to do to stave off the 5-degree warming of the planet, and it is a whole host of things. Of course, to my capitalist focused friends and my capitalist focused countrymen and -women, those are all profit-making endeavors.

We are here, Mr. Speaker, to talk about the future, and we should be celebrating it and not cowering and clinging to the past. We should absolutely be saluting and recognizing the freedom of our fellow countrymen and -women who are going to buy the automobile they want to buy.

Of course, we have 1 million new electric vehicles that were sold in the United States of America, 75,000 from GM, 75,000 roughly from Ford. They are being honest and transparent about what they want to do.

Every week I go and I visit a manufacturer, and I meet them where they are at, and I sit in their conference rooms. I walk their floors. I am in my sixth year of doing this.

Really tremendous things are happening all across southeast Michigan with our automotive supply chain. They have been very dedicated to some of the transition that their customers, the OEMs, the original equipment manufacturers, are professing to make if they want to be zero emissions maybe in total.

We want to win the future, and we want to be innovators and technology leaders. Of course, I mentioned chips and microchips were running short during the global pandemic, and Michigan really responded to it in a tremendous way.

We also, frankly, Mr. Speaker, learned a big lesson which is that the

United States, Gordon Lawrence and the brainiacs out West, innovated the chip. They innovated the microchip.

We were at one time producing 40 percent of these chips in the United States of America. It was our technology, and it was our innovation. Then it wasn't just low labor costs, which is a reality, but it was kind of an investment structure. It was kind of a wooing that took place, and the chips started going over to Taiwan and China and all this and that. The tide really rolls out.

I can speak to this as someone who was serving as a Presidential appointee in the administration of Barack Obama during the Great Recession when we were doing a rescue, not just of Wall Street, it wasn't just a Wall Street rescue that started under President Bush. These financiers in the capital markets and the derivative trading that had gone awry, it was derivative trading that had gone awry. It was the foreclosure crisis that was tied to that, it was the Main Street effort saying that we were not going to liquidate or see the liquidation of General Motors or Chrysler. We used the Troubled Asset Relief funds to invest in the companies, not to own them or control their day-to-day management.

Of course, we were sitting in these ornate government rooms, and we were rightfully saying that we have two other big problems. One is on semiconductors. We are not making enough chips. We are too overly reliant on foreign markets. That comes to roost in the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of course, I, a humble Member of Congress from southeastern Michigan and someone who evangelizes and champions our manufacturing economy, I decide to reach out to the Speaker of the House through the professional way in which we do so as Members of Congress, by letter. I sent the Speaker of the House a letter a week almost. Let's do something on chips.

Then, of course, the great Gina Raimondo, Commerce Secretary, partners up with the White House Office of Legislative Affairs and some of us lawmakers. The Senate was involved, and I love to tell the Homeric story about passing bills.

The short of the long is we passed a chips bill, CHIPS and Science. It was a really ringing moment here in this body because, again, it was bipartisan. Of course, I am sitting in the Science Committee as chair of the Subcommittee on Research and Technology authorizing the doubling of scientific research for the National Science Foundation. It all passed unanimously, and it all passed bipartisan. We passed CHIPS and Science with a tranche of money. I understand that my friends and colleagues on the other side of the aisle are more keen to austerity measures and maybe didn't take the vote accordingly, \$52 billion we said we would commit in the marketplace.

Of course, we are poking and prodding at the Commerce Department. They are working through some of the legal matters to get more of the money out. We don't want it to be too cumbersome, but \$52 billion signed into law and was committed. It was an August day in 2022, hot as all get out.

It is absolutely incredible because within one business quarter, \$200 billion of private-sector capital commitments were made here in the United States of America. That is a 21st century industrial policy approach.

So we are looking at this also because there was a number two, we had two problems, chips, which we sought to solve. Then Secretary Raimondo will tell us that we have a plan to be the only country by 2030 who will design, produce, and ship these chips. We will be the ones to do it. I am very excited to see where these investments are going.

We had a second problem that we had recognized 1½ decades ago, and that was around critical minerals. We, again, are overly reliant on foreign markets, and particularly the Chinese Communist Party, on critical minerals. The challenge here is that 98 percent of these minerals that go into the cell phone and that go into manufactured goods that are so absolutely tied, the critical minerals are so tied to our manufacturing enterprise, and it is a weakness, a supply chain weakness of the United States of America.

□ 1915

We are now starting to form a legislative agenda around how we could do similar to what we did with CHIPS, although it is more complicated. Of course I can see my colleagues on the other side of the aisle eyeing on some of the permitting challenges and some of the reforms that we want to do to accelerate this clean energy revolution, so you have got the environmentalists and the regulating insecure people coming together for once.

We want to do the same thing on critical minerals, right? We want to work with our allies. We want to pass trade deals. We know we are going to be renegotiating USMCA. The year 2025 is just around the corner. So many of us remember the energy, the enthusiasm, the almost revolutionary moment that it felt like to arrive in the 21st century. Everything was 21st century. Everything was the next 21st century plan and the agenda and all of this.

Well, now we are squarely in the 21st century, and we have got opportunities galore, and we have some challenges that we want to address. We want to bring together our allies, similar to how we did in other types of arrangements. The AUKUS arrangement that is now Australia, U.K., U.S., allowed us to invest in nuclear submarine development and technology development.

We have the Quad initiative, and we really do salute and recognize the current administration's approaches to

foreign policy as a way forward and a way to lead by bringing people along, and not saying that we are going to pay for everything, but bringing people along through the rules-based, open, free-market, capitalist, democratic society principles.

In April of this year, believe it or not, we passed a foreign aid package for democracy here in the Chamber, and of course in the other Chamber, the upper Chamber, and it was signed into law by the President.

Well, it was, to a tee, the exact package he asked for in October. You know, support for our democratic allies, support for democracy, and obviously some efforts which have fallen off the rails this term around securing our own borders, and we can only hope to see the day in which such important things are not so political that they remain stalemated.

I certainly seek to be a part of the bipartisan solutions to say that, if you are trained in the United States of America, if you are getting that Ph.D., we want to find a way to keep that talent here. This is something that we heard over and over again from our stakeholders on the Select Committee on Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party: Don't let the talent leave our shores. That is a way in which we innovate. At the same time, too, let's truly invest in border security.

I come from a northern border State, and we take really seriously our relationship with Canada and the security of both of our borders and trade, and certainly looking at the rail and the bridges and we are working on building a new bridge.

Well, it is almost built in southeast Michigan, a large export destination. It is economics, it is livelihoods, and it is also people's lives. It is what draws people together in many respects, the ability to connect.

That was something that was somewhat taken from us during the pandemic period, and we are not forgetting of it, and we certainly want to continue to support people to be the best and the most achieving that they can be.

That is all around us in southeast Michigan, people innovating in their garages and creating new businesses and being entrepreneurial. We always want to support people to succeed in small businesses and listen to them. I always say: Listen, if I can be of help, that is great. If not, I am happy to step and get out of the way.

Of course, some other matters of bipartisan congressional coming together at this moment are worth reflecting on, and a new subject. That is with regard to a role that I have had in this Congress since the year 2022, as the co-chair of the Task Force on American Hostages and Americans Wrongfully Detained Abroad.

This is a task force that is bipartisan. It is co-chaired by the gentleman

from Arkansas (Mr. HILL). It brings together Members from all over Congress to shine a light on these wrongful detentions, on these American hostage scenarios.

We have certainly had a term around hostages here in the Chamber, and some really great work has been done in addressing the hostage crisis, the hostage crises, and the ways in which we can operate most effectively as a legislative body.

I fell into this role on the request of a former Congressman from Florida, who now runs the American Jewish Committee, the president of the American Jewish Committee, former Congressman Ted Deutch, a dear friend of mine. He was the co-chair. Upon his retirement, he asked me to fill his shoes.

In part, it is because I was showing up at all the task force meetings on behalf of Paul Whelan—Paul Whelan, resident of Novi, Michigan, employee of BorgWarner, a very large, billion-dollar-plus American automotive supplier, in which he was in charge of global security.

Of course, it is quite memorable because, just as I was preparing to be sworn in for my first term in Congress representing Michigan's 11th District, right as the year 2019 was being rung in, we had gotten word December 28, 2018, that Paul was taken captive by the KGB and the Russian Federation. They ultimately charged him on false grounds, a total sham, of espionage.

It was 5 years, 7 months, and 5 days that Paul was unlawfully and illegally and unjustly imprisoned.

In this term of the 116th Congress, I had the privilege and the rightful duty in coordination with Paul's incredible family of writing a resolution, H.R. 552, calling on the Russian Federation to free Paul Whelan. I worked with my colleagues across the Michigan delegation.

Mr. TIM WALBERG was, at the time, representing Manchester, Michigan. That is where Paul's family lived, and I was in regular communication with them.

We were staring down the face of Putin because it was Putin's game to take Paul Whelan, a former marine, a hometown son of Michigan, and attempt to disappear his life and attempt to play games of politics and embarrassment to the United States and, of course, with the ultimate goal of getting a swap.

Now, H.R. 552, the resolution calling on the Russian Federation to free Paul Whelan, produce the evidence or free Paul Whelan, they had no evidence. There was nothing he had done wrong. He was a citizen on his own time, an American citizen on his own time visiting Russia. That resolution was voted on unanimously. Everyone who voted that day, they voted "yes." They voted to support the resolution, and the same thing happened in the Senate. We had three terms, and we voted on the same resolution each time.

On August 1—it was a Thursday into, actually, almost the following day—it

was nearing midnight by the time the plane landed—Paul Whelan returned home to American soil. The ultimate and largest hostage-freeing effort since really the Cold War took place: Paul Whelan, Evan Gershkovich, involving some of our other European counterparts.

Of course, I was watching as the plane, the bright light in the sky descending from the heavens, it felt like, landing at Andrews Air Force Base, greeted by President Biden, greeted by Vice President HARRIS, among the political events that were going on as well, but of course the governing, as President Biden always reminds us, still goes on. There is still so much work to do. Paul Whelan—the door opens, he appears, and he steps off the plane. He walks down the stairs.

The President placed the very American flag pin that he was wearing on Paul, and we know that Paul cherishes that and wears that pin often. It was so momentous. It was so surreal. We had so many starts and stops and missed opportunities and trials and tribulations and lack of familiarity of what it was like to see an American—he was the first one out of the crew who was taken—be put into a prison, not wanting to at all prevent what needed to happen from happening.

That was such a cause for celebration in Michigan. Billboards: Welcome home, Paul, with a yellow ribbon adorned on the billboard that people could see as they drove along our highways.

There is so much to share about this journey and the legislative body of work that surrounds hostage affairs and negotiations and the return of wrongfully detained Americans. It was 5½ years. Paul lost his job. He lost his place of residence. His dog passed away. We have mentioned Flora on this House floor before.

Now it is an effort to rebuild.

As we know, we are passing an NDAA soon. We got the Robert Levinson bill passed in 2020, and a really phenomenal package of legislation that has passed, but there is more to do.

We remain dedicated to that effort, but, of course, later that month, that very same month of August, just last month, another tragedy struck our hostage community.

Six hostages who were taken from Israel on October 7, 2023, were murdered, murdered by Hamas terrorists in a tunnel. It takes your breath away. It puts sand in your mouth. What is there to say beyond the overwhelming expression of condolences to the families and the people impacted by this?

We don't even have the exact date. We have a sense of the exact date. The bodies were recovered on August 31. Hersh Goldberg-Polin, whose name I know has been spoken in this Chamber and who has absolutely remarkable parents, Jon and Rachel. Rachel, who received a TIME 100 designation. It is a TIME 100 "Person of the Year" for her advocacy.

Hersh is American. Hersh was born in America. Hersh was born on U.S. soil, and he was taken by terrorists on October 7, 2023, because he was at a concert celebrating peace, love, and freedom.

As someone who has been doing the task force work and working so closely with so many advocacy partners, over and over again, we kept expressing that the hostages in Gaza, the Americans—32 Americans killed that day, 9 Americans taken—that they are the heartbeat of negotiation. Hersh wasn't the only person killed, murdered, in August, 23 years old—Eden at 24, Ori at 25, Alex at 32, Carmel at 40, and Almog at 27.

These are shots heard around the world, and they are attacks on all of our humanity. They are a reminder to those of us who are stewards of democracy and freedom and the efforts of this Chamber that we must do more; that we must continue to say the names; we must continue to push for a just ceasefire, an end to the war, which means that we are going to see a return of the hostages and Hamas surrendering; that these individuals should have never been murdered.

□ 1930

In August, we weren't in session. There was no way to verbally address this Chamber. As I had booked this Special Order hour address before the last session had concluded, it weighed on me, recognizing that we had a pretty enormous month in terms of these affairs and the work and the support alongside the Levinson family, alongside Paul Whelan and his family, the family of Hersh, the remaining hostages in Gaza, who have suffered through torturous conditions in tunnels and with starvation. One of the young women who was murdered was just 79 pounds.

This is why we stand united around a foreign aid package for democracy here in the United States of America as we seek to continue to do the work on behalf of the people who sent us here, to continue to do the work on behalf of justice and fairness, and to remind ourselves that there are many who, unfortunately, do not share our view of freedom and who want to disrupt it, who want to override it. Is the target Israel, or is the target America?

Israel is at war now on so many different fronts with pressures in the north. Mr. Speaker, 80,000 people removed from their homes and the like.

I am proud to be a supporter of the U.S.-Israel relationship. I am certainly not a voting member of that country, but I am a supporting Member of this body who recognizes the essential nature of the U.S.-Israel relationship and what that means, not just for our national security, which, in this moment, is quite paramount, but also what that means for our trade, economy, innovation, and the like.

We continue to extend our support, encouragement, and love to the people of Israel, to the people suffering, to the

people who are scared because of the sirens. Are you going to have to hide? Are the children going to be able to go to school?

The reality of what Hamas has done in Gaza, caring nothing for the nearly trillion dollars of assets for the people, the innocent people who live in Gaza, proclaiming that civilian deaths are a good thing.

Of course, that is one element of what is going on now in the Middle East. As I look toward the next 25 years in terms of the first quarter of the 21st century to the mid-21st century, and what is going to be determinative of our outcomes, we certainly recognize that history, the brief history of this incredible Nation of ours, is so incumbent upon us. It is heavy, and it is incumbent upon us, in part, because of a great World War that Michigan played a critical and central role in, the Arsenal of Democracy, as we responded to the attacks on our country, the attacks on civil liberties, and playing a role in ending it, and then using our industrial might to change the world's economy yet again, almost 80 years since the end of World War II.

A living memory it is barely, and it is a history worth teaching. It is a history worth knowing as an American. As part of the horrors of the Holocaust, we say Never Forget, and we ask ourselves what our challenges are for these next 25 years.

I don't want to see it be the drumbeat of war. My responsibility here is not to shepherd America into war, but certainly, it is recognizing that autocracy and democracy are competing and there is an undergird of jihad taking place, a jihad that seeks to disrupt and to dismantle, to bring us back to an ancient time that we don't want to see arrive again that terrorizes people.

The jihad is hitting in Russia, and it is a threat and a reality here in the United States of America and across Europe. Yet, as we look at ways in which our Nation exemplifies its leadership on the global stage with allies, trade partners, and the like, we have to seek ways in which we bring people along to succeed.

It can't just be America on an island alone. We have to advance and continue to push forward a foreign policy agenda that allows for and provides the conduit for our success, not just as a nation but as the harbinger of freedom.

Last century, we tried a lot of different ways to place freedom on people and to encourage democracy. In some ways and countries, it worked, and in some countries, it didn't. Exploited free markets on behalf of the Chinese Communist Party remain a problem.

As a member of the Select Committee on Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, as I have mentioned, we really seek to compromise and work in a bipartisan way because that sends a bigger message.

Some of this also comes back now to another important topic, which is the

reform of our democracy, not in full, but as lawmakers. Anytime we are passing a law, we are making a contribution to our democracy. When I, as a Member of Congress from Michigan, introduce a bill, Mr. Speaker, it is not just for my constituents. It is the Nation's laws.

We here this evening couldn't pass a Federal budget. We are passing the Nation's budget, so I find it worth our efforts as lawmakers and as stewards of the Constitution to ask ourselves of worthy improvements. You have seen this term "seven bills" introduced by colleagues on the other side of the aisle specific to the District of Columbia and its unique status, non-State status of seeking to govern ways in which the District of Columbia works.

I don't know if those are messaging bills. Sometimes that is what they call them, messaging bills, or points that folks are trying to get across. It puzzles me. Why would you come here from Texas to legislate specifically to the District of Columbia?

I have participated in the majority in the debate to add the District of Columbia as a State to the Union, and this is not about politics. Of course, there is the Puerto Rico consideration, and that comes with its complexities and its own points about self-determination, but the people of Washington, D.C., over 700,000 people, larger than a handful of States, have said they want to become a State.

This is the grand conversation of the historic nature of the body we serve in. It is every debate that was had in the first 100 years of this Chamber. How did States get added? Well, of course, it was controversial, based on the horrors of slavery and something that this country had to shed itself of through Civil War, and I am not saying that is what is weighing down on District of Columbia, but we added States to this Union.

It was a Constitution with 13 Colonies. It was a Constitution that was written over periods of time. We have these constitutional scholars and these points of history, and allow me to just share as an aside that it is really quite humbling to talk about the Constitution on the floor of this House.

Debates that we can go back to that were written up and points that were made and doctrines that were written surrounding it, of course, starting with the Declaration of Independence, that is an origin story. Our Declaration of Independence is an origin story. It is just like meeting someone for the first time. Where were you born? Who were your parents? What is your origin story?

Origin stories become not things of myth but really cause for celebration. We should be proud of America's origin story. I certainly am. I revel in celebrating July Fourth safely and freely here in the United States of America every year, and I am grateful for it.

It is not to be blasphemous to our Constitution. It is not to be disregarding of its strong governance and

the ways in which our laws and our systems have moved us forward over and over again, much to the envy of many.

We have a strong economy, the strongest economy in the world, great innovation, great communities, great schools, good elections, but we have to look this time in the face.

In July 2020, I didn't speak these words, but I wrote these words and submitted them to the Chamber. I think that they are worth sharing in part because we are in an election year. I am not politicking, and I am not abusing this lectern or my time or my space here.

These elections seem to drive us further from each other than they do drive us together. It is like we can't see each other. I am from a politically popular State, Michigan. People are campaigning and competing for Michigan, so I see it all. I see what is going on with these national campaigns.

On July 9, 2020, I submitted words to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Madam Speaker, I rise today with respect to our democracy. We boast a steady history, no matter the circumstance, of maintaining a peaceful and efficient process upon the conclusion of our Presidential elections. Whether a President continues in office for another term, experiences defeat, or concludes holding office due to the constitutional term limit, our democracy has flourished to the benefit of the American people for centuries.

Now, I am going to guess that we are going to have a passionate, heated November 5 and a result is going to happen. I am going to make this extension, similar to how I did in written form 4 years ago, of committing to that peaceful process.

This is not to shame, scold, or admonish. We are in a new time. We are not struggling with the pandemic. We are not struggling with people not being able to work and dealing with some other matters that kept them pent up, but we are here to flourish as the 21st century hits its quarter mark.

When I think about what happened, and I was here as the 2020 election happened and then debates pursued and fights and claims of malfeasance, which were really never proven, but I stand here because, from 2000 to 2020, we had a lot of frustrations with our Federal elections. 2000 was one. It was major.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Michigan has 15 minutes remaining.

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, 15 minutes, a good 45 minutes of going strong here, and not a sip of water. Mr. Speaker, I will use my 15 minutes.

I am going to say this because we had the 2000 election, which was really determined by the Supreme Court. People who were in the political process and people who surround the lawmaking of this Nation, instead of saying, gosh, what are the American people telling us over and over again? We are closer together than we are further apart.

□ 1945

We have a four-seat effort to have a new majority in the Congress. We have a 50-50 Senate.

We have an electoral college, which was somewhat designed to placate and recognize legal and important matters in the United States of America.

We have an electoral college that has determined a handful of these elections, particularly in this century. We want to say your vote matters.

Well, the popular vote is recognized, but it is not determinative, and we really haven't reformed or adjusted a thing. We have just continued on.

We haven't made amendments. We haven't added States to the Union. We have just said, this is the way it is going to be.

We are experiencing a somewhat frustrating and tragic uptick in the disappointment of our fellow countrymen and women. They don't trust the system.

It astonishes me. This is the time in the process of elections where, of course, I am in rigorous conversation with voters, but I am also in rigorous conversation with people who aren't voting the way I am. Why is that?

I know that the world changes really quickly after an election, and we have to find a way to keep going. We have to find a way to make sure that this institution hits its pitch level of perfection. It will never be perfect, but in terms of outcomes and results.

Frankly, if you don't understand why people are voting a certain way, if you are just quick to write them off or to make a judgment or an insult, and maybe this is a lecture to everyone, but it is really just a point of personal privilege, you are not on the path to succeeding, and we know that.

I take pride as a liberal, as a Democrat who came in and won because people who voted for the 45th President voted for me, and I recognize that. I took that seriously. I always kept it up.

We have had a couple of impeachments last term and this term and the term before it. Every term I have been here, impeachment comes up. It is not clear to me that impeachment is even working for its intended purposes.

Now, the last time we impeached a President, I thought, well, that is very impeachable because of the dereliction of duty and the total abandonment of the roles and the responsibilities of the Commander in Chief. The government was being attacked. There is no excuse about it. Well, that impeachment failed. The impeachments are failing.

We do have elections, and elections have to be fair, we can say that, but they have to be trusted. They have to be trusted.

Whether it is me or another elected official always deems someone as political it is because they are falling in a party, well, you are on that side and I am on this side. The trust can only extend so far, and that becomes painful to our democracy.

While I haven't proposed every answer on every reform, de Tocqueville, certainly when he was evaluating our Nation and exploring it and writing about it, said "Nothing is more wonderful than the art of being free, but nothing is harder to learn how to use than freedom." The freedom of our fellow citizens, our fellow residents, and the freedom as lawmakers who have been bestowed a trust on behalf of the citizens of our district, the voting residents of our districts, to continue to help to form a more perfect Union.

We must reclaim trust. We must utilize every facet of this body, not in perfunctory terms, not for show, which is why I have carved out an hour of my evening to make this extension and to make this reflection and to dare to proclaim that a reformed and strengthened American democracy will best serve us to the future generations and those before us today.

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

FAILED BORDER POLICIES

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

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, tonight we are going to speak about the border, the failed policies, and the false security that has been created under the Biden-Harris administration.

It is a target-rich environment, I will tell you. We have many examples of the problems that have been created and the policies that created those problems before us.

Keep in mind we have examples of what is also to do right, not theories, but we have hard examples of what to do to secure our border that were implemented under the Trump administration.

Yes, now we have examples of what not to do as we look at the current wide-open border and the massive problems that were created under the Biden-Harris administration.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) my distinguished colleague, to kick this off.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding tonight.

Mr. Speaker, Vice President KAMALA HARRIS' tenure as border czar has been a complete and absolute failure. For

the folks who claim she was never in charge of the border, I will read President Biden's own words from March of 2021.

He specifically assigned Vice President HARRIS with the task of "stemming the migration to our southern border."

I understand the White House would like to rewrite that bit of history, but a simple Google search will show that it isn't just House Republicans calling her the border czar. She was widely referred to as such by the mainstream media at the time.

Since her appointment, HARRIS has gone to the border only once. Even worse, she never spoke to either of the past two chiefs of Border Patrol.

While the Vice President was failing to meet her new responsibility, our Commander in Chief was busy undoing the successful border policies of President Trump.

Here is where that has gotten us. More than 10 million people have tried to cross into the United States illegally in less than 4 years. More than 52,000 illegal immigrants with criminal backgrounds have tried to enter our Nation illegally. Those are just the ones we know about.

Keep in mind more than 2 million people managed to evade Border Patrol under this administration. That is more got-aways under Biden-Harris than in the previous decade combined.

This is a direct result of open-border policies and a refusal to uphold the immigration laws already on the books.

In July alone, there was a daily average of 3,300 encounters at the border. Former President Obama's DHS Secretary noted a few years ago that any more than 1,000 encounters per day overwhelms the system.

Mr. Speaker, the border crisis is far from over, and it continues to threaten our national security. In the last 2 years, Border Patrol officials have seized an average of 2,000 pounds of fentanyl every month coming across the border, enough to kill 458 million people. The real question is: How much fentanyl did they fail to seize that is currently killing our citizens?

More than 350 people who are on the terror watch list have been stopped trying to cross the southern border.

A recent report revealed that 99 of them were released into the country after being stopped at the border.

It was also widely reported this summer that more than 50 illegal immigrants with ties to ISIS were on the loose after being released from custody, all of this on Vice President KAMALA HARRIS' watch.

This week, House Republicans will bring to the floor two pieces of critical legislation. The first is a bill to ensure that any illegal immigrant who is convicted of a sex offense or crimes involving stalking, child abuse, and neglect are deported.

The second is a piece of legislation that claims to end the free hotels, healthcare, and cash given to hundreds

of thousands of illegal immigrants being housed in our Nation's major cities.

It is well past time to stop incentivizing illegal immigration. It is time to support what the American people overwhelmingly support, immigration done the legal way.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, you can see there is a long list of problems, and we have many speakers here who want to speak to those problems this evening.

It is critically important for the American people to hear that not only do we identify what these problems are, but the Republicans have been bringing solutions forward to address these problems.

We have been bringing solutions that we know will work. They are not, again, theories. These are issues that have been addressed, and we know that the solutions that we are recommending have been utilized by the Trump administration and are extremely effective.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS).

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my constituents in western North Carolina to highlight the dire situation at our southern border and to advocate for the enforcement of our Nation's immigration laws.

During his time in office, the Biden administration continues to break records but not in a good way. Last month, Customs and Border Protection seized close to 1,700 pounds of fentanyl at the border, a 30 percent increase from just July.

Over 200,000 Americans have now died from illegal drugs being smuggled across the southern border, and this number only continues to increase. This also comes after 3 years of broken border records and overwhelmed Border Patrol agents.

Some of the first executive actions taken by President Biden undid the Trump administration's attempts to get the situation under control.

Biden threw open the border. Whether he did it for political reasons or through sheer incompetence, it is costing Americans half a trillion dollars every year.

Now, we have fentanyl flowing across the border, courtesy of the Mexican cartels, tearing apart families and the very fabric of our communities in the North Carolina mountains.

Our border is being overrun with lawbreaking migrants, overpowered by drugs, and overwhelmed by what this is costing our Nation.

By conservative estimates, more than 2 million illegal immigrants have been turned loose and are now unaccounted for in America, and that doesn't include those who managed to give Border Patrol agents the slip or the millions who have been living here illegally for years.

These are not small numbers, Mr. Speaker. This is mass migration into our country, facilitated by our very own President.

What is the Biden-Harris solution? How does President Biden and his appointed border czar plan to solve a problem that they manufactured?

Last month, a DHS report found nearly 530,000 individuals were flown in and paroled by the Biden administration under the error-plagued mass parole program for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans, a program that was previously paused due to mass fraud and abuse. You can't make this up, folks.

During my time in Congress, I have written, cosponsored, and helped pass legislation in the House to secure the southern border and end this administration's radical and dangerous border policies.

I was proud to have cosponsored and voted for H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, which is the strongest border security package passed by the House in American history.

□ 2000

Senate Democrats and President Biden could take real, concrete steps to solve this migration crisis, and address everything from court backlogs to the trafficking of unaccompanied children if they would just get behind H.R. 2.

Why are the Democrats so adamantly opposed to commonsense legislation to protect Americans and close the southern border, you might ask?

One of my Democratic colleagues apparently said the quiet part out loud. In no uncertain terms, she said that she wanted more illegal immigrants to come into our country to give liberal sanctuary cities a higher population for congressional districting and the electoral college.

She said: "I need more people in my district just for redistricting purposes," in reference to illegal immigrants coming in droves to New York.

To solve the problem once and for all, I introduced H.R. 7109, the Equal Representation Act, which allows a very basic question to be asked in the U.S. Census: Are you a U.S. citizen?

Given all the other information the government collects during a census, this is a very reasonable thing that we should know, especially as the census count determines congressional apportionment, and only U.S. citizens are allowed to vote.

My bill prohibits anyone who is not a United States citizen from counting toward population totals that determine the number of seats each State has in the U.S. House of Representatives. This would go an incredibly long way to helping us determine who is actually in our country, which is not an unreasonable thing to want to know.

Knowing who is in our Nation and keeping out those who are trying to break our laws and brazenly waltz across our borders is basic national security. Our own President is failing at

the task of keeping this Nation safe and secure.

I ask my colleagues from across the aisle, and this administration, to work with Republicans to pass this common-sense legislation that actually goes to fix the problem.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina for participating tonight and helping us to shed some light on all the problems that have been caused by this wide-open border that has been created by the Biden-Harris administration.

I yield next to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN), my good friend, a fellow duck hunter, and chairman of the Natural Resources Committee.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Montana for yielding. I thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), my dear friend and colleague, another Representative from Arkansas for joining me here at the well.

Mr. Speaker, I am here today to honor and remember the remarkable life of my constituent, Jennifer Ann Morton, a beloved daughter, sister, aunt, and friend whose life was senselessly taken far too young.

While I did not have the opportunity to meet Jennifer myself, I understand she was a warm-hearted woman with unwavering principles. Born and raised in central Arkansas, Jennifer attended the University of the Ozarks for her undergraduate education. She later attended UAMS, where she obtained her license in respiratory therapy to pursue her passion for taking care of children as a respiratory therapist in the Infant Toddler Unit at Arkansas Children's Hospital. Her dedication to her work and her love for the children she cared for were unparalleled.

For nearly 20 years, Jennifer was a loyal supporter of the Texarkana Baptist Children's Home. The team at Baptist Kids knew Miss Jennifer as a compassionate and empathetic contributor to their mission, someone who never hesitated to support Arkansas children. With each donation, whether monetary or gifts for the kids, she always sent a personal and intentional letter to express her gratitude and care for the folks at Baptist Kids.

Her tender and caring heart was evident through her love for her nephews. She loved to spoil them. On every single holiday, she would always buy them matching pajamas.

Friends, this was a woman who devoted her life to caring for children. Her dedication was such that she would often leave work after a long shift and go to the store to buy new clothes for her patients, ensuring they were always comfortable and cared for.

However, above all, Jennifer always put God first. Everything else came second, no matter what.

Just 10 days ago, at only 48 years young, Jennifer's life was tragically and senselessly taken. Early in the morning on September 8, an illegal im-

migrant crashed into Jennifer while recklessly driving drunk through Little Rock.

Maynor Herrera, the man responsible for her death, was found fleeing the scene of the crash and was apprehended by the Arkansas State Police. He was charged with negligent homicide, DUI, driving without a license, weapons violations, and more. We later learned that he had already been deported from the U.S. in 2018. Due to our current chaotic immigration and border policies, there is no telling when he reentered, how he evaded Border Patrol, or how long he had been living in Arkansas.

This tragedy should have never happened. He should have never been in our country to begin with. The Biden-Harris administration's open-border policies are allowing thousands of men like Maynor Herrera to enter our country every single day.

We are failing our country. We need to step up, secure the border, and put an end to this chaos before any more innocent Americans lose their lives because of failed policies.

Before I close, I would like to recognize the brave Arkansas State Troopers who quickly responded on the scene on September 8: Sergeant Dakotah Bailey and Trooper Hunter Glover were the first to arrive on the scene. Corporal Benjamin Ibarra and Trooper Chance Fortune also responded.

Sergeant Bailey detained Herrera as he fled the crash, and Trooper Glover notified Jennifer's father, Jimmy, what had happened. I spoke with Jimmy just Monday, and he told me that Trooper Glover was kind, patient, and respectful in his actions that day, characteristics that the family will undoubtedly remember. Arkansans are blessed to have law enforcement officers who lead with respect and dignity above all else.

Mr. Speaker, Jennifer Morton's legacy will never be forgotten. We will remember her as a God-fearing and compassionate woman who cared deeply for her family and dedicated her life to caring for children. May God bless Jennifer's loved ones as they mourn her loss, a life taken far too soon.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for his remarks. I think that this reflects very clearly on the losses that our country is suffering. It is much, much more than monetary consideration. We are losing lives every single day. We also have to acknowledge the hundreds of thousands of lives that have been lost from fentanyl overdoses.

Mr. Speaker, we have many of our colleagues lined up here to speak. Right now I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), my very good friend.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the vice chair for yielding, first of all, and I thank his dedication to this country and his friendship to me, and he will be missed. He is a good dude.

Mr. Speaker, the State Department has been giving out cash vouchers to il-

legal aliens. Now, imagine this. There are veterans living, literally, under bridges in the district I represent, yet they are giving folks that come over our border yours and mine hard-earned tax dollars. We don't know who the heck they are.

They have never been able to provide an actual number or amount. That is by design, Mr. Speaker. I have heard it stated, our country has been flooded with 10 million, 11 million, but I think it is probably closer to 15 million illegals in the last almost 4 years, and nobody knows exactly how many. Again, that is by design.

You add to that list the answers we don't have. Not only do we not know how much they have received in assistance, dadgummit, we don't even know how many people have received this assistance. The White House will not give us this information. We have all had the phone calls and the emails and the letters. We have seen the pictures of the buses unloading folks when they drop these folks, illegals, out into our districts, and no one can tell us who the heck they are, where they came from, or if they are expected to return anywhere. All you can count on is more tax dollars being spent.

We are \$35 trillion in debt. Every 100 days we add another dadgum trillion dollars, and neither party has a plan to pay it back. You cannot put a pin down on how much money we have doled out. We have got some serious problems.

Caravans travel fast and word of mouth travels even faster. These people know about the benefits that they are going to get before they even start their journey. They are more educated at it than, I daresay, any State Department official that is supposed to know what the heck is going on.

We are incentivizing illegal immigration, which means we are incentivizing breaking the law. Everybody knows it is wrong. They know it is wrong. We know it is wrong, but they are willing to forgo it. They know these folks are going to be voting. They know they are going to add to their rolls. One way or the other, they are going to get a driver's license, and then they are going to go to another State, and they are going to present that driver's license, and they are going to get a voter registration card, or they are going to do it within their own State.

The abject failure to secure our border is severely straining our communities. I can remember when I was mayor of Knox County, we had one school that had over a dozen different languages, and the population of that school was under 300. We are required to provide services for those children. Now, dadgummit, it is not the kids' fault. It is the breakdown of this town, the breakdown of the system that has caused this problem.

The people who actually pay taxes in this country are the ones who are paying for this. Our healthcare system, education, social safety nets, et cetera, are all breaking down. We don't even

know what people are buying with this cash that they are getting or where they are sending it. There is no way of telling.

Does it make it back to the cartels? I suspect it does. Who the heck knows? Nobody knows. Our State Department has a terrible track record under Secretary Blinken. That track record is bought and paid for with the American citizens' tax dollars. It is not in my notes, but it is on my heart. One thing I think we ought to remember if we read our Scripture: Jesus was talking, and he said, how you treat the least of these is how you treat me. Those 300,000-plus children that have come over our dadgum border, Mr. Speaker, nobody knows where they are, they don't know what hell those kids are in. I think our minds don't have to wander very far to know what conditions they are living in if some of them are even still living. We will pay. God will rebuke this Nation for that.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee for his remarks. I certainly appreciate him being here this evening, again, shedding light on these massive, massive terrible problems that this open border has created. It is much more than monetary costs to the taxpayers across this Nation. There are lives that are lost and there are lives that are suffering as a direct result of it.

Next I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Arkansas (Mr. HILL), my good friend. They have a showing this evening.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Montana for yielding to me.

I have to start out, Mr. Speaker, and thank my friend BRUCE WESTERMAN, my colleague in the Arkansas delegation, for paying tribute on this tragedy that we witnessed in our central Arkansas area of a life lost of an honorable citizen doing the Lord's work, caring for kids every day, who tragically lost her life due to the drunk driving by an illegal alien who crossed our border more than one time without any repercussions.

I thank Congressman WESTERMAN for his words in memory of Jennifer Morton. I join him with thoughts and prayers for her family, for her friends, for the loss of a skilled therapist at Arkansas Children's Hospital. However, Mr. Speaker, this is just emblematic of what we are confronting in this country: deaths like that, deaths from fentanyl, and massive human trafficking.

The Mexican drug cartels are making, truly, billions of dollars from those human trafficking fees of coaching, urging, pushing migrants across the southwest border of the United States to the point that there are millions entering our country illegally.

I thank my friend, Mr. ROSENDALE, for yielding me the time. My concern tonight that I want to highlight is the number of these that are potential terrorists in our country.

□ 2015

Just last year alone, 1 year, 169 individuals were caught on the terrorist screening database. That is more apprehensions, Mr. Speaker, than in the last 5 years combined. Isn't that an indication of just how open this border is?

The question is: Where are they once they cross into our country? What has become of them? They were encountered by Customs and Border Protection, they were encountered by TSA at an airport, but what has become of them? Those of us on the House Intelligence Committee and on the Homeland Security Committee have been tirelessly trying to get the answers to those most basic questions.

Since last fall, Congress has been requesting information from the executive branch to better understand the severity that this threat poses.

In my judgment, Mr. Speaker, it is a clear and present danger to our country, but how do we gauge that threat? How do we gauge the severity of it posed by known and suspected terrorists who have crossed our open southwest border at or between the ports of entry? Literally, with millions of got-aways, how are we supposed to extrapolate that risk? Is it greater because they obviously were avoiding detection, or should it be a ratio similar to what we witness today when they are encountered?

On numerous recent occasions, FBI Director Chris Wray has stated in Congressional testimony his concern about our open border and the increased threat of terrorism. He suggested that the threat of attack against Americans in the United States is at "a whole other level," that is his quote, and that he sees "blinking lights everywhere." That is his quote, Mr. Speaker, but it is from last fall, a year ago.

Actions speak louder than words and why his warnings have our attention. The executive branch's lack of coordinated, fused action, in my judgment, contradicts what he said.

During the annual threat assessment hearing last March, in open forum, I pressed Mr. Wray on this commonsense question: Where are these individuals? How have they been handled? Who knows about it?

Mr. Wray at that time could not answer, and to date, the FBI's responses have been less than satisfactory to the Members of Congress on the House Homeland Security Committee and Intelligence Committee.

The information is trickling in, but it is not the comprehensive, coordinated response with actions that I believe, in my judgment, our Members are seeking.

House Intelligence Chairman MIKE TURNER and House Homeland Security Chairman MARK GREEN have joined me in pressing for these answers. We led a letter in April to the Government Accountability Office to review the process of identifying which terrorist watch list individuals are trying to come into

our country and where they are once they are released. What is the policy there?

I have done more by adding language in the fiscal 2024 Intelligence Authorization Act to require Homeland Security and the FBI to regularly brief the Intelligence Committee on these policies, on these procedures, on just how these encounters, these individuals, are treated and how they are coordinated.

President Biden, Vice President HARRIS, and their agency heads bear the ultimate dereliction of duty and need to be reminded that border security isn't a partisan issue, Mr. Speaker. Border security is a national security issue.

Here we are just after the recent 23rd anniversary of 9/11, and it serves as a stark reminder that we need to immediately address where these terrorists potentially are in our country and ensure that a day like 9/11 never happens again.

CONGRATULATING DR. MARGIE SCOTT

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Margie Scott, the medical director of the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System, on a happy and healthy retirement.

Dr. Scott has devoted 26 years to serving veterans at the Central Arkansas VA, including 8 years as the director.

Dr. Scott orchestrated the challenging mission of providing care to nearly 70,000 veterans each year with an innovative and creative approach that has, over the years, modernized how the Central Arkansas VA operates.

The positive impact she has had is unquestionable, and the standard of care that she has set, I hope, will endure for many years to come.

I thank Dr. Scott for her steadfast commitment and service to our veterans. All of us in central Arkansas appreciate her tireless efforts that have led to veterans receiving the healthcare they rightfully deserve.

I congratulate Dr. Scott and wish her the best for a happy retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 19TH AIRLIFT WING'S
EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TEAM

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize members of the 19th Airlift Wing's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team for their efforts in securing dangerous military explosives during a recent traffic incident on I-40 in central Arkansas.

Based out of Little Rock Air Force Base, the 19th Airlift Wing supports the largest C-130 transport fleet in the world, providing humanitarian relief to victims of disasters and essential supplies to troops in the heart of enemy territory.

Following a tragic accident involving a tractor-trailer carrying military explosives, the 19th Airlift Wing's EOD team sprang into action, along with our State's first responders, to secure the hazardous cargo and move it away from civilian populations while also restoring use of the highway, in short order.

I was proud to meet with the airmen during my recent visit to Little Rock

Air Force Base and thank them for their bravery during this incident. It was truly impressive. Hats off to these brave airmen from Team Little Rock. All of Arkansas is proud of their efforts and service to our country.

RECOGNIZING PEGGY MCCALL

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peggy McCall for the nearly two decades of devoted work with Miracle League of Arkansas, an organization that provides opportunities for children with disabilities to play America's pastime.

While working at KIDsource Therapy, Peggy realized that children with special needs and their families should be able to make the same kind of memories at the ballpark that she had with her own children.

She partnered with Rotary Club of Little Rock's Club 99 in the spring of 2005 to bring a Miracle League field to central Arkansas, and that field hosted its first season that next year in 2006.

Since then, Peggy has been the cornerstone of Miracle League of Arkansas and currently serves as executive director of the organization.

In honor of nearly two decades of work to create unforgettable memories, Miracle League's field has a new name: Peggy McCall Field.

Peggy exemplifies passion and excellence for her work in our community, and all of Arkansas is better off because of her efforts.

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT GENERAL
JONATHAN STUBBS

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lieutenant General Jonathan Stubbs on becoming the new director of the Army National Guard.

Lieutenant General Stubbs is the first Arkansan and National Guardsman to be elevated to the rank of the Lieutenant General and the first to be assigned as the director the Army National Guard.

Governor Sanders had named General Stubbs as her adjunct general of the Arkansas National Guard.

General Stubbs' quality, his character, his work ethic, and his leadership sharpened as our own TAG and are now fully recognized nationally with this great honor of leading the Army National Guard across our Nation.

Throughout his 27 years spent serving the Arkansas National Guard, Lieutenant General Stubbs has demonstrated the extraordinary ability to inspire and lead those under his command.

Whether it is at home or deployed in defense of America's Constitution and interests, Lieutenant General Stubbs has exemplified dedication, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to our country.

Lieutenant General Stubbs knows what it takes to lead our brave men and women in uniform. Though we will miss him and his leadership at home in Arkansas, we look forward to the now impressive, positive impact that he will make in this crucial role in our national defense here in Washington.

COMMENDING GEORGE H. DUNKLIN, JR.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the exceptional work of a friend and great Arkansan, George H. Dunklin, Jr.

George has worked over the past four decades with conservation efforts to benefit Arkansas and the Natural State.

George has worked with Ducks Unlimited as an area chairman, president, chairman of the board of Ducks Unlimited, and has left a lasting mark on quality habitat preservation efforts for decades to come. He also has devoted time to serving as chairman of our Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

George has led a life of service to the people of Arkansas and its wildlife and their habitat. All of us from the Natural State thank him for his lifetime of hard work and tremendous dedication to waterfowl. Arkansas' reputation as a world-class place for outdoor recreation and field sports stands taller thanks to the efforts of citizens like George.

CONGRATULATING STEVE FINNEGAN

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Steve Finnegan on his first year of his broadcasting debut with his own radio show on 102.9 KARN in central Arkansas.

Steve is a passionate and gracious host who always strives to tell the truth and make sure that Arkansas voices are heard each Saturday from 12 to 3 central time.

Prior to his newfound radio career, Steve proudly served our Nation in the United States Army, helped lead the American Legion in Arkansas, and in the early 2010s, was CEO of Green Blue Environmental, a service-disabled, veteran-owned small business, for over a decade.

Over the past year, he has taken an impressive veteran and small business owner background and brought his voice and expertise to the people of Arkansas and beyond across KARN's Arkansas signal and its streaming reach.

Steve Finnegan is a dedicated patriot both in his service and love of country and love of our great State of Arkansas and her people.

I congratulate Steve on an outstanding accomplishment. I look forward to the show's continued success in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT MICHAEL
HESTER

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Sergeant Michael Hester, a central Arkansan and member of the Arkansas National Guard.

This past August, Master Sergeant Hester was part of a six-person, all-National Guard rifle team that won the Dogs of War Trophy, a national trophy for marksmanship excellence.

Winning this revered trophy requires incredible skill and teamwork from all members of the team. Sergeant Hester served as a gunsmith and machinist for the team, playing a crucial role in the National Guard's first Dogs of War Trophy in almost four decades.

I speak for all central Arkansans when I say how proud we are of Master Sergeant Hester and his teammates for this significant achievement.

RECOGNIZING WESTON WAKEFIELD

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Weston Wakefield, an Arkansas teen golfer representing central Arkansas at the 2024 PURE Insurance Championship in Pebble Beach, California.

Weston started golfing when he was 8 years old and is a member of First Tee, a youth development organization that teaches life skills to kids and teens through golf.

The PURE Insurance Championship is in its 21st year and brings teens from First Tee chapters all over the country out to world famous Pebble Beach Golf Links and Spyglass Golf Course for the PGA TOUR Champions Tournament later this month.

Weston will be competing against 79 other teens from across the country for the pro-junior title. We wish him all the best luck in this tournament and will be sure to watch his continued success.

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RECOGNIZING CURTIS FERGUSON

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Curtis Ferguson of Benton, Arkansas.

Mr. FERGUSON's big personality and civic leadership left a big impression on everyone he met. He was truly larger than life.

Curtis passed away on June 16. Whether meeting Curtis in business, at church, or civic activities, you were smiling and glad he was helping. His family said that he had unrivaled work ethic and a big vision to match. He used these amazing character traits to create his own company, Ferguson's Furniture, and encouraged his family's entrepreneurial successes.

Curtis always had time for his family and his grandchildren. They will always remember their special trips with him and their learning experiences.

I am honored to have represented such an amazing self-made man, and I am glad I can help celebrate his life and commitment to Arkansas, Saline County, and Benton. We are all better off for this committed citizen and fun-loving business leader.

CONGRATULATING HEIDE HARRELL

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my dear friend, Heide Harrell, on her nomination to be the next chair of the board of directors of the Public Relations Society of America. If elected, she would be the first Arkansan to lead the PRSA.

I had the privilege of working alongside Heide as she served for 5 years as the communication and marketing officer at my former company, Delta Trust and Bank. She serves as the director for communications for Central Arkansas Water, a metropolitan water system that serves over a half million residents.

Heide has more than 20 years of communication and marketing experience,

and just last year, she received the Public Relations Society of America's Crystal Award for her significant contributions to the PR profession.

Heide exemplifies passion and excellence in her communications work and beyond, and I know she will excel if she is elected to this national role.

I congratulate Heide. All her friends, her former coworkers, and her current coworkers are very proud of this accomplishment.

OPEN BORDER IS SECURITY THREAT

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for joining us this evening, helping us to shed some light on the problems associated with the wide-open border, and I think that we can see that the people of Arkansas are very fortunate to have him representing them. It sounds like he has a lot of very, very good neighbors to keep him here in office. We appreciate the work that he does.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Montana has 18 minutes remaining.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, this wide-open border is a national security threat. It is much more than a monetary problem that has been placed upon the taxpayers across the United States. Somewhere in the neighborhood of \$150 billion to \$500 billion a year is being taken out of the revenue that we should be spending on our veterans, that we should be spending on our own citizens, and it is being spent on illegal immigrants as they come into our country.

Everyone is always striving to find a better place. They want to have more opportunities for their family, for their children, for their grandchildren. We hear about the Dreamers all the time. Guess what? American children and citizens have dreams, too.

My children have dreams of what they would like to accomplish in this country. My grandchildren have dreams of what they would like to accomplish and what they see that this country could be, and we are stripping away all of those dreams when we continue to leave this border wide open.

I have grave concerns about not only the millions of people who have come in here illegally that we have had encounters with but, as has been touched upon this evening, I have grave concerns about the several million people who have come in as got-aways and have not had any encounters with any law enforcement whatsoever.

What kind of problems can they cause to our infrastructure? What kind of problems can they cause to our rail systems, to our water systems, to our sewer systems, to our power grid?

Why is it that when it is so easy to sneak into our country, to walk in, to be greeted on the border of Texas, to be greeted on the border of California, and be given new clothes, be given a cell

phone, be given transportation to virtually any place in this country that you want and some traveling money to go with it—what kind of criminal do you have to be to actually sneak into our country and what plans do you have to cause problems?

What strain is it causing to our school systems? How about the human trafficking, the human suffering that is taking place with the people who are forced into the sex trade day after day? We know that it is happening.

The hundreds of thousands of children that are completely unaccounted for, where have they been sold? Where have they been transported to? What kind of hell are they living in right now? How many of them will be just lost and end up taking their own lives because they cannot endure it any longer?

What about the introduction of diseases that we haven't seen for decades that are showing up on our streets and in our schools, coming directly from the illegal aliens who are coming into our country?

How about the suppression of wages and the problems that is causing for our labor community? We are keeping the wages down. People ask, why can't we just increase the minimum wage? Because the market is so flooded with people who are willing to hire illegal aliens that we cannot get those wages up.

Then, the suffering and the families that lose loved ones every single day—about 100,000 lives a year are lost in this country due to fentanyl overdoses that we know are coming directly from the southern border. This body, this body right here, is going to have to do something about it because the administration, the Biden-Harris administration, has demonstrated they will not do anything about it.

We have passed H.R. 2, and I am told that it is the most comprehensive border security and immigration legislation that has ever come through here. We passed that, and it is over in the Senate, waiting for CHUCK SCHUMER to do something with it.

We passed the SAVE Act. We have heard so much about it for the last couple of weeks and how it is going to straighten out and make sure that we don't have illegals voting in our elections. We passed it in July, and it sits on CHUCK SCHUMER's desk, waiting for some kind of action.

The only thing that remains for us, the only thing that is left for Congress to do, is to use the power of the purse strings that we were granted by the Constitution that we continually hear about.

Continuing resolutions prohibit us from doing our job. Our job is to pass appropriations bills and to transparently and properly fund government. Continuing resolutions simply continue funding at levels that most of us voted against and on policies that most of us voted against. It is not the way to run government.

It continues to fund the very agencies that cause problems in our Nation and that have been weaponized against our citizens. They are literally growing larger bureaucracies they are using to attack American citizens, all the alphabet agencies: the ATF, FBI, IRS.

We must reclaim our authority and utilize the appropriations process as called for in the Budget Act of 1974, and thereby fund government in a transparent and responsible fashion. If not, we will see a continuation of these disastrous policies and an accumulation of the ever-growing debt, which now exceeds \$35 trillion.

Mr. Speaker, we must do this, and we can do this, but we have to stand up and declare that we are going to do this. They are tough decisions for very difficult problems, but that is what we signed up for, and I am here to make sure that it happens.

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

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Kevin F. McCumber, Acting Clerk of the House, reported that on September 18, 2024, the following bills were presented to the President of the United States for approval:

H.R. 7032. To amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide the Congressional Budget Office with necessary authorities to expedite the sharing of data from executive branch agencies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7377. To amend the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 to improve the management of royalties from oil and gas leases, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-5353. A letter from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket DARS-2024-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5354. A letter from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket DARS-2024-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5

U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5355. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2024-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5356. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2024-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5357. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2022-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5358. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2021-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5359. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2021-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5360. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2022-0001] (RIN: 0750-AL20) received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5361. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2023-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5362. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2023-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5363. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2023-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5364. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final

rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2023-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5365. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2023-0001] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5366. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket: DARS-2023-0001; Req No.: DARS-2024-00013-FR] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5367. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Employment Transparency Regarding Individuals Who Perform Work in the People's Republic of China (DFARS Case 2022-D010) [Docket: DARS-2022-0020] (RIN: 0750-AL61) received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5368. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Consolidation of DoD Government Property Clauses (DFARS Case 2020-D029) [Docket: DARS-2023-0017] (RIN: 0750-AL14) received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5369. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modernization of Engagement With Mortgagors in Default [Docket No.: FR-6353-F-02] (RIN: 2502-AJ66) received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-5370. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Division of Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priorities, requirements, and definitions — Research and Development Infrastructure Grant [Docket ID: ED-2024-OPE-0065] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

EC-5371. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Division of Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priorities, requirements, and definitions — Postsecondary Student Success Grant [ED-2024-OPE-0069] received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

EC-5372. A letter from the Supervisory, Program Analyst — Office of Managing Director, Performance and Program Management, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — In the Matter of Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone Service Compensation [CG Docket No.: 22-408]; Telecommunications Relay

Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities [CG Docket No.: 03-123]; Misuse of Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone Service [CG Docket No.: 13-24] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5373. A letter from the President, transmitting a notification that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, as amended, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2024, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1257) (H. Doc. No. 118-168); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-5374. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2024-06; Introduction [FAC 2024-06; Docket No.: FAR-2024-0051, Sequence No. 4] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5375. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Reverse Auction Guidance [FAC 2024-06; FAR Case 2015-038, Item I; Docket No.: FAR-2015-0038; Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AN31) received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5376. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Protests of Orders Set Aside for Small Business [FAC 2024-06; FAR Case 2021-009, Item II; Docket No. FAR 2021-0010; Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AO26) received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5377. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Limitation of Authority Regarding Extraordinary Contractual Actions [FAC 2024-06; FAR Case 2023-007, Item III; Docket No. FAR-2023-0007, Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AO55) received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5378. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments [FAC 2024-06; Item IV; Docket No. FAR-2024-0052; Sequence No. 2] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5379. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's small entity compliance guide — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2024-06; Small Entity Compliance Guide [Docket No.: FAR-

2024-0051, Sequence No. 4] received August 20, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5380. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Technical Amendment—Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation [Docket ID: DoD-2022-OS-0076] (RIN: 0790-AL68) received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5381. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's direct final rule—Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation [Docket ID: DoD-2022-OS-0016] (RIN: 0790-AK51) received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5382. A letter from the Chief, Regulatory Development Division, FMCSA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Incorporation by Reference; North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria; Hazardous Materials Safety Permits [Docket No. FMCSA-2024-0073] (RIN: 2126-AC65) received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-5383. A letter from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule—Updated Procedures for Requesting Approval to Use Substitute Mortality Tables (Rev. Proc. 2024-32) received September 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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. 8674. A bill to establish milestone-based development and demonstration projects relating to nuclear fuel, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-686). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 9459. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enable secure and trustworthy technology through other transaction contracting authority, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-687). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 9460. A bill to authorize the Joint Task Forces of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-688). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6474. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expedite geothermal exploration and development in previously studied or developed areas (Rept. 118-689). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. STEIL: Committee on House Administration. H.R. 6969. A bill to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to procure a statue of Benjamin Franklin for placement in the Capitol (Rept. 118-690). 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 Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER (for herself, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. PETTERSEN, and Mrs. KIM of California):

H.R. 9644. A bill to amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to update to the definition of chronically homeless, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BEAN of Florida (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. GROTHMAN):

H.R. 9645. A bill to require the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services to submit a report on Medicare and Medicaid fraud; 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. STEUBE:

H.R. 9646. A bill to prohibit the availability of Federal funds to support the armed forces of Lebanon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia (for himself, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. FERGUSON, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. MCCORMICK):

H.R. 9647. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to former President Jimmy Carter in recognition of his service to the Nation; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. CAMMACK (for herself, Mr. PALMER, Mr. HILL, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. GUEST):

H.R. 9648. A bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARSON (for himself, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BALINT, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. CHU, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MFUME, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WATERS, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 9649. A bill to restore funding for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. COHEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. EVANS, Mr. PETERS, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois):

H.R. 9650. A bill to provide incentives for the purchase of water-efficient products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 9651. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to establish a renewable energy transition grant program and to establish a National Employment Corps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 9652. A bill to incentivize innovative transportation corridors to reduce carbon and GHG emissions, to provide a tax structure that allows for certain investments in public transportation systems, and to enable the fossil fuel workforce to transition to sustainable work sectors; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and the Workforce, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GUEST (for himself, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. EZELL, and Mr. D'ESPOSITO):

H.R. 9653. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security the Early Migration Alert Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 9654. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require effective sharing of court information regarding unaccompanied alien children released from custody, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. JACOBS (for herself and Mr. JAMES):

H.R. 9655. A bill to reauthorize the Global Fragility Act of 2019, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. LANGWORTHY (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. BOST, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. RULLI, Mr. MOYLAN, and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 9656. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to ensure area career and technical education schools are eligible for mental health and substance use disorder service grants; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LOPEZ (for himself and Mr. OWENS):

H.R. 9657. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the detention and removal of certain aliens belonging to international criminal gangs; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MAGAZINER:

H.R. 9658. A bill to establish "Silver Sea Bream" as an acceptable market name for

Stenotomus chrysops; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself and Ms. STRICKLAND):

H.R. 9659. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for rental housing for members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. BACON, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. LEVIN, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 9660. A bill to provide protections from prosecution for drug possession to individuals who seek medical assistance when witnessing or experiencing an overdose, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 9661. A bill to make the Union Station Redevelopment Corporation eligible to receive certain grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BALINT, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASAR, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mrs. PELTOLA, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILD, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. TOKUDA):

H.R. 9662. A bill to establish an independent entity within the Department of Housing and Urban Development to acquire and maintain distressed real estate to stabilize communities and increase the supply of affordable housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 9663. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to disclose standards for implementation of the modular open system approaches for contracts of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 9664. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to include maximum production rates for procurement of goods in budget materials, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself and Mr. CÁRDENAS):

H.R. 9665. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to affirmatively confirm the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to seek permanent injunctions and other equitable relief for violations of any provision of law enforced by the Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. AMO, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr.

MCGOVERN, Ms. MENG, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. TITUS, and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 9666. A bill to require the President to seize Azerbaijani assets and create a process for Armenians displaced from Artsakh to claim such assets as compensation for lost revenue, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H.R. 9667. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance capabilities for outbound inspections at the southern land border, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STRONG (for himself and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 9668. A bill to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Financial Services, the Judiciary, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. TORRES of California (for herself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. CORREA, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 9669. A bill to provide for the basic needs of students at institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 9670. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to, upon request, provide temporary assistance to States to help stabilize the electric grid, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of New York (for himself and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 9671. A bill to provide guidance for and investment in the research and development activities of artificial intelligence at the Department of Energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. BACON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. TOKUDA):

H. Res. 1462. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of September 16 through September 20, 2024, as "Malnutrition Awareness Week"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Ways and Means, 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 Ms. GREENE of Georgia:

H. Res. 1463. A resolution censuring Representative Bennie Thompson for inciting violence, including two assassination attempts, against President Donald Trump; to the Committee on Ethics.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. FROST, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GALLEGU, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CORREA, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mrs. RAMIREZ):

H. Res. 1464. A resolution recognizing the importance of engagement with the Latino community to get into outdoor recreation and participate in activities to protect United States natural resources, and expressing support for the designation of the third week of September as "Latino Conservation Week"; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H. Res. 1465. A resolution Honoring the life and legacy of Diaz Bonville; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mrs. McBATH (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mr. MRVAN, Mrs. HOUGHIN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York):

H. Res. 1466. A resolution expressing support for designation of the week of September 15 through 21, 2024, as "National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WESTERMAN (for himself, Mr. BUCHSON, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. HILL, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mrs. HOUGHIN):

H. Res. 1467. A resolution expressing support for the recognition of October 2024 as "National Dyslexia Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. WEXTON (for herself, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. JACOBS, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. BROWN, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BUSH, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. SEWELL, and Mr. DESAULNIER):

H. Res. 1468. A resolution recognizing the significance of equal pay and the pay disparity between disabled women and both disabled and nondisabled men; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. CORREA introduced a bill (H.R. 9672) for the relief of Gualterio Santos; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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 Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER

H.R. 9644.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to update to the definition of chronically homeless.

By Mr. BEAN of Florida:

H.R. 9645.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: [The Congress shall have Power . . .] To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services to submit a report on Medicare and Medicaid fraud.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 9646.

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 prohibit the availability of Federal funds to support the armed forces of Lebanon, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BISHOP of Georgia:

H.R. 9647.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. 1, §8, cls. 1, 3, 5, 13, 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

President Jimmy Carter Congressional Gold Medal

By Mrs. CAMMACK:

H.R. 9648.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the United States Constitution, including the power granted under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, and the power granted to each House of Congress under Article I, Section 5, Clause 2

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law.

By Mr. CARSON:

H.R. 9649.

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:

The UNRWA Funding Emergency Restoration Act restores funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 9650.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

The single subject of this legislation is:

Environment

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 9651.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Secretary of Labor to establish a renewable energy transition grant program and to establish a National Employment Corps

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 9652.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To incentivize innovative transportation corridors to reduce carbon and GHG emissions, to provide a tax structure that allows for certain investments in public transportation systems, and to enable the fossil fuel workforce to transition to sustainable work sectors.

By Mr. GUEST:

H.R. 9653.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security the Early Migration Alert Program, leading the Department's dissemination of information pertaining to the movement and release of aliens into the United States.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 9654.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require effective sharing of court information regarding unaccompanied alien children released from custody.

By Ms. JACOBS:

H.R. 9655.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To reauthorize the Global Fragility Act of 2019.

By Mr. LANGWORTHY:

H.R. 9656.

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:

CTE Mental Health

By Mr. LOPEZ:

H.R. 9657.

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 Mr. MAGAZINER:

H.R. 9658.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish "Silver Sea Bream" as an acceptable market name for *Stenotomus chrysops*

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 9659.

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:

This bill would create an additional arm of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit ("LIHTC") program to stimulate developer interest in building affordable housing near large military installations.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 9660.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide protections from prosecution for drug possession to individuals who seek medical assistance when witnessing or experiencing an overdose.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 9661.

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:

The bill would make the Union Station Redevelopment Corporation eligible to receive certain grants.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:

H.R. 9662.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish an independent entity within the Department of Housing and Urban Development to acquire and maintain distressed real estate to stabilize communities and increase the supply of affordable housing, and for other purposes.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 9663.

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 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to disclose standards for implementation of the modular open system approaches for contracts of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 9664.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Defense to include maximum production rates for procurement of goods in budget materials, and for other purposes.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 9665.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends the Federal Trade Commission Act to affirmatively confirm the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to seek permanent injunctions and other equitable relief for violations of any provision of law enforced by the Commission.

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 9666.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 9667.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance capabilities for outbound inspections at the southern land border, and for other purposes.

By Mr. STRONG:

H.R. 9668.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes.

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 9669.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in

The single subject of this legislation is:

Education

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 9670.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Emergency Electric Grid Stabilization

By Mr. WILLIAMS of New York:

H.R. 9671.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Section 8 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide guidance for and investment in the research and development activities of artificial intelligence at the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CORREA:

H.R. 9672.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Immigration

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 53: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee and Mr. CALVERT.

H.R. 321: Mr. AMO.

H.R. 549: Mr. SORENSSEN, Ms. SCHRIER, and Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 621: Mr. PANETTA and Mr. BENTZ.

H.R. 744: Mr. SORENSSEN.

H.R. 830: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas and Mr. TORRES of New York.

H.R. 926: Ms. STEVENS.

H.R. 1045: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 1113: Ms. PETTERSEN.

H.R. 1200: Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Ms. LEE of Florida, and Mr. MURPHY.

H.R. 1273: Mr. EVANS, Mrs. DINGELL, and Mr. MRVAN.

H.R. 1465: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.

H.R. 1536: Mr. SORENSSEN and Mr. RULLI.

H.R. 1586: Mr. LOPEZ.

H.R. 1595: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 1692: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.

H.R. 1794: Mr. BRECHEEN.

H.R. 1826: Mrs. SYKES.

H.R. 1833: Mr. VASQUEZ, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. PELOSI, and Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 2395: Mr. Garcia of Illinois.

H.R. 2407: Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. HILL, and Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 2422: Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 2620: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.

H.R. 2642: Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 2665: Mr. CARBAJAL.

H.R. 2725: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. MENG, and Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 2743: Mrs. HOUCHIN.

H.R. 2819: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 2923: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 2953: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 3086: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 3124: Mr. BUCHANAN.

H.R. 3167: Mr. BEAN of Florida.

H.R. 3333: Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 3394: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 3464: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York.

H.R. 3541: Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 3639: Mr. LAWLER and Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 3713: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 3780: Mr. BERA.

H.R. 3868: Mr. NEHLS and Ms. LEE of Florida.

H.R. 4148: Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 4333: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 4340: Ms. MANNING, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, and Mr. MRVAN.

H.R. 4438: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 4483: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 4571: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 4638: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 4721: Mr. HILL and Ms. GREENE of Georgia.

H.R. 4726: Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 4745: Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 4857: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 4940: Mr. LaLOTA.

H.R. 5041: Mrs. SYKES.

H.R. 5051: Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 5103: Ms. LEE of Florida.

H.R. 5386: Ms. PETTERSEN.

H.R. 5391: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 5451: Mr. MAGAZINER.

H.R. 5568: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 5633: Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 5646: Mr. NEWHOUSE.

H.R. 5738: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 5804: Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 5808: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 6097: Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 6201: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 6319: Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. D'ESPOSITO.

H.R. 6393: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 6672: Mr. CONNOLLY and Mr. MFUME.

H.R. 6727: Mr. ELLZEY.

H.R. 6773: Mr. VARGAS, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. PETERS.

H.R. 6860: Mr. BERA.

H.R. 6951: Ms. BOEBERT.

H.R. 6957: Mr. PANETTA and Mr. BERGMAN.

H.R. 7027: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 7101: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois and Mr. DESJARLAIS.

H.R. 7165: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 7174: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 7284: Mr. GUEST.

H.R. 7297: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. BERA, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 7355: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 7379: Mr. SORENSSEN.

H.R. 7380: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 7469: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 7597: Mr. KILEY.

H.R. 7623: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.

H.R. 7629: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 7662: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York.

H.R. 7665: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 7770: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 7781: Ms. PETTERSEN and Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 7799: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 7805: Mr. LANGWORTHY.

H.R. 7808: Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 7958: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.

H.R. 8003: Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 8024: Ms. LETLOW.

H.R. 8046: Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 8061: Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 8066: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.

H.R. 8141: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 8147: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. BOST, Mr. ARRINGTON, and Ms. GREENE of Georgia.

H.R. 8164: Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 8193: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 8231: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 8244: Mr. VAN ORDEN.

H.R. 8301: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 8303: Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 8307: Mr. SCHIFF and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 8331: Mr. THOMPSON of California and Mr. FINSTAD.

H.R. 8340: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 8371: Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 8383: Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 8398: Mr. HUDSON and Mr. EDWARDS.

H.R. 8426: Mr. SORENSSEN.

H.R. 8481: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 8505: Mr. GUEST.

H.R. 8639: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 8645: Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 8653: Mrs. LUNA, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. BACON, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 8706: Ms. LEE of Florida.

H.R. 8758: Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SORENSSEN, and Ms. SCHOLTEN.

H.R. 8784: Mr. FINSTAD.

H.R. 8785: Ms. BOEBERT.

H.R. 8821: Ms. KUSTER.

H.R. 8838: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 8932: Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 8945: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 8980: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 8996: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 9001: Mr. PFLUGER and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 9002: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 9014: Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 9096: Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 9106: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.

H.R. 9124: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 9129: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 9151: Mr. FINSTAD.

H.R. 9152: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 9168: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 9188: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 9211: Ms. PETTERSEN and Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 9260: Mr. FINSTAD.

H.R. 9274: Mr. MOLINARO, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 9275: Mrs. PELTOLA and Mr. VAN ORDEN.

H.R. 9284: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois and Ms. McCLELLAN.

H.R. 9299: Ms. OMAR, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 9349: Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 9351: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 9368: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 9373: Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 9374: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 9390: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 9399: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 9402: Ms. PETTERSEN.
H.R. 9424: Mr. CARDENAS and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 9466: Ms. BONAMICI and Ms. PETTERSEN.
H.R. 9472: Mr. LUTTRELL.
H.R. 9475: Ms. PETTERSEN.
H.R. 9479: Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 9503: Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 9511: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 9533: Mr. DUARTE, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. CARL, and Mr. FULCHER.
H.R. 9534: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
H.R. 9535: Mr. BERA, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. SCHIFF, and Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 9572: Mr. BERA.
H.R. 9573: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 9578: Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 9584: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 9589: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 9596: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
H.R. 9615: Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 9617: Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 9622: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 9624: Ms. TITUS and Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 9625: Mr. LAWLER and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 9640: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.J. Res. 11: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
H.J. Res. 163: Ms. LETLOW.
H.J. Res. 193: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. STANSBURY, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H. Res. 439: Ms. MANNING and Mr. MRVAN.
H. Res. 616: Ms. MENG.
H. Res. 686: Mr. NICKEL.

H. Res. 861: Mr. MENENDEZ.
H. Res. 1079: Mr. BERA.
H. Res. 1272: Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. MEUSER, and Mr. ISSA.
H. Res. 1286: Mr. NEAL.
H. Res. 1423: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H. Res. 1435: Mr. SESSIONS and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H. Res. 1447: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
H. Res. 1461: Ms. MENG, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. SCHIFF.



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No. 145

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, our shelter from the storms, remind the nations that they are merely human. When they trust in their might and power, help them to remember that they borrow their heartbeats from You. Because of You, they live and move and exist, for You are King of kings and Lord of lords.

Today, we are grateful for the religious, political, and social freedoms that bless our lives. Continue to use our Senators to pay the price to protect our freedom.

Lord, provide our lawmakers with the wisdom to depend on Your strength.

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, September 18, 2024.

To the Senate:

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

appoint the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Michelle Williams Court, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

RIGHT TO IVF ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, yesterday was a sad day in the Senate, as Republicans for the second time this year blocked legislation to protect families' access to IVF. By voting against IVF, Republicans confirmed many Americans' worst fear: Project 2025 is alive and well when it comes to reproductive rights.

Senate Republicans have spent months tying themselves into knots,

claiming that of course they are in favor of protecting IVF, but when it mattered most, when it actually came time to vote, Republicans showed their true colors and voted no.

What made yesterday's vote even worse was that was the second time they blocked IVF protections even though it is increasingly clear many Americans are worried about access. Both times, without hesitation, Senate Republicans caved to the extremists on their right flank.

Look, blocking IVF could have horrible consequences. The hard right has been transparent that now that they have overturned Roe, they are moving on to other targets, like IVF. Just look at what happened earlier this year in Alabama.

Senate Republicans who like to pretend that IVF is not under threat should have a word with the likes of the Heritage Foundation and Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America. These organizations are some of the most influential conservative groups, and they are clear about their hostility about any Federal protections for IVF. SBA called our bill "irredeemable" a few months ago and called IVF a "free-for-all." These groups use language very similar to that of their opposition to abortion. So no matter how much Republicans claim IVF is not in danger, extremists on their side say otherwise, and Republicans seem to listen.

By voting against protections for IVF, Senate Republicans confirmed yet again that 2025 is increasingly steering the GOP.

SALT CAPS

Mr. President, now on the SALT cap, in the long 8 years that Donald Trump has been in politics, one thing is beyond doubt: What Donald Trump says and what Donald Trump does are two very different things.

Donald Trump says he fights for working people and then ushers in perhaps the most anti-worker administration in modern times as President.

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



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Donald Trump claims he is a “leader on fertilization, IVF”—whatever that means—but his MAGA Justices overturned Roe and cast women’s reproductive care into chaos.

Yesterday Donald Trump did it again, totally reversing himself, claiming that he will reverse the cap on State and local deductions. But Donald Trump must be suffering from selective amnesia because he was the one who took away people’s SALT deductions in the first place. His tax bill did it—a dagger aimed at blue States that want to spend a little more to help people with housing and healthcare and education and transportation.

All of a sudden, now that he is on Long Island, Donald Trump’s selective amnesia kicks in, and he totally reverses himself on SALT. But we know Donald Trump. We know what his MO is. He is going to do nothing. He is simply trying to escape the anger of many families he upset when he placed those caps, which affect so many middle-class people, particularly in higher cost areas like Long Island.

So he shows up in Long Island. Oh, he says he has changed his mind. And we know he will do nothing about it. Then, when some of his more rightwing people go to him and say “You can’t do it,” he will say “OK.”

So this is not only an empty promise, but it shows the hypocrisy of Donald Trump. For Donald Trump to pretend he has found religion on eliminating the SALT caps 2 months before an election, speaking in Long Island, is comical, is unserious, and it shows the lack of integrity that this man has. His promises carry about as much weight as Monopoly money.

Remember, the SALT cap was one of the key parts of Donald Trump’s own tax law. Congressional Republicans pushed the cap; he signed it. Donald Trump’s own Treasury Secretary, Steve Mnuchin, called SALT a subsidy for States like New York, even though for decades New York paid tens of billions more in taxes than we received from the Federal Government. To this day, SALT caps remain in place because extreme Republicans have blocked any attempt to fix this defective policy.

I have been a loud proponent of eliminating the SALT cap from the start. As long as I am leader, I will do everything in my power so that when these caps expire at the end of next year, they will not come back.

Double taxing hard-working owners on Long Island, in the Hudson Valley, and across New York and many other States as well—largely blue States—is plainly unfair, and it could not have come up at a worse time than the last few years, with so much chaos caused by COVID and the economic turmoil it unleashed.

So for families frustrated by the SALT cap, so many on Long Island—firefighters, police officers, construction workers, who make good salaries—they have Donald Trump and congress-

sional Republicans to thank for their pain.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. President, now on the shutdown, we have less than 2 weeks now before September 30. If the House and Senate do not act by then to extend government funding, the government will shut down, and there will be no ambiguity that will be a Republican shutdown.

My friend the Republican leader said yesterday that if Republicans shut the government down, “It would be politically beyond stupid for us to do that, because we’d”—meaning Republicans—“get the blame.”

Leader MCCONNELL is absolutely correct. A Republican shutdown would be beyond stupid for Republicans, and they would get the blame because it is only Speaker JOHNSON who is headed in that direction to assuage his hard right, the Freedom Caucus people, who hold his speakership in, shall we say—who say it is questionable whether he should be Speaker if this happens.

Nevertheless, Republicans are no closer to preventing a shutdown today than they were at the beginning of September. For the last 2 weeks, Speaker JOHNSON and House Republican leaders have wasted precious time on a proposal that everyone knows can’t become law. His own Republican conference cannot unite around his proposal.

Today, the House is expected to vote on the Speaker’s CR, and it is expected to fail. I hope that once the Speaker’s CR fails, he moves on to a strategy that will actually work: bipartisan cooperation. It is the only thing that has kept the government open every time we have faced a funding deadline. It is the only thing that works this time too. Bipartisan, bicameral cooperation—that is what works. That is what we are willing and happy to do. And the clock is ticking.

If Republicans keep squabbling and careen us into a shutdown, the consequences will reverberate across the country. A shutdown harms the economy. A shutdown causes costs to spike as supply chains buckle and lending slows down. Federal safety programs could come to a halt, making our people and our communities less safe.

If the Republicans shut the government down, tens of thousands of children across the country could immediately lose access to Head Start. Nearly 7 million women and infants and children could lose nutrition program benefits. Food safety inspections would be jeopardized. Some members of the military could be asked to work without pay. Border security—something very important that our Republican colleagues talk a lot about—could be thrown into chaos, increasing wait times at ports of entry. Frontline border personnel would have to do their jobs without pay.

America does not want another Republican shutdown. America cannot afford another Republican shutdown.

And make no mistake, if Republicans don’t work with Democrats in a bipartisan way, if the four leaders can’t come together because the House Republicans are so adamant, Americans will blame Republicans—particularly those in the House—for shutting the government down.

VBA SHORTFALL

Mr. President, now on the VBA shortfall, last night, the House passed legislation through a voice vote that would ensure that veterans get their well-deserved benefits for October. Passed by voice vote in the House—that doesn’t happen too often on significant and important legislation.

Well, we want to pass it through the Senate quickly. The need for action is urgent. Without this mandatory funding for veterans’ benefits before September 20, the VA will be unable to issue compensation and pension benefit payments to as many as 7 million veterans and their survivors. We can’t let that happen, so we must act, and we will.

REMEMBERING BRIAN GRIFFIN

Mr. President, one final note—a sad note on Brian Griffin. Earlier this week, Senate Democrats lost a longtime member of our beloved family, Brian Griffin.

If you have been around the Senate long enough, you certainly knew Brian. He started his Senate career as a page, worked his way up through the cloakroom—I remember him being there and always being helpful—and served as a top aide for Senator Byron Dorgan.

Many in our caucus came to know Brian well and considered him a dear friend. His family is in our thoughts and in our prayers.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, in the weeks since Washington Democrats made Vice President HARRIS their nominee, the American people have had their hands full in trying to figure out where her campaign stands on the issues on the top of their minds.

They have got serious questions about her role in everything from the runaway spending that gave them the worst inflation in 40 years to the open borders policies that have invited the worst humanitarian and security crisis the southern border has ever seen. Thus far, they haven’t received many answers.

The problem is that the Vice President doesn’t have a record. She has

campaigned for President once before and worked hand in hand with President Biden for 4 years since. Instead, the problem is that, on issue after issue, Vice President HARRIS has, at one time or another, played both sides. Well, working families want to know, this time, what side she is on.

Take energy policy. Back in 2019, then-Senator HARRIS went on record, saying:

There's no question I'm in favor of banning fracking.

Fast-forward, after 4 years of undermining exploration of abundant American energy, the Harris campaign says her policies as President would be different.

During her time in the Senate, our former colleague cosponsored the Zero-Emission Vehicles Act, a bill that would require car manufacturers to sell only zero-emission vehicles after 2040. These days, her campaign avoids getting pinned down about whether she would seek an electric vehicle mandate.

Then-Senator HARRIS also went on the record in support of the Green New Deal, including its make-work programs and job guarantees. These days, as the Biden-Harris war on American energy rages on, the Harris campaign conveniently reveals that she no longer supports this resolution, and, apparently, there is no policy too small for the campaign to walk back, not even the Vice President's stated support for—get this—a Federal ban on plastic straws. According to the campaign, that has been reversed as well.

Well, micromanaging fountain drinks is one thing, but as millions of Americans contend with the business end of the Biden-Harris climate and economic agenda, they ought to know precisely where the Democratic Party's nominee stands. Policies matter. They can quite literally be the difference between affording gas and groceries and going without. Voters are fed up with flip-flops, and the Vice President ought to come clean.

FOREIGN INVESTMENT

Now, Mr. President, on another matter, I have noted frequently that America's resolve and willingness to lead are being tested by a dangerous world. How we respond has everything to do with preserving the peace, prosperity, and security America and our allies have enjoyed for decades.

Today, I want to talk about how the free and uninterrupted flow of goods, people, and ideas has fueled American prosperity.

We all know that trade is important for American workers and American jobs, but the benefits of trade run far deeper than exports of American-made goods, services, ideas, and values. Trade is a two-way street. When we engage in the global market, we open our own doors to new sources of economic strength—to lower prices and more choices and to good-paying jobs from foreign companies that set up shop here at home. For 12 straight years,

America has been the top destination for foreign businesses to invest their capital—investments that do a lot of good in big and small towns alike.

Let's take a look at Kentucky; for example, the Toyota plant in Georgetown. The Japanese automaker has invested billions—billions—in our economy. Today, it supports nearly 10,000 jobs in Central Kentucky.

In Carroll County, a Spanish-owned steel manufacturer supports nearly 1,600 more manufacturing jobs, and it is getting even bigger. Just this year, the company announced a new quarter-of-a-billion-dollar investment. Head west to Owensboro, where close to 500 jobs are on the way thanks to the Swedish manufacturer that invested hundreds of millions into their Kentucky-based production plant.

So, in Kentucky alone, in just looking at my State, businesses from 33 foreign nations support over 116,000 jobs. These jobs aren't just benefiting the biggest cities. Roughly, 60 percent of all of our counties in Kentucky are home to at least one international business.

Now, I have highlighted just a few examples in my home State, but these aren't anomalies. They speak to a situation true all across our country: Foreign investment benefits American workers and American communities, but it doesn't happen on its own. Foreign businesses invest in America because they know they can count on our commitment to free markets and free enterprise and on our rule of law.

Turning our backs on the world means signaling that we are closed for business. It means dulling the magnet of foreign direct investment that draws capital from all over the world to our shores. When our leaders throw up barriers to foreign investment from friends and allies, they risk hurting the very communities they intend to protect. Unfortunately, that is precisely what some loud voices are urging our leaders to do, and if they succeed, our economy will be worse for it.

To be absolutely clear, this isn't an appeal to the naive globalism of the 1990s. Trade is not a cure-all for the serious challenges of competition with China and Russia, but if our adversaries' predatory trading practices and exploitations of institutions tell us anything, it is that leaving a vacuum in global markets is an invitation for further misbehavior.

Working closer with like-minded friends and allies to preserve free and fair trade and to protect critical supply chains is essential to both our security and our prosperity. When friends and allies invest in the U.S. economy and, likewise, when American companies invest in theirs, we drive growth, boost paychecks, and increase American-made exports. That is good news for Kentucky and for workers and job creators all across America.

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. DURBIN. 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.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, throughout our Nation's history, election season has brought out the dark side of politics.

John Adams and Thomas Jefferson infamously waged smear campaigns against each other during the election of 1800. Andrew Jackson and John Quincy Adams exchanged accusations of murder and impropriety in the election of 1828, and questions about Grover Cleveland's activity out of wedlock became campaign fodder in the election of 1844—all to say dirty campaign tricks are hardly foreign to American elections.

But, today, I want to address a particularly vile lie being circulated by former President Trump and his Vice Presidential candidate, J.D. VANCE, and their supporters during this campaign, and this lie has real-life consequences.

In recent weeks, false claims have been circulating on social media that members of the Haitian immigrant community in Springfield, OH, are abducting, killing, and eating people's pets.

The former President even made this claim during his debate with KAMALA HARRIS. This claim is not only outrageous and patently false, with both city officials and law enforcement confirming they have received zero criminal reports of such conduct, but it is now becoming a safety concern for the entire Springfield, OH, community. Despite this, the former President and his running mate have continued to knowingly spread this lie.

Shockingly, in an interview with CNN this week, Senator VANCE admitted that he was willing to "create stories" to get media attention. And that is exactly what he and former President Trump have done—first on social media, then during last week's debate to an audience of 67 million Americans, and then on national news.

Think about that. A man who is seeking to become Vice President of the United States admitted that he was willing to spread vicious lies simply to get media attention.

But these lies have real consequences for Haitian immigrants in Springfield, OH, and across the country. Since this smear campaign began, there have been multiple evacuations of schools, government buildings, and medical facilities in Springfield, OH, because of bomb and shooting threats related to these lies.

I want to thank Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, a Republican and my former Senate colleague, for stepping up to debunk these lies and protect the people of his State.

Yet these candidates have doubled down. They are willing to spread lies and put an entire community at risk to amplify their anti-immigrant platform.

But this behavior is not a surprise. For years, the former President has engaged in bigoted fearmongering, especially when it comes to the topic of immigration.

One incident summarizes his approach well. It was January of 2018. Then-President Trump, myself, and a handful of other lawmakers were sitting in the Oval Office in the White House, discussing a bipartisan immigration deal that I had negotiated, along with Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM.

The agreement would have devoted billions of dollars to securing the border and giving legal protection to Dreamers, young immigrants who grew up in this country. But the former President was not interested. He complained that it would lead to more immigration from Haiti, which he dismissed in profane terms that I am loathe to repeat on the floor of the Senate.

I was stunned. His words were hate-filled, vile, and racist. I could not believe that the President of the United States of America not only held these views but felt comfortable enough to speak them aloud in the Oval Office. But he did. So it was hardly surprising that, when presented with the opportunity to continue to fuel his anti-Haitian hate, the former President has taken that opportunity.

I speak on the floor today to tell Haitian immigrants and Haitian Americans and the entire immigrant community: There is no place for hate in America—no place for hate. You are a critical piece of American leadership. You make our communities and our Nation stronger.

Just look at the attorney general of my home State of Illinois, a dear friend of mine, Kwame Raoul. He is the son of Haitian immigrants, and his service to the State of Illinois and the Nation is invaluable. He, too, has condemned the former President's fearmongering.

Or look at CPT Alix Idrache, a top member of his class and graduate of West Point, who is a pilot for the U.S. Army. He was born in Haiti. He rose to national prominence, in 2016, after a photo showed him with tears streaming down his face at the West Point graduation. His tears, he explained, were a representation of the American dream.

For Haitians who have already experienced violence and instability in their native country, the lies that the former President is spreading only make their lives in America—somewhere they hoped would be a safe place—more dangerous.

It disheartens me that, in the year 2024, I must come to the floor of the Senate to condemn the lies of a former President who is running yet another political campaign fueled by fearmongering and hate.

Immigrants make our Nation stronger, and any attempt to score cheap po-

litical points from lies suggesting otherwise should be met with swift condemnation from both sides of the aisle.

It is ironic that, at a time when these dehumanizing remarks are being made about immigrants in Springfield, OH, there was a press conference yesterday in St. Louis, MO. I call it to the attention of everyone.

St. Louis is a town I know well. I grew up across the river, in East St. Louis, IL, and I have spent many a day in St. Louis, MO. The town has seen its problems and its challenges, and, a few years ago, they decided to try to analyze what the problem was. The problem was they needed a workforce, and they didn't have one. Do you know what they suggested as a solution? Immigrants—immigrants. They need more in St. Louis.

Yesterday, there was an announcement by the chamber of commerce. It was an extraordinary announcement that they have attracted some 30,000 immigrants to that city. They believe that it means that they can move forward now with economic development. It was a plan by the chamber of commerce.

Contrast those two remarks—remarks of former President Donald Trump and his Vice Presidential candidate, J.D. VANCE—about immigration, dehumanizing these immigrants and suggesting they are not only unnecessary in the United States but actually negative in their impact. They are wrong in Springfield, OH. They are clearly wrong in St. Louis, MO. They are wrong in America.

Immigrants have made this country. We are a nation of immigrants, and I would say quite boldly: I am damn proud of it.

My mother was an immigrant to this country, brought here at the age of 2. I am glad that my grandparents, whom I never knew, had the courage to make that journey to the United States. Because of that courage and determination, like so many other immigrants—because of it—I am standing here today as a Senator representing the great State of Illinois.

How in the world can we continue to allow this rhetoric to come from Trump and Vance in terms of the immigrants' impact on America?

We can see before our eyes it makes a difference. The diversity of our population is our strength, and that strength should be capitalized on.

To think that young people who are Dreamers, brought here by their families, run the risk of being deported at some point because of this rhetoric makes me sick to my stomach. These are wonderful young people, extraordinary contributors to America's future, and we should applaud them, not hate them.

I can tell you for a fact. I know a little bit about the Senate. I have served here for a number of years. There are Members of the Senate on the other side of the aisle who want not one single new immigrant to come to America.

I believe there should be an orderly process. That is why I was one of the Gang of 8 to create the Comprehensive Immigration Reform bill, which passed in the Senate quite a few years ago. It should pass again.

We should have an orderly process of immigration and capitalize on the benefits that they bring to this country, and build our economy on those. But to say that we are opposed to all immigrants is just plain unfair. It is wrong, and it is un-American.

St. Louis now realizes that with a workforce, they can start to rebuild their economy, and they are applauding that. Immigration is part of the solution if it is done in the proper, orderly manner. And we can do it that way if we pass comprehensive immigration reform.

The notion of deporting 11 million people from the United States is a fantasy. It cannot, it should not ever happen. These people have made a great contribution to this country.

President Trump wants to say that, if you have a woman, for example, who is a mother who is undocumented in a house full of documented citizens, she should be deported or everyone in the house should be deported. It isn't going to happen, and it should never happen.

We should capitalize on comprehensive immigration reform and make it a viable part of America's future.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill 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.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, August border numbers came out on money, bringing the total number of encounters at our southern border, thus far, for fiscal year 2024 to more than 2 million—2,033,260 to be precise—the third highest total ever recorded, with another month still to go.

The highest total ever recorded was in fiscal year 2023. The second highest total ever recorded was in fiscal year 2022. And the fourth highest total ever recorded was in fiscal year 2021. In other words, President Biden and Vice President HARRIS have presided over 4 years of recordbreaking illegal immigration at our southern border.

The problem started right away. On the day he took office, President Biden began dismantling the border security policies of his predecessor, and illegal immigration began surging in response—no big surprise there.

For 3-plus years now, President Biden and Vice President HARRIS essentially just stood around and watched. They watched as recordbreaking numbers of individuals surged across the southern border. They watched as the Border Patrol and border cities struggled under the massive influx. They

watched as encounters of individuals on the Terrorist Watchlist nearly quadrupled in fiscal year 2022, and then rose even higher the next year.

Vice President HARRIS was supposed to be President Biden's border czar. I would be hard-pressed to name anything she did to stop the influx. If she did take any action, it was certainly ineffective, based on the steady increases in border encounters.

I don't have to tell anyone what the problems are with the kind of unchecked illegal immigration that we have been seeing. As I said, U.S. Customs and Border Protection has been stretched thin for pretty much the entirety of the Biden-Harris administration.

Cities at the border and around the United States have struggled with the influx of migrants, and migrants themselves have suffered as they have undertaken the perilous journey to our southern border, spurred on by the Biden-Harris administration's open-border policies.

Worst of all, the Biden-Harris border crisis has left a gaping hole in our national security. The kind of unchecked illegal immigration we have been seeing is an invitation to dangerous individuals to enter our country.

I mentioned that the number of individuals on the Terrorist Watchlist encountered at the southern border has surged, and those are just individuals who were actually apprehended. We have no idea how many terrorists or other dangerous individuals have made their way across our southern border without being apprehended.

We are closing in on 2 million known "got-aways" in the Biden-Harris administration's watch. Those are individuals the Border Patrol saw but was unable to apprehend. How many of those were dangerous people who should not be entering our country?

U.S. Border Patrol Chief Jason Owens, in a March interview with CBS News, said the number of known "got-aways" is keeping him up at night. This is his quote:

This is a national security threat. Border security is a big piece of national security. And if we don't know who is coming into our country and we don't know what their intent is, that is a threat. And they're exploiting a vulnerability that's on our border right now.

That same month, FBI Director Christopher Wray told the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence:

We are seeing a wide array of very dangerous threats that emanate from the border.

I want to repeat that.

We are seeing a wide array of very dangerous threats that emanate from the border.

That is from the Director of the FBI.

The June arrest of eight men from Tajikistan with suspected ties to ISIS who had illegally entered the country, as well as the identification of over 400 migrants that used an ISIS-affiliated smuggling network to enter our country, are just two examples of the kind

of threats that we face and the dangers of the chaos that President Biden and Vice President HARRIS have allowed to rage at our southern border.

In addition to threats from terrorists and other dangerous individuals, the chaos at our southern border has unquestionably facilitated illegal cross-border activity, including the smuggling of deadly drugs like fentanyl, which then make their way around our country.

My State of South Dakota is about as far from our southern border as you can get, but law enforcement officials consistently tell me that the illegal drugs that they are dealing with have entered the country across our southern border. In 2022, Minnehaha County Sheriff Mike Milstead estimated that 90 percent—90 percent—of the fentanyl and meth in our State comes from Mexico. That is 90 percent, Mr. President.

I could go on. There is a lot more to talk about when it comes to the Biden-Harris border crisis—from the mass amnesty the administration has offered to hundreds of thousands of individuals whose asylum cases have been closed without a decision to the placing of unaccompanied children with possibly dangerous guardians, something that Senator GRASSLEY and Senator LANKFORD are currently working to rectify and prevent in the future.

But I will stop here. Four record-breaking years of illegal immigration: the national security legacy of the Biden-Harris administration.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to point out that we are only 12 days from the end of the fiscal year and to call upon the majority leader to bring the appropriations bills to the Senate floor. We have wasted the last 2 weeks. We have spent time voting on issues that were not nearly as time-sensitive.

By the end of July, the Senate Appropriations Committee had held hearings on, thoroughly considered at full committee markups, and reported for consideration by the full Senate 11 of the 12 appropriations bills, roughly 96 percent of the discretionary funding permitted by the caps. All of the bills—all of them—received strong bipartisan support. We advanced six of the bills unanimously. Unanimous support for any bill in today's Senate is no small feat and a testament to the hard work and seriousness of our committee members on both sides of the aisle, led by our chair, the senior Senator from Washington.

But what has happened after the committee reported its bills? Nothing. They have languished on the Senate calendar. Instead of taking up the Senate committee-passed bills—including bills that passed unanimously—that we passed earlier in the summer, the Senate has spent this month processing nominations and taking show votes aimed at scoring political points.

Show votes: We had another of those yesterday. We voted for the second time on the exact same bill on IVF. What was that? That is not what the Senate should be doing at this critical time. That was simply an attempt by the majority leader to score political points, and I think that is highly unfortunate. We need to get back to legislating, and surely funding our government is an imperative. The Founders envisioned the Senate as a deliberative institution.

As I indicated, by July, the Senate Appropriations Committee had advanced the fiscal year 2025 Defense appropriations bill by a vote of 28 to 0. It was unanimous. The bill would provide our military with the resources it needs to confront the global threats facing the United States, which combatant commanders have described to me as being the worst and most dangerous in 50 years.

Our bill rejects the administration's budget that would have led to the smallest Air Force in history and would have yielded the seas to the growing Chinese navy. The committee, instead, called for a 3.3 percent increase in defense funding levels compared to last year.

Our bill strengthens our military across all domains: air, land, sea, space, and cyberspace.

Our bill would also provide our brave men and women in uniform the pay and benefits that they deserve. It would fund a 4.5-percent pay increase for most of our service men and women and a 5.5-percent pay increase for the most junior enlisted personnel.

These are just some of the highlights of the bill.

Our bill includes \$37 million for Navy shipbuilding, the largest shipbuilding budget ever. It begins to reverse the dangerous decline in the number of Navy ships.

For the Air Force, the bill provides additional funding to make nearly 500 more aircraft available than the President's budget request would allow.

The bill addresses the changing face of warfare with \$1 billion for counterdrone capabilities to address this evolving threat. The growing use of drones by Iran and its proxies as well as Russia in its attacks in Ukraine have demonstrated that warfare has changed and so must our strategies and budgets.

These are just some of the highlights of this critically important appropriations bill that we should have been debating, amending, and passing on the Senate floor.

Mr. President, don't take just my word for it. I would ask unanimous

consent to submit for the RECORD letters on why we need a full-year defense appropriations bill and describing the harm of long continuing resolutions.

One of the letters is from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. One is from the Secretary of Defense. One is from the Chief of Naval Operations. One is from the Commandant of the Marine Corps. One is from the Secretary of the Navy. One is a letter from The Military Coalition, representing more than 5.5 million current and former servicemembers, their families, and caregivers. One is from the Aerospace Industries Association. I could go on and on.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that those letters be printed at the end of my remarks.

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

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, here is my point. It does not have to be this way. If the Senate majority leader had prioritized bringing appropriations bills to the floor, we could be in conference now with our Senate colleagues on some of the most important funding bills and send them to the President's desk prior to the October 1 start of the fiscal year.

The Senate is not doing its job. We should be considering these bills, not engaging in show votes.

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

CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT
CHIEFS OF STAFF,

Washington, DC, September 13, 2024.

Hon. PATTY MURRAY,
*Chair, Committee on Appropriations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MADAM CHAIR: We thank Congress for passing Fiscal Year 2024 Defense Appropriations, including multiyear procurement funds, and National Security Supplemental Funding for critical investments into our Nation's defense industrial base.

However, I am concerned the Joint Force has been constrained by Continuing Resolutions for 14 of the past 15 years, totaling 5 years' worth of lost time we cannot get back. Continuing Resolutions (CR) of any length have lasting impacts on the Joint Force. The National Defense Strategy identifies the key challenges that threaten U.S. national interests. All are currently active and, in some cases, working together. This convergence puts us in the most dynamic and challenging global security environment in my nearly 40 years in uniform.

Our Joint Force is the most capable and lethal fighting force in the world. Maintaining our strategic advantage depends upon on-time funding to have a modernized and ready force. In the race against time, each CR is the equivalent of taking a knee on advancing our defense capabilities as security challenges increase their momentum to challenge our credible combat power. CRs significantly impact and degrade acquisition of the warfighting capability and capacity required to defend the United States and our interests. They slow progress and damage our relationships with the defense industrial base, eroding trust driving up costs, and increasing delivery times, as industry hedges against funding inconsistencies.

Should Congress move forward with a six-month CR, we anticipate detrimental impacts to readiness and modernization across

the Joint Force. Pay and entitlements, nuclear enterprise modernization, shipbuilding and maintenance, aircraft procurement, weapons system sustainment, munitions production, and multiple new starts are just a few examples that will feel the brunt of the lost time and lost buying power caused by a CR.

Our Joint Force depends on long-term, stable, predictable, and timely funding. We are living in a consequential time. There is no time to waste. Thank you for your continued support and service to our Nation.

Sincerely,

CHARLES C. BROWN, JR.,
General, U.S. Air Force.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,
Washington, DC, September 7, 2024.

Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,
*Vice Chairman, Committee on Appropriations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SENATOR COLLINS: I am providing a detailed list of the impacts of a six-month continuing resolution (CR) for the Department of Defense. The Department appreciates the opportunity to share its view on a six-month CR and the litany of difficulties it would impose—not only on accomplishing our mission and maintaining national security, but also on the quality of life of our Service members and their families.

If passed, a six-month CR would represent the second year in a row, and the seventh time in the past 15 years, where the Department is delayed in moving forward with critical priorities until mid-way through the budget year. These actions subject Service members and their families to unnecessary stress, empower our adversaries, misalign billions of dollars, damage our readiness, and impede our ability to react to emergent events.

As you have heard me say, our budget is aligned to our strategy. A six-month CR would set us significantly behind in meeting our pacing challenge highlighted in our National Defense Strategy—the People's Republic of China (PRC). The PRC is the only global competitor with both the intent and capability to change the international order. The PRC does not operate under CRs. Our ability to execute our strategy is contingent upon our ability to innovate and modernize to meet this challenge, which cannot happen under a CR. Asking the Department to compete with the PRC, let alone manage conflicts in Europe and the Middle East, while under a lengthy CR, ties our hands behind our back while expecting us to be agile and to accelerate progress. We have already lost valuable time, having operated under 48 CRs for a total of almost five years since 2011. We cannot buy back this time, but we can stop digging the hole.

Moreover, under the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (FRA), the consequences of such a CR in fiscal year (FY) 2025 could be even more dire for the U.S. and its allies and partners. Failure to pass any one of the 12 full appropriations acts by January 1, 2025, will start a process to reduce discretionary spending limits (caps) for the security category by one percent below the enacted FY 2023 level. This will be enforced through sequestration, potentially resulting in a total reduction of \$42 billion from the Department's FY 2025 request. A six-month CR takes us far too close to the April 30, 2025 deadline for a permanent sequestration order, as required by the FRA and related legislation.

A long-term CR in FY 2025 would impede thousands of DoD programs and projects. Military recruiting would be damaged, just as we are post-COVID, returning to meeting our goals. We would be forced to forego vital investments in our defense industrial base,

including the submarine and ship building bases. We would lose time and money the Nation cannot risk on modernization of our nuclear triad, rapid fielding of Uncrewed Aerial Systems through the Replicator initiative, execution of hundreds of military construction projects, and deterrence initiatives in the Indo-Pacific and Europe. Additionally, because there would be no funds for legally required military and civilian pay raises during a CR, the Department would be forced to offset the cost of these well-deserved pay raises, and in fact all inflation impacts across the Department, by cutting into other programs and accounts at potentially damaging levels.

Enclosed with this letter is information that highlights the impacts on each of the Military Departments and certain Defense-Wide activities should Congress fail to act. As you will see, the repercussions of Congress failing to pass regular appropriations legislation for the first half of FY 2025 would be devastating to our readiness and ability to execute the National Defense Strategy.

The single most important thing that Congress can do to ensure U.S. national security is to pass timely legislation for all 12 appropriations bills for FY 2025. I am fully aware of the political pressures that will challenge the Congress from fulfilling its duty before our national elections conclude. No matter who wins this election, there will be a Presidential transition. I urge you and your colleagues to take up action immediately after the election to limit damage to our national security during this vulnerable period around transitions and uphold the bipartisan tradition of funding our nation's defense prior to the inauguration of a new President.

The Department stands ready to assist Congress in any way possible to ensure it has the information and resources to pass this essential legislation. As I have said several times in the past, it's not only the right thing to do, but also the best thing to do for our Nation's defense.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the other Chairs and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Sincerely,

LLOYD J. AUSTIN.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY,
CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS,
Washington, DC, September 17, 2024.

Hon. JON TESTER,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Defense, Committee
on Appropriations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write to express my deep concern regarding Congress' intention to pass a six-month continuing resolution (CR) and echo the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Navy's calls to enact a Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 appropriation bill. A six-month CR would cause profound, damaging impact to the United States Navy while imposing unnecessary hardship on our Sailors, civilians, and their families.

I am grateful for your support of the provision to add \$1.95B to fully fund the two FY 2024 appropriated Virginia class submarines. This supplemental funding supports my efforts to maximize players on the field, deliver decisive combat power, invest in the submarine industrial base, and maintain trust in the AUKUS partnership.

Our Navy continues to support our Nation's security interests operating around the globe and, most notably this year, in harm's way. The Navy requires stable, predictable funding while engaged in combat in the Middle East, in a race with the People's Republic of China, and challenged by an aggressive Russia. A six-month CR would delay platforms and weapons to our warfighters

and undermine the foundation that supports them. Additionally, a six-month CR in FY 2025 drives us towards the draconian consequences of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 imposing additional spending caps.

Our FY 2025 budget request is strategy driven and invests in priorities that will deter our potential adversaries and enable your Navy to respond in crisis and if necessary, win decisively in war. It is laser-focused on warfighting, warfighters, and the foundation that supports them. Highlighted below is a partial list of priorities that would be undermined by a six-month CR:

Columbia Class Submarine: risks further delaying delivery of Columbia class submarine due to construction delays and would result in future cost increases.

CVN 75 Refueling (RCOH): risks slippage of new contract award resulting in maintenance delays and potential cost increases.

Quality of Service: risks to fleet and family services, child development centers, and supporting shore infrastructure.

Operations and Maintenance: risks to air and port operations, facilities management and environmental compliance. Risks potential descope or delaying some of the 58 ship depot maintenance availabilities scheduled for FY 2025.

Military Personnel: more gaps at sea, reduction to end strength, elimination of most new bonus awards. Upon passage of the FY 2025 National Defense Authorization Act, pay raise that takes effect January 1, 2025 will induce impacts on other mission areas such as curtailment of permanent change of station moves and other personnel requirements.

Munitions: delays AIM-9X Sidewinder and Rolling Airframe Missile contract awards reducing missiles for fleet load outs.

Military Construction: Trident Refit Facility Expansion will be delayed, interrupting current operations and resulting in a failure to meet the refit mission of the Columbia Class submarine. Delays to Family Housing on Guam due to reduction in Navy Family Housing Construction. Delays to Conventional Prompt Strike Test Facility that will slow schedule, increase cost, and reduce rounds available to the warfighter.

Passing legislation on time for all 12 FY 2025 appropriations bills is the single most effective action Congress can take to ensure U.S. national security. The compounding effect from years of repeated CRs continues to undermine our ability to support the warfighter and maintain our position as the world's preeminent naval force. In the end, it is our people that suffer effects of a CR and the unpredictability it brings. I would ask you to think of the Sailors and their families from each of your state's districts. We must continue to build on the momentum of our efforts to ensure our quality of service meets the highest standards and look after our families who enable us to accomplish our warfighting mission.

The United States Navy stands ready to assist Congress in any way possible to ensure it has the information and resources to pass this essential legislation.

A similar letter has been sent to Chairman Calvert, Chair Murray, and Chairman Cole.

Sincerely,

L.M. FRANCHETTI.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY,
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE
CORPS,

Washington, DC, September 17, 2024.

Hon. JON TESTER,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Defense, Committee
on Appropriations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN; I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the impact

of Continuing Resolutions (CRs) and budget uncertainty on the readiness and mission of the Marine Corps.

My recent Commandant's Planning Guidance outlines the Marine Corps' strategic priorities and objectives, continuing the momentum of our Force Design initiatives, including maturing kill webs, maturing the force, and Quality of Life efforts that together generate a ready Fleet Marine Force and enable Joint operations. The FY25 President's Budget reflects these priorities and requests the necessary funding to achieve them. However, CRs and budget uncertainty have a detrimental effect on our ability to continue to build the Joint Force's Stand-in Force while sustaining the Nation's crisis response capabilities.

When we operate under a CR, the misalignment and reduced levels of funding prevent the planned execution of our FY25 strategy-driven budget. This leads to inefficiencies and a deceleration in warfighting investment, disruption to recruiting and retention, and reductions to operation and maintenance accounts, potentially compromising our ability to respond to emerging threats. Furthermore, budget uncertainty creates instability and unpredictability in our planning and operations, leading to delays in procurement, maintenance, and training, which impact our warfighting readiness, modernization efforts, and meeting our commitments to our allies and partners.

I urge you to consider the importance of providing timely appropriations for the Marine Corps. Budget certainty—adequate, stable, predictable funding—is the single most effective way to maintain critical strategic momentum in our Force Design transformation efforts to stay in front of our pacing threat, to support our Marines and Sailors, and to fulfill our mission as the Nation's Naval Expeditionary Force in Readiness.

A similar letter has been sent to Chair Murray, Chairman Cole, and Chairman Calvert. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to working with you to ensure the continued success of the Marine Corps and the defense of our Nation.

Very Respectfully,

ERIC M. SMITH,
General, U.S. Marine Corps,
Commandant of the Marine Corps.

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,
WASHINGTON, DC,
September 12, 2024.

Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,
Vice Chair, Committee on Appropriations,
U.S. Senate.

DEAR VICE CHAIR COLLINS: I write today to express my concern about the six-month continuing resolution (CR) and its impact on the Navy and Marine Corps. This lengthy delay in new funding would force the Department of the Navy (DON) to operate at last year's funding levels with the negative consequences lasting far beyond the time frame of the CR, impeding our ability to field the force needed to defend our nation while imposing unnecessary stress on our Sailors, Marines, Civilians, and their families.

Our FY 2025 budget request included significant investments in recruiting, quality of life, and the ships, submarines, and aircraft the DON requires to enhance maritime dominance. Enclosed with this letter is a detailed list articulating the impacts of a six-month and year-long CR on the DON, but here are some of the most consequential:

Delays in the Virginia Class submarine will impact submarine deliveries and future force structure availabilities, which are already running over cost and behind schedule. A CR risks setting back the program even further.

Further delaying delivery of Columbia Class submarine due to postponed construction, and result in future cost increases.

A six-month CR risks delaying critical investments in the submarine industrial base and the Australia, United Kingdom, and United States (AUKUS) partnership.

Restriction of Cost-to-Complete funding for prior year shipbuilding programs including CVN-74 refueling resulting in maintenance delays and potential cost increases.

Profound negative impacts on the Marine Corps Force Design efforts, slowing key acquisition programs.

Uncertainty in recruiting budget would lead to challenges in attracting new talent to the force.

Negative impacts to Quality of Service efforts including the Marine Corps Barracks 2030 initiative.

Other limitations include delays to ongoing and planned Nuclear Command, Control and Communications engineering activities supporting STRATCOM, construction projects, continued development of conventional munitions, and delays in procurement of munitions.

Delay key investments in making critical infrastructure like roadways, ranges, and utility systems resilient to extreme weather and climate change. It will also cause serious delays in developing and fielding the Hybrid Medium Tactical Truck program.

Additionally, a long-term CR would impact a multitude of programs within the Department, having a lasting impact on industry stabilization efforts for both shipbuilding and munitions. These include twenty construction projects, five research and development projects, up to fifty-eight ship maintenance availabilities, procurement of five ships, aircraft programs and munitions critical for our warfighters. Finally, due to the pay raises for both military and civilian not being funded under a year-long CR, additional programs would be negatively impacted to accommodate the increases in payroll along with other inflationary impacts.

The Department of the Navy stands ready to assist Congress in any way possible to ensure it has the information and resources to pass this essential legislation. This is the best thing to do to support our Nation's defense.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the other Chairs and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Sincerely,

CARLOS DEL TORO.

THE MILITARY COALITION,
September 9, 2024.

Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Republican Leader, U.S. Senate.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Democratic Leader, House of Representatives.

DEAR MAJORITY LEADER SCHUMER, REPUBLICAN LEADER MCCONNELL, SPEAKER JOHNSON, AND DEMOCRATIC LEADER JEFFRIES: The Military Coalition (TMC), representing more than 5.5 million current and former uniformed service members, veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors urges you to pass all of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 appropriations bills supporting our uniformed services—in particular the Defense Appropriations and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies' Appropriations (MilCon-VA)—as soon as possible and at no less than the Senate Armed Services Committee-passed levels.

Our nation faces many threats, and our uniformed services operate in a very challenging environment. From responding to

Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine and the current crisis in the Middle East, China's aggression in the Indo-Pacific, as well as countering the malign activities of North Korea—the uniformed services continue to answer our nation's call around the globe. Domestically, without fail or delay, the uniformed services have executed essential support to civilian authorities during natural disasters of historical scales.

If a continuing resolution (CR) is required to avert a harmful and counterproductive government shutdown, it should be a short one. Funding the government at last year's rate diminishes national security and the capabilities of the uniformed services (both Regular and Reserve Components) by hurting readiness, modernization, and quality-of-life programs. Uniformed service members who have concerns regarding quality-of-life issues cannot dedicate their full attention to the mission. The negative impact to quality of life will do nothing but harm those who are currently serving and will paint a negative picture for any recruiting efforts from an already scant pool of eligible candidates. CRs also do not permit new starts or increase the level of investment in modernization priorities. Further, new family housing and barracks projects cannot be started. Delaying funding damages our defense posture nationally and globally. CRs also hurt the defense industrial base, including small businesses, by adding uncertainty to the procurement and manufacturing processes. CRs damage the joint force's ability to prepare to fight and win in the future and impedes readiness to counter threats today.

Further, our nation's service members, veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors deserve the best possible health care including mental health care as well as timely claims and rating decisions. Shutdowns and CRs hinder new investments to enhance care for beneficiaries, the ability to hire additional health and mental health professionals, and improve facilities.

We believe that a strong national defense begins at home. The uniformed services, their families, our veterans and survivors benefit from on-time appropriate domestic spending which contributes to national security.

As such, TMC, as represented by the organizations listed below, urge you to swiftly pass all twelve FY 2025 appropriations bills as soon as possible. This would provide the predictability and resources commensurate with the demonstrated need and the urgency that our national security challenges require, and our service members, veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors have earned.

Thank you for your continued service to our nation in Congress.

Sincerely,

JACK DU TIEL,
President, The Military Coalition.

THE MILITARY COALITION

Air and Space Force Association (AFA), Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA), Army Aviation Association of America (AAAA), (Association of the United States Army (AUSA), Association of the United States Navy (AUSN), Blinded Veterans Association (BVA), Blue Star Families, Commissioned Officers Association of the US Public Health Service (COA), Fleet Reserve Association (FRA), Gold Star Wives of America, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA), Jewish War Veterans of the US (JWV), Marine Corps League, Military Chaplains Association, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW), National Military Family Association, Naval Enlisted Reserve Association (NERA), Non-Commissioned Of-

ficers Association of the USA (NCOA), Reserve Organization of America (ROA), Service Women's Action Network (SWAN), The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA), Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), US Army Warrant Officers Association (USAWOA), U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association & Enlisted Association (USCGCPOA), Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA).

AEROSPACE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION,
September 4, 2024.

Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Republican Leader, U.S. Senate.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Democratic Leader, House of Representatives.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON, MAJORITY LEADER SCHUMER, REPUBLICAN LEADER MCCONNELL, AND DEMOCRATIC LEADER JEFFRIES: On behalf of the American aerospace and defense industry, which employs millions of Americans and contributes billions to the American economy, the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) encourages you to act urgently and jointly to address key priorities when Congress returns from its August district work period. This includes FY25 appropriations bills, the FY25 National Defense Authorization Act, and tax legislation that reverses current policies discouraging business research and development. Enacting these critical bills will not only protect the health of our industry, which is essential to the economic and national security of the United States but will also reinforce our country's resilience and well-being.

AIA represents our nation's leading aerospace and defense companies. These businesses are responsible for countless innovations, research and development that provides cutting-edge technology to our warfighters, improves aviation safety, and demonstrates our global leadership in space. We look forward to working with you to advance key legislation that is critical to maintaining our national security and our global economic leadership.

We know that passing all 12 regular appropriations bills is among your top priorities, and it is a priority that AIA and our members share. U.S. companies like ours that do business with the Department of Defense, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and other federal agencies rely on timely and predictable funding to stay on schedule and guide their own investments in staff, facilities, and equipment. Long-term continuing resolutions (CRs), such as those experienced this year, delay and disrupt these investments. We strongly urge you not to support any CR extending beyond this calendar year, because it would repeat and exacerbate the disruption caused by almost six months of CRs this year. Our customers, including our troops, our workers, and their families deserve better.

Secondly, we urge the House to follow the Senate's lead in providing additional funds for both defense and non-defense programs in the final appropriations bills. This is the last year of budget caps imposed by the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023, and funding under those caps is insufficient to meet critical needs or even cover inflation. With bipartisan support, the Senate bills provide modest increases of approximately 3 percent for both defense and non-defense programs. We believe these increases are essential because costs for manufacturing inputs remain persistently high. Without adequate resources, federal contracts, quantities, and delivery schedules must be renegotiated, to the det-

rimment of federal customers and American workers like those in our industry.

For the FAA, FY25 appropriations bills include strong increases to improve aviation safety and increase hiring for air traffic controllers. In both cases, these are needed to address documented challenges and implement important new requirements from the recently enacted FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024. Long-term CRs only push those safety improvements into the future.

The FY25 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) is critical legislation that will provide efficiencies to an often-burdensome acquisition process and reduce barriers for small and mid-sized businesses that seek to enter or remain part of the defense industrial base. American servicemembers, and the defense industrial base that supports them, depend on the authorities authorized in the NDAA each year—just as they have for the last 64 years. We urge you to complete this bill well before these critical authorities expire at the end of the calendar year.

Lastly but no less important, restoring the single-year deductibility of research and development expenses is very important to our industry. This is especially true for our small businesses, which are often forced to choose between paying salaries or continuing research into the next generation of potentially life-saving technologies. Our members serving the Defense Department rely on these expenses to generate cutting-edge technology that protects the warfighter and gives our military a competitive advantage over our adversaries. We are not the only U.S. industry harmed by this 2022 change in the tax code, but the effect on our industry is felt more fully in U.S. national security and safety programs. With China doubling down on its R&D tax incentives, we should not be one of the only nations in the industrialized world following this archaic practice.

AIA remains Congress' partner in these efforts, and we appreciate all you are doing to get these vital bills enacted on time. Please let us know how we can support you with this critical agenda.

Respectfully,

ERIC FANNING,
President and CEO,
Aerospace Industries Association.

Ms. COLLINS. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I really appreciate my colleagues wanting to move forward on our full-year funding bills. I share the absolute urgency that the Senator from Maine just talked about. This is critical work that must get done for the American people.

I have to say, as the first order of business, I hope all four corners of Congress can quickly come together as soon as possible to hammer out a reasonable bipartisan CR. We have to keep the government open and avert a needless and disastrous CR.

I want my colleagues to know I look forward to working with them on the other side in a strongly bipartisan fashion to pass all 12 of our full-year spending bills before the end of this year. Our committee has worked really hard to get bipartisan bills. We are ready. They are ready.

It is frustrating to all us that we have worked so hard on this process. Whether it is funding for our military or VA or countless other essential services in our bill, from childcare to food

safety inspection, I believe in the urgency of this.

I appreciate my colleagues speaking out on this today. I assure them I will keep working with them and make sure the voice of the Senate is heard and we do the job and get it done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I want to join my colleagues, both Democrat and Republican, in expressing regret that we don't have the important national security business of this Congress before the Senate right now. Clearly, it is important to do a nomination and a confirmation every few days. The election is approaching and, of course, there are some show votes. And I think probably my side of the aisle has engaged in that sort of thing in years past.

But it is such a shame that we face this axis of aggressors like we have never faced in 50 years. And every national security official, whether a retired four-star or someone who is no longer in service but giving us good advice, they come before us, and they say we have never had such a threat from China; from Russia, which is engaged in a shooting war right now having invaded the sovereign space of a next-door neighbor; from Iran, which is directing the three—at least the three—terrorist groups that are raining so much havoc on Israel; and then a very unstable leadership in North Korea. This axis of aggressors is signaling that they don't fear an invasion of Taiwan in three short years. They have said it publicly.

While all of that is going on, our leadership, the distinguished majority leader from New York, has not let us bring the appropriations bill to the floor; has not let us bring the authorization bill, which we must pass—we must pass both of these bills every year—the two essential bills that cannot go without being taken care of every fiscal year.

I will say to you, Mr. President, to my colleagues, and to others that are paying attention, this has been bipartisan, absolutely. Senator MURRAY is correct. She is unhappy about this too. But I point the finger to the one person on the face of the Earth that can actually bring a bill to the floor, and that is the majority leader.

Senator REED, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, and I have been putting together a managers' package for this year's National Defense Authorization Act. It would have been much better had we brought the bill to the floor and had 100 amendments winnowed down and worked back and forth together as we should be doing; then have open votes so the people of the United States could see how Senators from Maine to Mississippi and from the west coast to the east stand on important issues affecting the U.S. military. We have not been able to do that. But we are working together, Senator REED and I, on a plan.

And we worked on nearly 100 variations of the legislation that was passed months and months ago by the Armed Services Committee to resolve issues of local and State interests—issues involving how quickly we can get our industrial base going to meet the need that, frankly, we are not meeting at the present time; and to get ahead of the game so we can prevent war; so we can have enough strength to have the Reaganesque peace through strength that we enjoyed in the eighties and early nineties.

The appropriations bills are just as important—if not more important—than the authorization bills. They contain funding increases we need to prevent our Air Force from shrinking. We know that the Chinese Navy is expanding enormously and our Navy is shrinking, literally shrinking.

It is regrettable that here we are a week and half to go before we must break for the election, and the distinguished majority leader, Senator SCHUMER, has not brought any of this legislation before the full Senate, bills that have been ready since July.

Also, I want to commend my colleague from Maine, the distinguished ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, for accommodating the chairman of the Appropriations Committee. I had prepared today to come down here and support Senator COLLINS in an effort to have a unanimous consent request to bring the bill to the floor. I mean, what else are we doing? Look at us. In a matter of comity and to continue the great working relationship that these two senior Senators have had, Senator COLLINS refrained from that. So we are not asking for unanimous consent and requiring someone from the other side to come and object to that. We will continue to work.

But what is absolutely sure is that the fiscal year will begin in just a few days. And the appropriation for what we need to do at the Pentagon—what new things we need to do—will not be passed, and we will be stuck with last year's priorities. And as a result, at a time when we need to be putting more resources into national security and sending new direction based on the new facts and the new challenges that are out there—at that time, we will actually be wasting money of the taxpayers by having priorities still extended for another 3 months—hopefully, it is only 3 months—rather than putting the resources there that the experts tell us and that we have learned are necessary for the next fiscal year.

If my colleague from Maine would like to speak on my time, I will be glad to yield to her. If not, I am prepared to yield the floor and just regret so profoundly that our leadership has not allowed us to do the work that the taxpayers expect us to do.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I just want to thank the distinguished rank-

ing member of the Senate Armed Services Committee for his extraordinary leadership. He has charted a future for defense spending that recognizes the extraordinary threats that we face, and it has been a real honor to work with him.

I yield to the Senator from Alabama, Mrs. BRITT.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, today I rise to discuss something that is extremely disturbing, the fact that we have less than 2 weeks before the end of the fiscal year and yet we have not put any of our appropriations bills on the floor.

By "we," "we" is not the Appropriations Committee. That is actually right on Majority Leader CHUCK SCHUMER. He decides what comes to the floor. He decides when we do it, and yet he hasn't prioritized our men and women in uniform.

I think, today, that is exactly what we should be doing. But instead, I am sure he will either conjure up another show vote like we saw yesterday or he will put another partisan nominee on the floor. Instead of considering these appropriations bills, that seems to be what we are doing.

I want to be really clear. For everyone in the Gallery, we have members of the Appropriations Committee, both Democrat and Republican, that sit and work together. We have a job to fund the government. We are supposed to do it by September 30. We have marked up 11 out of 12 of those bills in an extremely bipartisan fashion. Yet those bills still sit on CHUCK SCHUMER's desk. He hasn't brought one of them to the floor.

Now, the House has sent over five bills, so what we could be doing is putting the ones that match up on this floor, sending them to conference, and actually funding them. But instead, we are doing nothing.

I want you all to know that this isn't new. This is exactly what CHUCK SCHUMER did last year as well. You have PATTY MURRAY and SUSAN COLLINS of different parties working together in a bipartisan fashion to figure out a path forward. I commend them for that.

Last year, we did 12 out of 12 bills that were marked up out of a Senate committee, were allowed to be amended on TV in front of the public by July 27.

Yet those bills sat, CHUCK SCHUMER not putting them on the floor until November 1 of 2023—127 days after they had been marked up.

After that is when we saw the next bill come on to the floor. We actually didn't finish our process until 174 days into the fiscal year last year. That is not only fiscally irresponsible, it is morally irresponsible.

The people sent us up here to do a job. And my question to the majority leader today is: Why aren't you letting us actually do it?

I am extremely disappointed that not a single one of these bills again this

year has seemed to find its way on the floor. He seems to have no plan to do that. The only plan seems to be to kick the can down the road.

And as my distinguished colleague from Mississippi said, every time we do that, our men and women pay the price. Secretary Austin, obviously appointed by President Biden, confirmed by this body, has said that a CR will hurt our men and women in uniform. So what we should be doing is figuring out a path forward to fund defense and to fund our veterans.

So today you see Members of the Republican Party standing up and saying: Let's get this Chamber back to doing the critical work we were sent here to do. It is long overdue.

Now, for those of you who don't know, I am new in this body. I have been here less than 2 years. And yet for some reason, last year I asked a question. I said: When is the last time we actually did our job on time for the American people?

You heard me say it took us 174 days into the fiscal year last year to actually do our job. Now, I want you all to be clear: Every time we do that, every time we kick the can down the road with a CR, continuing resolution, it costs the taxpayers more.

Think about this. You are halting everything; you are halting bidding processes. Have any of you ever had to rebid something? When you rebid something, does the price go up or does it go down? We know it doesn't go down. We know it goes up, which means we are being irresponsible with taxpayer dollars.

But yet again, that seems to be what we do year after year after year. So the former staffer came out in me, and I wanted to get to work and figure out when is the last time we actually did our job.

The last time we did our job on time—y'all, listen to this—was fiscal year 1997. And the last time we actually did it on time by passing bills individually through regular order, fiscal year 1995. So to all the Senate pages, clearly, you weren't even born yet.

That is 30 years ago for everyone in the Chamber that is doing the math, 30 years of kicking the can down the road.

The American people deserve better, and yet, somehow, we can't get the media to cover this. We can't get them to cover the fact that Leader SCHUMER has refused to lead but yet used his time on a show vote yesterday where he was trying to put my State in the crosshairs.

I am proud of the work that my State has done to protect IVF quickly and effectively, both from the legislature and the Governor. Once again, IVF is accessible and legal in every single State across our great Nation.

But do you know what CHUCK SCHUMER took his time doing yesterday? Creating a show vote for commercials, for men and women on the other side of the aisle that are in vulnerable seats, instead of putting the American people

first. And the American people are sick of that. And bottom line, they deserve better.

And as long as I am in this body, I am going to keep pushing this issue; I am going to keep moving it to the front. We are going to find a solution to actually getting back to doing the work the American people sent us up here to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I just want to thank the Senator from Alabama for her eloquent words, her passion, and her leadership. She is absolutely correct that there is no reason for us to be in the situation that we find ourselves in just 12 days before the start of the new fiscal year.

There is no reason why the Defense appropriations bill, the military construction VA bill, the Labor HHS bill, the CJS bill—I could go on and on. There is no reason why the Senate appropriations approved bills could not have been brought to the Senate floor.

They are important. Funding the government is critical. And as the distinguished Senator from Alabama points out, when we go on to continuing resolutions, we cause enormous harm, which is why I entered into the record all of those letters from the Department of Defense and to other organizations.

And here is the other point: As the Senator from Alabama has pointed out, we end up spending more money. It costs us more money because contracts are put on hold, new starts are delayed, and programs that should be trimmed back or eliminated continue to be funded.

This just is not how the Senate should operate. And I implored the majority leader more than once to bring the appropriations bills to the Senate floor, and it is harmful to our Nation and particularly to our national defense that these bills were not brought to the floor.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Ms. BUTLER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for 5 minutes, and Senator SCHMITT be permitted to speak for 5 minutes prior to the scheduled vote.

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

NOMINATION OF MICHELLE WILLIAMS COURT

Ms. BUTLER. Mr. President, I associate myself with the comments of the colleagues just before me. Senator COLLINS and Senator BRITT talked about the importance of doing the work of the American people. In just a bit, the Senate is going to take some action to continue to do the work—some important work—of the American people, and that is ensuring that they have access to swift and fair justice.

I want to appreciate Leader SCHUMER and Senator DURBIN and all of my colleagues on the Senate Judiciary Com-

mittee for moving so expeditiously to ensure that we are not delaying justice for many Americans across the country.

I rise today to proudly support the nomination of Michelle Williams Court to be the United States judge for the Central District of California.

As her name is announced on the floor of the U.S. Senate, I want to recognize her loved ones whose unwavering love and support over the years has undoubtedly shaped Judge Court into the incredible jurist and person we know her to be today. Specifically, I want to acknowledge her husband Jamie and their two sons.

I would also like to start today by highlighting the work we do in the Senate to fill these judicial vacancies and why it is so important.

The Central District of California serves roughly 17 million people, making it the largest Federal district by population in the entire United States. The judges who serve these Californians are currently facing an unprecedented number of filings, making the need to fill the court's vacancies all that more urgent.

It is commonly said that "justice delayed is justice denied," and at this moment, the people of the Central District of California are indeed being denied justice as a direct result of these judicial vacancies.

And as I noted, I want to appreciate and really call attention to the leadership of Chair DURBIN and the members of the Judiciary Committee, moving really, really quickly along with and working in partnership with President Biden and the White House to get these nominations advanced, to ensure that the people across our country—in this instance, the people of California—have fair access to justice.

I want to make sure that also in talking about the qualifications of Judge Court, that we are really talking about the importance of these seats in a way that is not just about access to the people but the quality of justice that they will have access to, ensuring that judges that are being nominated and put forth for consideration of confirmation are the most experienced, that they are the most qualified, that they are thoughtful and prepared to follow the rule of law.

And that is really why I am so proud to stand in support of Judge Michelle Court for this nomination. Judge Court's dedication to public service and to the State of California runs deep.

Born into a military family, Judge Court moved to California during high school and has called the State home ever since. She attended Pomona College, where she worked her way through school, sang in the glee club, and earned a bachelor of arts in sociology.

After graduating at the height of the AIDS crisis, Judge Court dedicated 2 years of work to the AIDS Project,

where she was working with that organization that provided lifesaving training to healthcare professionals in Los Angeles.

Judge Court then pursued her legal education at Loyola Law School, where she further demonstrated her commitment to public service. As a student, she worked the National Health Law Program, researching healthcare services provided to incarcerated women.

Following law school, Judge Court began her legal career gaining experience in public interest law, including first as a fellow at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Court served in various positions as the deputy director of litigation and then director of litigation and, finally, as vice president and general counsel at Bet Tzedek Legal Services. Bet Tzedek, which translates literally into the “house of justice” in Hebrew, is one of the premier legal services organizations in the United States that focuses on poverty law.

For 10 years, Judge Court provided critical legal services to low-income, elderly, and disabled clients and worked in collaboration with the California Legislature on codifying related policy efforts.

In 2012, Judge Court was sworn in as a judge on the civil division of the Superior Court of Los Angeles. During her time on the court, she presided over approximately 200 civil trials and ruled on 12,000 motions and requests.

In 2023, she received a well-deserved promotion to supervising judge, where she was responsible for overseeing approximately 150 judges in 35 court-houses throughout Los Angeles County.

Judge Court’s robust career has left an impression both on her colleagues and on her community. Since her nomination, she has received letters of support from people and organizations representing a wide range of backgrounds and experiences, including the National Association of Consumer Advocates, the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, and the Association of African American California Judicial Officers, Inc.

And several in California’s legal community have come forward voicing their strong support for Judge Court. California Women Judges said:

Her calm demeanor, thorough preparation, and deep knowledge of whatever the subject is will serve her well in addressing any audience, answering questions, and keeping the discussions focused.

Five current supervising L.A. County Superior Court judges say:

She is currently serving as the Supervising Judge of the Civil Division of the largest unified trial court in the Nation. Judge Court was selected for this position, in part, due to her administrative skills, technical knowledge, and being a subject matter expert in civil law procedure. Her strong management skills are illustrated by her innovative approaches to lessening the civil case backlog during the pandemic.

In addition to the important professional experience that Judge Court

brings to the Central District, she also brings a unique lived experience. If confirmed to this position, she would be only the third Black woman actively serving as an article III judge in this court and only the fifth in the court’s history.

Her nomination is an important step towards building trust in our legal system by ensuring that our Federal courts reflect and represent the diversity of the people it serves.

Judge Court’s dozen years of experience in the superior court, including as supervising judge, demonstrate her ability to smoothly transition to the district court.

Given her remarkable track record serving Californians from all walks of life, I have the utmost certainty in Judge Court’s readiness for this role. She is prepared and has demonstrated. So I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting her nomination.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Missouri.

ENSURING NATIONWIDE ACCESS TO A BETTER LIFE EXPERIENCE ACT

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today in support of a very, very important piece of bipartisan legislation that, frankly, is personal to me. It is something that I believe is not only necessary but is common sense, and it is something that all of us can get behind and support wholeheartedly, and that is my bipartisan Ensuring Nationwide Access to a Better Life Experience Act, otherwise known as the ENABLE Act.

As I noted before, this fight is personal for me. In my maiden speech nearly a year ago, I detailed that my call to enter public service was primarily because of my son Stephen. My wife Jaime and I noticed a birthmark on Stephen’s leg when he was just a few months old, and I joke about how we thought so little of this initially that my wife trusted me to take Stephen to the doctor. We took him there, and it was discovered that he had more of these and that he had something called tuberous sclerosis, which is a rare genetic condition where tumors form on various organs, including his brain. So Stephen has been affected by that pretty severely. He is nonverbal. He is on the autism spectrum and has epilepsy.

So we have had this journey with our son Stephen, including a 4-hour seizure, and through that process and that journey with my son, went through what I have referred to as a discernment process where—trying to decide what I wanted to do. I knew there was something more that I wanted to do,

and for me, that calling was public service, so I decided to run for office.

That is nearly 20 years ago now, but that journey that began with Stephen 20 years ago certainly affects how I view the world and the things that I passionately get behind, and this happens to be one of those.

So here we are. That focus has led to legislation—not just my time in Missouri but now here in the Senate—and to be a voice, to be a voice for individuals with disabilities.

ABLE accounts were created by Congress and signed by the President nearly 10 years ago. So one of the focuses that I have is to give those with disabilities a voice and achieving a better life experience with those accounts. These accounts were created in 2014 to allow individuals with disabilities and their families to save and invest for their future through tax-free savings accounts without losing any eligibility for Federal programs like Medicaid and supplemental security.

This has long been a priority since I entered the political arena. While serving in the Missouri State Senate, I helped lead a successful effort to authorize Missouri’s ABLE account program. During my time as State treasurer, before I was attorney general, I was proud to launch and champion the MO ABLE Program, helping Missourians with disabilities save and invest for their future. I know firsthand how beneficial these programs have been, considering my son Stephen was account No. 1 in the Missouri ABLE Program.

There are over 162,000 of these ABLE accounts nationwide since the program’s inception back in 2014. Thanks to these life-changing accounts, people with disabilities are empowered to secure employment and actively participate in society, to be their own person. These accounts empower individuals with disabilities.

Unfortunately, there are three ABLE provisions that are set to expire in 2025. The sunset of these important provisions would create unnecessary barriers for individuals with disabilities to save for their future needs while also likely ensuring further utilization of Federal safety net programs. Sunsetting these programs would keep individuals with disabilities out of the workforce unnecessarily.

Recently, I introduced the ENABLE Act, which would permanently enshrine these provisions into law, providing certainty to those individuals and their families. These provisions are not only nonpartisan, but they have also played an outsized role in the lives of those this program serves.

Again, this simply allows individuals with disabilities to save the money they earn at their jobs. All people deserve access to save and to be financially secure, and this legislation would protect this access for the future.

This bill is exactly why I entered public office in the first place—to fight

for those who needed a voice. It is a commonsense, bipartisan solution that provides an easy fix for those who depend on ABLE accounts.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 706, Michelle Williams Court, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Laphonza R. Butler, Peter Welch, Gary C. Peters, Chris Van Hollen, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Jack Reed, Christopher Murphy, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Tim Kaine, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Duckworth, Sheldon Whitehouse.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Michelle Williams Court, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 244 Ex.]

YEAS—51

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Hassan | Peters |
| Bennet | Heinrich | Reed |
| Blumenthal | Helmy | Rosen |
| Booker | Hickenlooper | Sanders |
| Brown | Hirono | Schatz |
| Butler | Kaine | Schumer |
| Cantwell | Kelly | Shaheen |
| Cardin | King | Sinema |
| Carper | Klobuchar | Smith |
| Casey | Lujan | Stabenow |
| Collins | Manchin | Tester |
| Coons | Markley | Van Hollen |
| Cortez Masto | Merkley | Warner |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Warnock |
| Durbin | Murray | Warren |
| Fetterman | Ossoff | Welch |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | Whitehouse |

NAYS—44

| | | |
|-----------|----------|------------|
| Barrasso | Cotton | Hawley |
| Blackburn | Cramer | Hooven |
| Boozman | Crapo | Hyde-Smith |
| Braun | Cruz | Johnson |
| Britt | Daines | Kennedy |
| Budd | Ernst | Lankford |
| Capito | Fischer | Lee |
| Cassidy | Grassley | Lummis |
| Cornyn | Hagerty | Marshall |

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| McConnell | Risch | Sullivan |
| Moran | Romney | Thune |
| Mullin | Rubio | Tuberville |
| Murkowski | Schmitt | Wicker |
| Paul | Scott (FL) | Young |
| Ricketts | Scott (SC) | |

NOT VOTING—5

| | | |
|--------|--------|-------|
| Graham | Tillis | Wyden |
| Rounds | Vance | |

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 44.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

FARM BILL

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I come from a State not exactly like yours, but we share the fact that we provide the energy, the fiber, and the food for this country and much of the world.

There is a crisis that is with us, and that crisis is growing, and the consequences are dire.

I was in my State of Kansas, as many of my colleagues were at home during the month of August. I traveled the State from corner to corner, putting 5,600 miles on my truck. I talked to lots of people, and I listened to even more.

In addition to those conversations, last week, farm groups, commodity groups, and farm organizations made a call on Washington, DC, to highlight what I am highlighting today. Included in those visits were those who sell farm equipment in Kansas and across the country.

Yesterday morning, before coming to Washington, DC, I spoke to an agricultural outlook conference in Kansas City. Today, I just walked across the street from visiting with bankers from the Kansas Bankers Association who are in the Nation's Capital as well today.

The message I bring to my colleagues is that agriculture is in serious condition. Input costs have risen dramatically. The things that farmers buy in order to put a crop in the ground and to harvest that crop have escalated amazingly in a way that is so damaging, while the price they receive for what they grow has diminished. So the cost of seed, fertilizer, diesel fuel, natural gas, interest costs—all of which are significant components of the farmers in Kansas and the country—they are at a point in which there is no profitability in most circumstances for agriculture today.

I would add that my couple of visits in Kansas with farm equipment manufacturers—we manufacture lots of farm equipment—and in places like Salina and Abilene, the circumstances of those businesses are in dire shape because farmers no longer can afford to buy the equipment they manufacture.

The issue here is the farm bill. We neared expiration of the 2018 farm bill. It was clear we needed to write a new farm bill and get it completed. It hasn't happened. It is past due. That is not unusual, but in this circumstance this year, it is significant.

Decisions not to get a farm bill done have come home to roost, and the fami-

lies of farmers and those farmers and ranchers and the communities in which they live, work, and provide the economic viability of the community and at the same time produce the food, fuel, and fiber that America and the world need—those days of the capability of doing that are waning because of input costs, and you add to that the drought that has been suffered by many parts of my State. Farm income has declined 43 percent over the past 5 years, and net farm income is expected to be 27 percent lower this year than it was in 2022.

Our agricultural trade deficit—something we always were proud about, as we exported more than we imported in agriculture—is a \$42.5 billion deficit. We import more than we export. It puts our farmers even more at risk, and it threatens the stability and security of our national economy.

So my plea to my colleagues is this: There aren't many weeks left between now and when Congress recesses for the month of October. We return in November and December, and we ought to use this opportunity to pass at least an extension of the current farm bill and at the same time, make certain that assistance is provided to the farmers to get them through the circumstance they are in. By the time we get a farm bill passed and by the time we get that assistance—that safety net that comes in title I of the farm bill—actually to farmers, it will be too late to address the challenges Kansas and American farmers face today.

The goal in my remarks today is to bring the awareness of this issue to my colleagues and indicate that the direction we need to go is two-prong: pass an extension of the farm bill, which provides certainty and the ability for lenders and borrowers, bankers and farmers to come together and make long-term decisions. It is time for farmers to renew their credit line, and without the passage or extension of the current farm bill, the ability for a banker to make that decision to benefit the farmer begins to disappear.

So we need a farm bill in place even if it is the current one, but the current one is insufficient to meet the needs of the disaster that is occurring in the incomes of farmers across the country.

Last week—I think it was Thursday afternoon—Senator STABENOW and I visited here on the Senate floor—I point in that direction over there—and we had a conversation. Senator STABENOW indicated that she recognizes the challenge that farmers—the dire circumstances they are in today.

Subsequent to that, I have met with and had conversations with Senator BOOZMAN from Arkansas, my colleague who is the ranking Republican on the Agriculture Committee, and with JOHN HOEVEN, the ranking member of our Ag Appropriations Subcommittee. I want all of us to work together to accomplish what I just described: long-term extension and a shorter term disaster assistance plan. Those conversations have begun, and I

am hopeful that before year's end, we will be able to do our work.

Sometimes I get complimented—not very often, but sometimes I get complimented, and when I do, it is often for my efforts. While I am willing to do all the efforts that are necessary, in this case, efforts are woefully inadequate, and results are critically important.

Mr. President, I look forward to my colleagues and I moving forward on farm bill legislation and disaster assistance short-term needs being met. I offer myself to work with Republicans and Democrats, rural and urban, to see that we get those goals accomplished.

In closing, the current farm bill is not adequate to provide the relief or safety net of our Nation's farmers, nor is it reflective of the current state of the farm economy. With financial pressures building across the agriculture industry due to increased production costs and weakened market prices, the overall financial situation of the farm economy is bleak. The status quo is unacceptable. We must pass a long-term farm bill this year, and we must also consider immediate relief for farmers with a supplement.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee and the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, of which I am a member and have been its chairman, as we continue the appropriations process and find a solution so that it can be included in our work before year's end.

Our farmers deserve and need better, and in the absence of successful farmers, the places that many of us call home—the future is bleak.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FETTERMAN). The Senator from Oregon.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time on the Court nomination be considered expired at 2:30 p.m. today.

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

The Senator from Alabama.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 332

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, a truly amazing thing is happening in our Nation right now. The sitting Vice President is actually running for election by running from her record. After 35 months in office, she is promising change from her own administration.

Her day one was actually January 2021, but she is trying to convince the American people that things are going to be different this time around. And it is not just that she is promising change for our country, it is that she says she herself has seemingly changed overnight. Just about every unpopular policy position imaginable that she has taken and been on the record supporting for years—well, now that she is up for election, she no longer believes those things.

Let's just look at a sampling of policy positions that the Vice President has held. Let's start with energy and

economic security. She supported enforcing an EV mandate that would take gas-powered vehicles off the road, ending offshore drilling, banning fracking, eliminating private health insurance, and raising taxes by trillions.

But it doesn't stop there, and it just gets worse for public safety and border security. She supported decreasing funding for the police, abolishing ICE, decriminalizing illegal border crossings, ending the detention of illegal border crossers, giving taxpayer-funded benefits to illegal border crossers, defending sanctuary city policies, vowing to block all border wall funding, and even using taxpayer funds for gender transition surgeries for illegal aliens and Federal prisoners. These are some of the most radical positions it is possible to take, and that is why she was actually ranked as the most far-left Senator when she was a Member of this body.

Now that she is President of the Senate, she is her party's nominee for President, and she is her party's leader. Again, she claims she has changed some of her own policy positions. So today we are going to give her party and the Chamber she leads an opportunity to prove whether that is true. To paraphrase the majority leader from his remarks yesterday, we are going to give our Democratic colleagues another chance to show the American people where they stand.

We will start today with a few bills related to energy and border security, and we can continue this every day the Senate is in session moving forward. The American people will be watching, and I look forward to seeing what happens today.

We are going to go ahead and start with the WALL Act. Last year, I introduced the WALL Act. This legislation is common sense and with a clear aim. It would appropriate funding needed to finish actually building a barrier on our southern border.

And it would accomplish that without raising taxes and without adding to our national debt. For all of you in the Gallery, we are \$35 trillion in debt. That is not just fiscally irresponsible, that is morally irresponsible.

And for the first time ever, we paid more money on the interest on our national debt than we did for our national defense. You can look, over time, in the moment that any nation does that, it begins to become a nation in decline.

So I wanted to make sure that we had something that had a common-sense approach, and through the WALL Act, construction of a border wall would be funded by eliminating taxpayer-funded entitlements and tax benefits for illegal border crossers.

The bill would also close loopholes that allow illegal border crossers to receive taxpayer-funded benefits intended for citizens and lawful residents.

Finally, this legislation would impose fines on individuals who illegally

enter the United States or overstay their visas. In 2018, the Joint Committee on Taxation estimated that the tax components of this bill alone would save \$33 billion over 10 years. Let's use these funds to build a border wall and to help keep Americans safe.

So, today, we are giving Senate Democrats a very clear choice. Now, watch what happens next very closely. Let's see how they answer these questions. Do they support building a border wall or will they block building a border wall? Do they want to spend taxpayer funds on keeping American citizens and legal residents safe or do they want to keep those taxpayer funds funding illegal border crossers? Where does the Vice President's party stand on these very different policy positions?

Well, we are about to find out.

As if in legislative session and notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be discharged from further consideration of S. 332 and the Senate proceed to immediate consideration. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

The President pro tempore.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, Border Patrol has very serious needs that actually need funding; namely, new technology, and we should focus on how we get those done in a bipartisan way.

We have limited resources. We know a border wall is ineffective and really has no impact in preventing the cartels from bringing fentanyl into our country.

I, for one, would prefer we direct those resources toward stopping fentanyl from getting to our communities through our ports of entry along the southwest border.

No one should forget there was a bipartisan proposal on border policy changes earlier this year, one that Senate Republicans strongly endorsed, one that was, frankly, probably more conservative than I would have preferred.

But instead of voting to so much as take it up for consideration, Republicans decided then that instead they wanted to campaign on the border, as they are attempting to do with this proposal, because one man, Donald Trump, told them: Kill the bill. Trump told Senate Republicans he wanted to let a fire burn so he can campaign on the ashes, and Senate Republicans said, yes, Mr. Trump.

I think that history tells us how serious the effort before us today is, but just like when I built the bipartisan border funding bill with my ranking member Senator COLLINS, I do look forward to working with colleagues on both sides of the aisle on comprehensive immigration reform and serious solutions to the challenges we are facing at the border.

The door is always open. Today, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, I see my colleague from Oklahoma here and would love to have the opportunity to hear about his bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 1121

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. President, thank you and thank you to the Senator from Alabama for doing this.

I think it is very important that we understand what is happening in our economy right now with the energy issue and the energy crisis we find ourselves in.

And so the bill that I bring forward today is Protecting American Energy Production Act.

It is real simple. It allows us to be energy independent. The backbone of our economy is energy, and if you have high energy costs, which we have had a 37-percent increase in energy under this current administration, you obviously are going to have inflation increase because energy is the backbone of our economy. You cannot make a product, nor can you deliver the product, without factoring in the cost of energy.

With a 37-percent energy increase over the last 4 years, we have to bring back that resilience. We have to bring back that energy independence. And the way we do that is we understand real numbers.

For instance, in 2019, fracking, which our current Vice President has been on record saying that she wants to ban fracking, in 2019, fracking accounted for 63 percent of our total crude oil production and 75 percent of our natural gas supply.

Underneath the current administration, we have seen a significant decline in fracking wells. At the same time, we haven't seen demand decrease, we have actually seen demand increase, which by the amount that has actually been taken away from oil or from American producers, now we have seen an increase in imports.

Not all of them are friends of ours. As I said, the bill is very simple, Protecting American Energy Production Act.

So as if in legislative session and notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1121 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; further, that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Reserving the right to object.

My colleague whom I am pleased to work with on a number of issues has

come to the floor with a unanimous consent request that would constrain the power of our President to protect our public lands. So while we may agree on a number of things—and I hope that doesn't hurt his reputation back home—on this particular proposal, I do bring a different perspective.

I think in my role working on the Interior Committee—and understanding that the authority we have granted the President is so essential to making sure that the lands that are publicly held remain a treasure for every single American.

It was not that long ago—well, it seems like quite a few years now, maybe a decade, I attended a hearing in which a number of folks came forward to explain different damages that had occurred to the water table in their community from fracking.

Now, in this case, my real concern here is about constraining the President's ability to protect our treasures, our public lands, from these types of effects.

I think Americans who have traveled to our national parks and our BLM land and our Forest Service land understand that this is a responsibility that we in the Senate take very seriously, but there is also a little bit more to my concern here as well.

One is that if we are going to tackle climate chaos, we have to have international cooperation. And if we continuously say we are going to reduce the ability of the United States to have policies and abilities to address our own production of fossils, then, of course, every other country is like, well, the United States and China are the biggest producers of climate gases—both methane, known publicly as natural gas, methane gas—and they have very large footprints, if they are not going to act, why should we act?

So if we want to address this challenge and sustain international cooperation, we can't be consistently restricting the potential flexibility of our President.

The third is that the climate impact in my home State is very substantial. We have seen a loss of snowpack in the Cascades that is devastating—the water in late spring and early summer—to our ranchers and farmers. Our rural foundation, our rural pillar is our farming and our ranching. And when you constrain the water in our rivers because of the dropping snowpack, that is a big impact.

And in addition, our water tables have been dropping that many farmers have depended on. In fact, we are investing heavily in piping our irrigation ditches at huge expense, knowing how precious every drop of water is.

So if we care about our rural areas, we have to take on climate chaos and not just our farmers and ranchers, our foresters, too, because we are seeing significant devastation to Oregon's famous forests over drought and insect infestation with climate chaos.

Of course, it is not just Oregon that is affected. Every single State is affected. I was very concerned earlier this year, earlier this summer, when I heard about the 115 to 120 degrees in a heat dome that passed over my colleague's State and the impact that that was having. I think every State has their effects that they are experiencing.

So this is a big issue that we need to wrestle with, and this brings me to the fourth item mentioned about energy security. In the last 4 years, under the Biden administration, we have become energy independent. There has been a vast increase in the production of oil and a vast increase in the production of gas. As a result, we are now the largest producer of oil and gas, and we are the largest exporter of gas.

Now, kind of the interesting little piece here is that the goal of the gas industry is to export gas and raise prices on Americans, so it is more expensive for Americans to heat their homes and heat their water. But we could do the opposite. We could, in fact, say we are going to repeal the 2015 law that put us into the world market and created these massive exports and lower the price here in America for our families.

That is a much better idea than raising the prices. Let's lower the prices. In fact, here is the thing. Let's start right now by ending our exports of oil and gas to China. Now, my colleagues just not so long ago advocated that we end any sale of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to China with good reason. Why should we lower their prices and increase our prices? But that is true for the exports that are going to oil and gas as well.

So let's stand together on both sides of the aisle. Let's lower the price for American consumers and ban these exports to China. And for that reason, I have prepared just such a solution and an opportunity to have it embraced by my colleagues.

And so I turn to the formality here that I ask the Senator to modify his request and that the Merkley substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, so that we will have the ability to end these exports to China and lower the prices for American consumers.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection to the modification?

Mr. MULLIN. Reserve the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. MULLIN. While I understand my colleague from Oregon, where he stands on this issue, there are just some factual things that need to be checked on that.

One, he said that we are the No. 1 exporter of gas. That is just not true. Russia is the No. 1 exporter of gas.

When they say production has increased, that is actually not accurate either. Could we have been the largest liquefied natural gas exporter? Yes. That was until the permits for the pipelines to go to export terminals in Louisiana were canceled, which put a lot of our allies in Europe in a situation to where now they had to go buy gas from a bad actor that is right now invading Ukraine called Russia.

Our allies do not want to be dependent, obviously, on Russia. They would love to have our gas.

And as far as being the No. 1 seller to China with crude and refined products, it is not true again. At current rate, Iran is the No. 1 seller to China, and they are the ones that are buying it because of the Biden-Harris administration being extremely weak on the sanctions that we put on Iran under the Trump administration—which now Iran is actively funding the Houthis and Hamas and terrorist organizations all around the world.

What we are saying is: Let our allies count on us. We have more reserves underneath our feet, and we can produce it cleaner and more efficient than OPEC, than Russia, than Iran. Our allies want to do business with us, and our economy desperately needs it. We are in a recession, and no one is denying that. Why should we depend on allowing OPEC to set the world price for crude? Why are we allowing them to set the price and become rich off of our backs when we ourselves could easily do that in a much cleaner and more efficient way?

Why are we still importing petroleum products from Russia? Why are we still importing oil, which is a dirty crude, from Saudi Arabia, when we can still produce it—a sweet crude—that comes out of Oklahoma, that comes out of North Dakota, that comes out of Pennsylvania, that comes out of Texas, that is a much easier product to refine and burns cleaner. And there is no denying that.

Because the world's demand for fossil fuels is increasing not decreasing—so why are we doing it at the cost of the American taxpayer? Why are we hurting our economy along the way?

As far as the change that my colleague from Oregon wants to do, it is not necessary. The change isn't there. This is just to try to kill the bill because the legislation that my colleague is trying to do—we already know that the President, currently, already has the authority to restrict oil and gas exports because he did exactly that earlier this year, which is why I brought up Louisiana.

All this does is deflect blame away from the Biden-Harris administration, which has been very soft on sanctions with bad actors—as I mentioned, Iran. The majority of which are bought, as I mentioned before, by China. And as I mentioned before, this does nothing but enable Iran, when they sell their product, to sponsor the largest groups around the world operating in terror organizations.

The bill my colleague from Oregon is raising today would do nothing to address the massive amounts of Russian oil flowing into China, and what Republicans are trying to do here today is bolster American energy production by preventing this administration and future administrations from banning fracking.

As I said, as the current Vice President openly said in 2019, she was 100 percent for banning fracking across the United States.

So with that, I have to object to my colleague from Oregon's legislation and changes to my current bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection to the modification is heard. Is there objection to the original request?

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, re-servicing the right to object—a couple of points—the first is that my colleague mentioned that the bill I am proposing would restrict our ability to support our allies, who count on us.

Actually, my bill is about stopping exports to China. They are not our ally, last I checked. We are in competition with them, and these exports are making their life easier and their economy stronger and making things more expensive for us here in the United States of America. If you want more available for allies, hey, let's stop the exports to China. It is actually compatible with the goal my colleague suggested.

The second is he challenged the question—and I realize we are doing this on short notice; so we have various facts flying around—about whether the United States was the largest exporter of natural gas last year. So I have in front of me the information from the Energy Information Administration, which produces all of the stats on this, and the headline is:

The United States was the world's largest liquefied natural exporter in 2023.

Now a third point, outside of North America, China is the largest recipient of our gas. We are directing more gas to China, whom we are in competition with, than any other nation. That is just a little bit crazy, and I want to support our allies. I want to support our consumers at home through lower prices.

So I am disappointed that I didn't win over your support with my presentation.

But given that I would much prefer to have a bill that lowers prices rather than one that endangers our public lands and raises prices for our consumers, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. President, one quick response to this: My colleague is correct about the LNG, or liquefied natural gas. What my colleague said in his remarks was “natural gas.”

Natural gas is much different than shipping liquefied natural gas. Liquefied natural gas is a small percentage of what is exported and as far as what

we call natural gas. Once it is liquefied, what actually is by far the biggest is the pipeline that this administration approved, which President Trump put a hold on, going into Germany for the second time.

So my original statement is true: Russia is the largest exporter of natural gas.

Once again, this wasn't to do anything, as my colleague said, talking about China. The export ban which the administration put on the exporting of LNG out of Louisiana by canceling the permits, that has affected Europe. They are allies of ours.

If this administration wanted to do something about China, they could do it today. They could do it this hour. They could do it right now by an executive order. Last I checked, they still had the authority to do so.

So as I go back to my colleague from Oregon's change to my current bill, the modification does nothing. The current administration, currently, already has that authority.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, yes, this proposal really deserves to be objected to. You know, it really deserves an objection because what we really have to say here is that we object to this bill as a ridiculous attack—a Republican attack—on the authority of the executive branch.

But we don't need to talk about how this bill would work. Let's talk about why this bill is the bill that the Republicans are pushing. Are they lining up here to protest something worthy, like public health? No.

Are they demanding we deliver something meaningful, like clean air or clean water? No.

Are they taking a stand for the future that worries moms and dads and parents and grandparents and neighbors and young people who are asking us to fight for those things? No.

So what are the Republicans doing? They are protecting the profits of fossil fuel companies. They are delivering our dollars to oil and gas exporters. They are taking a stand against a clean, healthy, sustainable future. What a track record—what a track record that they have.

These companies are fracturing American lands to produce gas for fossil fuel executives to export—to export—out of our country to the highest global bidder. They want to export this.

And who takes the environmental risks? Well, the families who live nearby, who are going to be near these pipelines. And then the companies take it to the first port they can get it to and then send it out of our country.

Do they want to keep it here to lower the price of natural gas for American consumers? Absolutely not. They want to get it out on the open market in a ship because that is the highest bidder. Around the world, let them bid for it.

Now, if they were saying, “Hey, we really want to lower the price of natural gas in the United States,” that is one thing. But that is not what this is all about. It is all about an export plan: Get the oil, get the gas out of our country and get the highest price in the world.

They are putting wells filled with toxic chemicals next to schools, your homes, your daycare, your hospitals—all so they can ship tankers filled with natural gas to China or any other country that is the highest bidder.

That is what this is all about, ladies and gentlemen. It is not about lowering the price of natural gas or oil for American consumers. It is about oil company executives getting higher profits for themselves.

The United States exported a record shattering amount of natural gas in 2023, more than 10 percent higher than in 2022. We export more liquefied natural gas than any other country in the world. And what do we get for all of these planet-destroying emissions? While Big Oil and House Republicans say that those fossil fuel exports are good for the economy, soaring LNG exports actually cost big bucks, with Americans spending \$111 billion more on natural gas as exports soared from 2021 to 2022.

While many justified the rapid natural gas export build-out as critical for European energy security, the reality is that European gas demand is not only already met, it is declining. So we are not using this fracked gas here in the United States. We are not benefiting from exports of this fracked gas. In fact, it raises prices at home as we export the oil, as we export the gas.

If we kept it here, it would put pressure on the price of natural gas and oil here in the United States. But they don't keep it here. They put it on ships to send it around the world.

This fracked gas is a reason that prices are going up in the United States, and our allies aren't demanding a surge in fracked gas.

So who benefits from this fight for fracked gas? In 2023 alone, the 15 biggest oil and gas companies made more than \$172 billion in profit. That is money that directly comes out of household budgets for fuel, for electricity, and even food and other necessities affected by the high prices.

Gas companies and oil companies are running the same old-fashioned playbook for their dinosaur products, fossils: Drill and shill their fuels as hard as they can. And as we stop moving toward clean energy, these fossil fuel executives are trying to get other countries hooked and exporting products to keep prices high at home.

So that is a crazy economic strategy for the United States: building export terminals to take our own oil and gas that should be here and lowering the price for consumers, for our businesses, for our homeowners, for our commercial sector. But, no, they say: Put it on the open market around the world and

leave less of it here for American consumers.

So just as we can track earthquakes in States that have large fracking and be able to see that that is happening, we can track this fracking defense bill to the companies that will benefit from it. This bill does nothing to protect Americans' health or their communities or their future or even their budgets. It protects fossil fuel companies from having to answer for their actions and pay for their profiteering.

And for that reason, I stand in support of Senator MERKLEY's objection to this, because this is not a policy which we should allow to go permanently unaddressed in our country. It is time we have the big debate about the impact exporting our oil and gas has upon domestic prices.

You can't have it both ways. You can't say this is good for America because we are exporting it and not understand that the less that we have here is to lower the pressure, to lower the prices for ordinary Americans.

So when you look at all the polling and it says, “People are concerned about high energy prices; people are concerned about our economy,” what is at the center of it? Well, what is at the center of it is oil and gas and high prices.

And what this proposal does is say “Just keep it going; send it to China, send it to other countries around the world.” But, no, at the same time, in the same way, we are importing lower-priced Chinese goods, we are to be sending them even more materials that allow them to become more dominant as an economic power.

I support Senator MERKLEY's objection. And I hope that we actually come to the day where we have a full-blown debate here on the Senate floor on the impact this export of oil and gas, this impact of fracked materials with chemicals in the soil of our country, have upon the totality of our economic and environmental justice issues in our society.

With that, I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). The Senator from Alabama.

Mrs. BRITT. Madam President, I would like to give my distinguished colleague from Oklahoma an opportunity to respond and thank him for his leadership on the Protecting American Energy Production Act.

Mr. MULLIN. Madam President, it is interesting to me that my colleague from Massachusetts is lecturing us on energy prices when the last time I checked, Massachusetts has the highest cost of energy to heat their homes in the Nation; when he starts calling fracking a dinosaur technology, when the last time I checked, Boston had one of the collective largest group of individuals still heating their homes off heating oil and propane.

Infrastructure is what creates an opportunity to bring down energy costs, which is why Oklahoma, on the other

hand, which embraces fracking and embraces pipelines, has the lowest energy cost on average around the country.

So if we really want to talk about bringing down cost for consumers, let's look at a model that works instead of having someone lecture us from a State that their model doesn't work. We can build infrastructure. We would love to build pipelines in Massachusetts, but they block them. The infrastructure would be awesome.

I know there is a tremendous amount of companies that would love to supply natural gas to Massachusetts. In fact, there is a pipeline right now ready to go that has been blocked.

So let's have some serious conversations, not just lay blame and call CEOs bad names and give false opinions that they are just wanting to export. This says nothing about exporting. This is talking about becoming energy independent so we don't have to import oil, so we don't have to import refined products. This is about becoming energy dependent so we can bring down energy cost.

As I said earlier, the current policy that we are operating under with the Biden-Harris administration has brought energy costs up by 37 percent, which is directly affecting every single American's pocketbook today, right now as we speak. That is why every single American out there is paying \$1,085 more per month in their household bills and grocery bills than they were 4 years ago, which, if you think about that, that is over \$13,000 a year directly reflecting our current energy policy.

This does exactly what it is supposed to do: help bring down the energy cost and inflation will follow. It is not hard math; it is common sense.

With that, I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mrs. BRITT. Madam President, I could not agree more with my distinguished colleague from Oklahoma. It is important that we are not only energy independent but that we are energy dominant. The truth is we do it better, cleaner, and more efficiently than anyone. And we know the cost of energy affects everything from whether you are at the gas pump to heating and cooling your home to the prices you see at the grocery store.

At the end of the day, the American people are hurting; they are hurting under the policies of this administration. We have now seen the Vice President as a Presidential candidate say, all of a sudden, she is OK with fracking. Today, we saw that her party doesn't stand behind her.

I would like to hear what my distinguished colleague from Utah has to say about another opportunity that we have seen in front of us where candidate HARRIS is very different than the woman that we have seen serve.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 685

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I appreciate my friend and colleague, the Senator from Alabama, for leading this discussion today. This is an important one to have. And I am honored to be here to be part of it.

You know, the situation at the border, across our southern border, is, by any standard, a humanitarian crisis and nothing short of that. Vice President KAMALA HARRIS, appointed by President Biden as his border czar, publicly declared that she would focus as border czar on addressing the root causes of immigration.

However, now that KAMALA HARRIS is the Democrats' nominee for the Presidency, she and the legacy media want to pretend that was never the case. Axios even reported that Vice President KAMALA HARRIS "never actually had"—that is a direct quote—"never actually had" the title of border czar.

That is funny because that is a claim that contradicts the reporting that we have seen from Axios itself on this. In fact, we can see that right here in this chart.

On April 14, 2021, Axios reported that "Harris, [who had been] appointed by [President] Biden as border czar, said she would be looking for the 'root causes' that drive migration."

Moreover, a tweet from her official Twitter handle further emphasized her role:

@POTUS asked me to lead our diplomatic work with Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. To address the situation at the southern border, we have to address the root causes of migration. It won't be easy work—but it's necessary.

I agree; it is necessary. She took on this role. She acknowledged the role, and she failed.

Since Biden and HARRIS's inauguration a little more than 3½ years ago, over 10 million undocumented immigrants have entered the United States and have done so illegally. This figure exceeds the population of 36 States. Meaning the overwhelming majority of our States, 36 out of 50 have populations smaller than the total number of persons entering the United States illegally on the watch of border czar Vice President KAMALA HARRIS, thus creating a crisis that has been met with a troubling combination of silence and inaction from this administration—the executive branch of government responsible for enforcing our border laws and the border itself.

Now, if the Biden-Harris administration were serious about addressing the crisis at the border and addressing the issue and ensuring, in the process, that the real victims of government persecution in other countries would receive asylum here, then they would support reforming our broken asylum process. And, sadly, they are not. We are still encountering over 100,000 illegal immigrants at our southern border each month.

Now, since President Biden took office, there have been almost 10 million

illegal immigrant encounters nationwide. Keep in mind, this doesn't reflect the sum total of those who have crossed into our country. These are just the documented immigrant encounters throughout the country. Though, there are more. That is a subset of the total flow of illegal immigration. Over 360 individuals on the Terrorist Watchlist have been stopped while trying to cross the southern border.

And, shockingly, 27,583 Communist Chinese nationals have been encountered at the southwest border in the last year alone. That is a lot of people. And China is not close to the United States.

By any metric, the Biden-Harris administration has shown no interest in securing our border. In fact, the data suggests this administration wants as many illegal immigrants to enter this country as possible.

My Democrat colleagues want to pretend that Republicans are somehow responsible for this crisis. Why? Well, it is obvious why. They don't want to own it given that their party owns the crisis, as their party is running the administration and it is responsible for making decisions that has allowed this in.

What argument did they use in order to blame Republicans who are not in control of the administration, do not occupy the White House, or control the majority in this Chamber? What is their argument as to why we as Republicans are to blame? Well, because we were unwilling to pass a bad immigration bill that would have normalized thousands of illegal entries across our southern border each month—and particularly in the hands of the Biden administration, it could have and inevitably would have made the situation much worse.

But today I am offering a smaller bill, a narrower bill, a more focused bill that would help alleviate the crisis by closing loopholes in the law. These would be helpful. They are not necessarily things that represent a complete loophole such that President Biden would be powerless to enforce the border without them, but they would make it harder for President Biden to justify the massive loopholes that he has manipulated.

This isn't the entire answer. This bill wouldn't necessarily solve the whole problem. But if my Democratic colleagues can't agree that these commonsense reforms need to be adopted, then how can we take their concern about the border crisis seriously?

My bill, the Stopping Border Surges Act, would address loopholes in our immigration laws, which have helped create some of the perverse incentives for illegal immigration. It made it easier for the Biden administration to facilitate this flow of 10 million illegal immigrants into our country over the last 3½ years.

The bill would clarify that an adult cannot bring a child into this country

expecting that child to be his or her ticket to avoid detention. This would help eliminate the disturbing practice of what is sometimes referred to by the Border Patrol as the practice of recycling children and babies by coyotes and cartels.

People will bring in a child, and sometimes that same child will be brought in under similar circumstances over and over and over again as the ticket into the United States—the ticket thus making it less likely that they will be detained and ultimately deported.

It allows all unaccompanied children to be returned to their home countries, thus ending the incentive for the parents to send their young children here alone, leaving them vulnerable to abuse.

Sadly, we see what is happening to those children under the supervision of the Biden-Harris administration and Secretary Mayorkas. They are trafficked either into child slavery, sex slavery, or as drug dealers.

My bill would require that the Department of Health and Human Services provides DHS with biographical information about the persons to whom children are being released so that they know something about them, rather than just "This is the person to whom you are going to release the child."

It also requires asylum seekers to apply for and be denied asylum in at least one safe country on their route from their country of origin to the United States. It would combat the Biden-Harris administration's obliteration of the credible fear standard by heightening the burden of proof.

The correct application of this standard is pivotal to the operation of our asylum system and making sure that it is there for those who need it and not subject to rampant abuse by those not eligible for it.

It has been corrupted over the years. But this administration has destroyed it entirely—manipulating it to the point where it is now beyond recognition. We must fix it.

It is sad that we have to fix it, but we have to fix it in large part because it has been so distorted and abused by this administration, profiting international drug cartels to the tune of tens of billions of dollars a year, leaving a huge—huge—wake of human suffering in its path.

It would close loopholes and restrict asylum to aliens who present themselves at an official point of entry. We must eliminate these loopholes and not allow the Biden-Harris administration to make more of them.

Congress needs to take back the authority to establish law. We can start today by passing the Stopping Border Surges Act.

Ending the ambiguities in our current asylum law will help to mitigate the situation at the border and prevent unelected, unaccountable bureaucrats from acting with utter impunity to enforce their own policy preferences, culminating inevitably in open borders

with more than 10 million people coming into this country in a space of only 3½ years. So I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

To that end, Madam President, as if in legislative session and notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 685 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; further, that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

The majority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, there is a pamphlet that is circulated to tourists and students alike entitled "How Laws Are Made," and it tells the basic process under our Federal Constitution for enacting legislation. It talks about committee hearings; it talks about votes in committee, votes on the floor—in the Senate, then in the House; conference committees, agreements, a lot of other votes. Finally, the measure is sent to the President, if it is successful, for his signature or his veto. That is the ordinary process.

You will not see what is happening on this floor of the Senate in the pamphlet to describe how laws are made. It is such an unusual thing. Here we are in the Senate, basically trying to say: I ask unanimous consent to ignore the Constitution as written and the laws as described and go ahead and pass this bill anyway.

Well, you might say there are times when that is needed—and it is—but when it comes to the issue of immigration, there is a much broader consideration.

The fact of the matter is, it has been almost 35 years since we have passed an immigration reform bill—35 years. I don't know how many times the Senator from Utah has voted for an immigration bill—perhaps not—but the point is, we have tried and can't bring the measure to the floor. There is resistance and objection, primarily from the Republican side of the aisle, for any type of comprehensive reform.

But there comes a time when there is a glimmer of hope. Once in a while, something happens around here, and you think things are going to be different. That happened not that long ago, a few months back.

We had a conservative Republican Senator from Oklahoma named JAMES LANKFORD. JAMES and I disagree on so many issues, but I respect him so very much when it comes to his legislative commitment. He sat down with CHRIS MURPHY, a Democratic Senator from the State of Connecticut, and they said: Can we, Republican and Democrat together, come up with a measure that won't solve every problem with immigration, but at least it will move us forward?

What are we going to include in that?

Well, we are going to include provisions that dictate what happens when

someone presents himself to the border: who would be considered in a fast fashion and who would not be.

We are going to put more Border Patrol agents on the border. They wrote a provision that the Border Patrol agents' union—thousands of men and women who risk their lives—endorsed.

Well, what are we going to do about fentanyl and narcotics that are coming into the United States as well? They added more provisions and then more law enforcement to stop the flow of narcotics.

There were provisions in that bill which I didn't like, but by and large, I had to say that was a good bill. It really was a bipartisan effort to solve some of the major problems we have.

Some on the Republican side said: Unless you pass this bipartisan bill, we are not going to allow other business to occur.

It was a pretty serious showdown moment. So we were prepared to do it. A lot of us were prepared to vote for this measure. It was bipartisan, it made real progress, and it really addressed the flow of people coming across the border.

What happened next is important. What happened next is one person stepped up and said: Stop. That person was Donald Trump, the former President of the United States. He said: I don't want this bipartisan measure that Senator LANKFORD and Senator MURPHY have crafted to pass in the Senate.

Critics said: Wait a minute, former President. If we don't do this, we won't do anything. We won't be able to address this measure significantly or constructively before the next election.

He said: So be it. Blame it on me, Donald Trump said. Kill this bill.

The word went out on the Republican side: Stop where you are. No measure is to pass, not even this bipartisan measure.

When it turned out that only a handful of Republicans were willing to defy Donald Trump, the measure died. That was the end of it.

You have to ask yourself, did we miss an opportunity there? The answer is, we certainly did—a bipartisan opportunity to do something constructive. And the decision was made by Donald Trump that he would rather have this issue going into the election in 2024 than to have any solution, bipartisan solution, which might inure to the credit of the Democrats as well as the Republicans. That was the end of the conversation.

So we find ourselves on the floor today with a measure that is being suggested on it by unanimous consent that, of course, did not go through committee and has not been reviewed, and it unfortunately has some serious flaws. Instead, this bill targets the most vulnerable people seeking safety and protection in the United States: children traveling without a parent or guardian, families with minor children, and asylum seekers fleeing persecution.

The bill that is before us—the unanimous consent request—would strip away protections for unaccompanied children. It would deport many of them back into the hands of smugglers, keep others in detention for up to a month, and keep them separated from adults who could care for them. This bill would require families to be detained—a failed policy that has disastrous effects on children and doesn't make the border any safer.

This bill would also create multiple new restrictions on asylum, undermining our longstanding commitment to refugees seeking safety, such as the people in Ukraine. Many of them were refugees to the United States, once attacked by Vladimir Putin, and I believe most Americans agree that providing protection for them and their families is the right thing to do.

The Biden administration is doing what it can under our outdated immigration laws to secure the border, and encounters between the ports of entry have decreased by more than 50 percent. Yes, there are too many flowing over the borders at various times, but we have seen dramatic reductions in those who are coming across our border now, and we could have seen more with this bipartisan bill, which Donald Trump and his loyalists ended up killing.

The administration has dramatically increased deportations, made tough changes in our asylum system, and improved access to lawful pathways to citizenship, but ultimately it is Congress's responsibility to reform our broken immigration system, which has not been updated, as I said earlier, in 35 years.

To resolve our challenges at the border, we need immigration reform that will actually fix our broken immigration system and provide the necessary resources to DHS to secure the border. Rather than providing additional resources, improving infrastructure, or adding more lawful pathways, this bill would undermine fundamental American values and put families and children at risk.

Recently, a bipartisan group of Senators had a tough border deal put together. I want to commend Senator LANKFORD for his courage in stepping up, particularly when Donald Trump was opposed to it. I wish the majority of Republicans would have stood behind their Senator from Oklahoma, but the Senator from Utah and others decided they wouldn't. They would rather take these opportunities to come to the floor and try the unanimous consent route.

Donald Trump was crystal clear. He said: Blame it on me if the bill fails. The bill failed, and I am blaming it on him just as he has. He doesn't want a solution; he wants an issue in November.

The time is long past due for my Senate Republican colleagues to stop partisan bickering, get behind JAMES LANKFORD's effort, and work on a bipartisan basis to pass the immigration

legislation the American people deserve.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ROSEN). Objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I appreciate the thoughtful remarks from my friend and colleague, the distinguished Senator from Illinois. He and I have worked together on many issues. We don't agree on everything, but when we do agree, it is a lot of fun. We are able to do a lot of great things together. I appreciate his leadership on the Judiciary Committee and the fact that he has always been friendly toward me.

I also appreciate his reference to our sort of civics aspect of what we do. The notion of how a bill becomes a law is always, always instructive. It is always helpful to bring that up. You know, we have lost some of that in our system, and people get confused as to how laws are made.

Of course, the very first operative provision of the Constitution—article I, section 1—has only one clause, so it is clause 1. The very first language after the preamble says that all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives.

Remember, legislative powers are lawmaking powers, meaning all power to make law—to make Federal law—is vested in this body and the body with which we share the legislative power just down the hall, the House of Representatives.

Article I, section 7 elaborates on this function and makes clear yet again that you cannot make a Federal law without following this formula. The formula prescribed by article I, section 7 is bicameral passage followed by presentment to the President of the United States. You have to pass the same legislative text down the hall and also pass it here. It doesn't matter in what order unless it is a revenue bill, but that is not relevant here, but it does have to be the same text passed by both bodies. Then and only then can you present it to the President for signature, veto, or acquiescence. That is how you make a law. That is what the Constitution requires.

Now, on top of that, we have a number of other procedures that we have added by Senate rule, precedent, procedure, common practice. Those are not required by the Constitution, but those rules and practices are acknowledged as legitimate by the Constitution. Yes, most of the time, we pass those, but it is ultimately up to us to decide when, whether, to what extent, and in what ways to follow all of our procedures.

And I agree with the Senator from Illinois—it does make sense whenever we can do it—that we always should follow our own procedures. It generally works out best if we can move something through committee, if we can have a full committee hearing and we can have what is called a markup, where

we introduce and entertain amendments to proposed legislation, pass it out of committee, and then bring it to the floor ultimately.

I think we generally have much better legislation when we do it that way, and I would love to follow that procedure with this particular bill. If what the Senator from Illinois and the chairman of the Judiciary Committee is offering is for us to have a full committee hearing and a markup on this bill, I would love that, and I would gladly entertain that.

Tragically, in the Senate, we have seen a deviation from that same practice—that same practice to which he attributes great significance, understandably, today. In fact, fully 94 percent of all legislative matters passed by this body are passed by this same procedure that I am attempting to utilize here today—by unanimous consent.

The way it works is, essentially somebody makes a request, and they ultimately come down to the floor like I have done today and say: Let's call up and pass this bill.

Why would we do that? Well, in many instances, committee chairmen have become somewhat stingy with what bills on which they are going to hold hearings and markups. We have been unable to get a hearing or a markup set on this bill, and so this bill, like so many others—in fact, like 94 percent of all legislation passed by this body—comes to the Senate floor today without the benefit of having had either a hearing or a markup.

Well, that doesn't stop the 94 percent of the legislation from moving forward. In fact, in addition to that 94 percent of the legislative proposals that are passed by unanimous consent, an additional number of them—I am not sure what the number is; it probably varies a little bit from year to year—but an additional number of them are brought to the floor and passed not unanimously but by rollcall vote without having had the benefit of either a full committee hearing or a markup. This, too, is unfortunate. Sometimes it is necessary and unavoidable, and other times, it is not.

The point is this: Neither the Constitution nor the Senate rules prohibit passing legislation this way. Sometimes it becomes necessary when the other path has been made unavailable to us by the majority party and the committee chairman.

In this circumstance, there is an additional reason why we need to bring this forward. We talked a minute ago about the legislative process required by the U.S. Constitution to pass a law to make or change any statute that is Federal in nature. You have to go through that article I, section 7 formula: bicameral passage in Congress, followed by presentment to the President for signature, veto, or acquiescence.

What the Constitution does not countenance and certainly prohibits is the making of new law or the modification

of existing law by the executive branch of government or by anyone or anything outside the framework of article I, section 7. That is what we have seen with our immigration laws, including and especially with this administration with regard to laws that are relevant here—laws, for example, involving asylum standards.

The asylum standards have morphed over the years, over many decades, and the practice of applying our asylum laws has become so different under this administration than what the law actually says, although this is comparable in many respects to another great frustration of mine that is closely related to this where we outsource *de facto* lawmaking authority to unelected, unaccountable bodies in the executive branch, allowing them to just make new law. We call them regulations to get around the obvious awkwardness that would otherwise be created by this thing called the Constitution to which we have all sworn an oath, but we allow, in effect, the executive branch to make laws that way under the form of rules and regulations.

But either way, whether it is by the stroke of the Executive pen or whether it is through an administrative Agency, we have seen laws being made and changed entirely outside the constitutionally authorized process recognized by article I, sections 1 and 7.

So it is one of the reasons we are here today because we have had the executive branch making and changing law not authorized by the Constitution, and we have had a lack of access to committee hearings and committee markups. So that is why we come here today and do this.

While it is not ideal, it is how 94 percent of the legislation passed by this body is, in fact, passed. So that kind of matters. That provides some helpful context.

We talked a little bit about asylum and how the asylum laws have been abused and modified. The idea behind asylum is that if you are subject to certain kinds of persecution in your home country, we want to provide people with a place to go.

The problem we had in this administration—the way it is supposed to work is if you show up without documents at the U.S. border and you make the case that you are entitled to stay here as an asylee, well, you are supposed to be detained until such time as they can decide the issue. You don't have a statutory or a constitutional right to be granted asylum. It is a discretionary grant of authority given to the Secretary of Homeland Security. No one has a guaranteed right to it. So you are supposed to be detained while they consider your application, whether or not they are going to grant it.

But instead, what this administration has been doing is just saying: OK. Come in. You claim asylum. And they let you go. And because there are so

many people coming in—about 10 million of them; many of them are claiming asylum—they decide that the best thing to do is not deport them because they can't handle all those asylum applications. They can't adjudicate them. They say: Well, let's just let them go—let them go and tell them that at some point you may hear about a hearing that will be scheduled before an immigration judge. We hope you will come to your immigration hearing. At the current rate, many of these people are being told that their immigration hearing may not happen until the mid-2030s.

This doesn't make any sense. This amounts to a de facto change in law.

It definitely amounts to a de facto change in law when we have got things like what is called immigration parole. Immigration parole is supposed to exist as a discretionary grant of authority, allowing the U.S. Government to let somebody come into the United States either for a specific humanitarian purpose or a public purpose. But it has to be individualized, not generalized by country, not broad categories, and an individual person. The law specifies that.

An example of a humanitarian purpose is somebody is in a foreign country. Maybe their mother lives here. She is about to die, and that person needs to come in and be there for the funeral with the understanding that he or she will probably leave thereafter.

The public use, the public benefit example, would be someone who maybe speaks an obscure language. We don't have adequate interpretation services in that language here. We need somebody to come in and translate for that language. We allow them to come in, be a translator for that trial, with the understanding that they will leave.

Well, this President has granted contrary to what the law allows. He has effectively rewritten the law so as to just grant huge categorical blocks of immigration parole. We are talking to the tune of hundreds of thousands of people who have been admitted in a single year on these things.

That is lawless. That is outside what the law requires. So, yes, that is a change of law, and that is why we need to tighten this law here.

Now, I do want to get to this point about the so-called border bill, the border bill that my friend and colleague from Illinois claims—mistakenly but very wrongly—was killed only by one man, Donald J. Trump. It is just not what happened, not what happened at all. And I don't agree with his description of the bill either.

The Senator from Illinois and I share a common friendship with and great affection for the senior Senator from Oklahoma. The senior Senator from Oklahoma did a fantastic job. He had done a great job on so many things that he decided that he would try to negotiate this. I think it was done at the request of the minority leader, the Republican leader in the Senate, to try to negotiate something.

The Senate Republican conference wanted legislation that would, in one way or another, tie President Biden's hands so he couldn't continue to abuse and negotiate that system of laws, and so he went in there. He did his best to negotiate that. At the end, most Members of our conference didn't feel comfortable with what he negotiated because it wouldn't adequately tie President Biden's hands.

It is not his fault, and it is not Donald Trump's fault. But the fact is that most of the Members of our conference didn't feel that it did enough to tie President Biden's hands.

Perhaps under the jurisdiction of a different President, that legislation might have worked but not with this President. It certainly didn't tie President Biden's hands.

So it wasn't Donald Trump who killed the bill. It was the fact that we didn't have the votes here.

So, look, this is a big deal. It matters. I reject, fundamentally, the premise that we can't reform any of our immigration laws without so-called comprehensive reform, which is usually code for something else, including allowing large numbers of persons entering illegally to be deemed legal.

So let's make sure we have the facts right, both on the way laws are made and based on what happened with this legislation and why it is necessary to pass the Stopping Border Surges Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mrs. BRITT. Madam President, I appreciate the remarks from my distinguished colleague from Utah.

While my colleague from Oklahoma gets set, I just want to recap a couple of things. I mean, here we have today a fracking bill that has been put on the floor but yet blocked by Democrats.

We have a bill here just now closing asylum loopholes, helping unaccompanied children get back to their family, but that has been blocked by Democrats.

Earlier, you saw us put a bill on the floor that would actually help build a barrier on our southern border, but yet that was blocked by Democrats.

When we have looked at how Vice President HARRIS is running, it is obviously very different than the way she served.

If you look back in 2020, Vice President HARRIS said, "Trump's border wall is a complete waste of taxpayer money and won't make us any safer."

I am wondering if she will put a disclaimer that says that underneath her commercials that focus on and show the border wall.

She said, as a Senator, that she vowed to block any funding for the border wall and urged her colleagues to reject any funding for the border wall, which is actually exactly what they continued to do and you saw them do here today.

Here is the deal: You can't have it both ways. KAMALA HARRIS either wants to secure our border—which she

has had ample time to do—building barriers that help us keep Americans safe or she doesn't, which is what we have seen throughout her tenure both in the Senate and as Vice President. But yet now she is campaigning as something totally different.

We saw here today that her newfound support of a border wall is not supported by her Democratic colleagues here in the Senate.

I look forward to hearing more about what we have seen on the campaign trail versus, in actuality, where she stands.

On that, I see my distinguished colleague from Oklahoma and would love the opportunity to hear from him.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 204

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, I come to the floor today to be able to talk about an issue that, apparently, there is a large belief among some that doesn't exist. So I wanted to be able to pull the veil back and to say this is actually an issue. And I can't believe I even have to have this conversation. And, in many ways, it is an incredibly difficult conversation to be able to have.

During the Presidential debate that happened just a few weeks ago now, there was a debate, ostensibly, between Vice President HARRIS and former President Donald Trump. It ended up being a debate between Vice President HARRIS, David Muir, Linsey Davis, all against Donald Trump.

There were multiple moments where the ABC moderators decided they were going to debate or correct Donald Trump when he spoke, and it became this very odd interchange that all America watched and thought: Well, that doesn't seem like a debate in that sense.

One of those moments was a really odd moment. There was a question about abortion to President Trump. That is a fair conversation for the moderators to bring up a question and to be able to talk about it. He has openly talked a lot about abortion. And, obviously, the vote that happened in the Supreme Court with the Dobbs decision has highlighted a lot of that conversation nationally since his Presidency.

President Trump, during that debate, talked about children who are aborted away the eighth or ninth month and then some even after. He mentioned that, to which the ABC News moderator, Linsey Davis, responded: "There is no State in the country where it's legal to kill a baby after it's born" and then immediately turned to Vice President HARRIS, where, literally, she jumped in to be able to debate the President and to try to "correct" him.

The problem is, there was no one to be able to moderate her in that debate and to make the simple statement, there are not only States in America where that can happen, there are States in America where that does happen.

In this simple map of the United States, this lists out the States where there are strong protections for a child after birth. Now, this is not an abortion; this is a botched abortion that has occurred. This is a woman who went in with the intent of having an abortion, late term. The child was fully delivered, and in medical practice in many of these States that are listed here, the child is fully delivered during the abortion. And if the child cries, breathes, the practice is to back away and to allow the child to slowly die on the table because the intent was an abortion. So everyone just steps back in the facility and watches the child die on the table, however long that takes.

Now, before people say that doesn't occur, eight States have a requirement—eight States have a requirement—that, in an abortion, if it is botched and the child is actually fully delivered, and they are still alive, they have to report it. And in eight States—only those States that actually do that—there were 277 cases of that.

Let me give you an example. This was several years ago. She is now a beautiful young woman, a young woman named Melissa Ohden. She actually didn't know until she was an adult that she was actually the product of a botched abortion. Her mom, who was a teenager, had been compelled to have an abortion by some family members around her. She didn't want to do it, but she did. It was a late-term abortion.

She went in to have the abortion, had the abortion, and after the abortion was over, one of the nurses looking through the “medical waste” that was there on the table, saw the young girl crying. She scooped up the infant, took the infant on her own to an emergency room. The emergency room personnel said: There is no way she will have a full, meaningful life. But they took care of her because she was in the emergency room.

I know Melissa Ohden. She is a remarkable lady—no disabilities, no other challenges other than the knowledge that she was supposed to “have been aborted.” But there she is alive.

There are a lot of women who are scattered around the country who are all finding each other online telling the story that they are a product of a botched abortion; that they were born alive, and they were given medical care when “they weren't supposed to be there at all.” They are now, through one rare benefit of social media, finding each other and connecting in conversation. Not only is this happening, it is happening all over the country.

I am fully aware that the ABC News moderator thinks this doesn't happen anywhere, but not only is it happening, it has happened before; it is happening probably today.

The question that this body has not resolved is, What are we going to do about it?

This is not about reducing abortion. Quite frankly, the bill that I am bring-

ing and I want to bring for unanimous consent today won't reduce abortions at all in America.

I would tell you, it would be my preference to be able to stand for the value of every single child in America and to say there is not a child in America that is disposable; that children in America are all valuable—not some disposable, some valuable—all valuable.

This is not a question of are we going to legalize or not legalize abortion. This is about a fully delivered child crying on a table, if they will get medical care or if we will back up and watch them die. That is the question before us—and what we are going to do about that.

There has been a lot of conversation about this of late, in the last several years. Let me give you an example of several of these States. New York State recently passed a law that not only allows abortion all the way until the ninth month, but they protect—if a child is fully delivered and is breathing on the table, and it was a botched abortion, that they would be protected, quote-unquote, to be able to die there.

When this bill was passed, just a couple of years ago, in New York, the New York Legislature cheered—cheered—at protecting the rights of a child to lie on the table and die after a delivery. They lit up the Freedom Tower in New York City to celebrate the passage of that bill. That is in New York.

In Minnesota, 9 years ago, in a wide bipartisan vote, they determined that they should actually track how many of these botched abortions happen; that they should actually keep track of how many occur like this, that a child is actually born alive. It is rare, but they wanted just to be able to keep track of it with basic records.

So in a bipartisan vote in the Minnesota Legislature, signed by the Governor, they passed a law, 9 years ago, to track how often this occurs. In the State of Minnesota, they determined, over the next several years, that there were 24 children that were born alive during a botched abortion. Now, again, that is not many, but I bet it matters to those 24. But for those 24 children that Minnesota discovered, this is not really a myth. This is really occurring. They tracked it.

The Governor of Minnesota, the current Vice Presidential candidate on the Democratic side, worked to get a repeal of that law, and the simple repeal was: We don't want reporting anymore.

Literally, it was: We are finding out this is happening; so in Minnesota, we have declared we don't want to know that this is happening anymore.

That is unbelievable. That is old-school, put your hands over your ears and scream “la, la, la, la” kind of stuff. That is not what we should do as a nation. We should actually know about it and then determine, through debate in this body, what we are going to do about it.

Madam President, I am getting close to a conclusion here. May I ask unani-

mous consent to be permitted to speak just 3 more minutes, until we can wrap this up, and then prior to the scheduled rollcall vote, for Senator BRITT to have 1 minute just to be able to conclude.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there objections?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, so here is the issue. We have brought this bill to the floor several times before. In fact, we have had some bipartisan support for this bill several times before. The bill is very, very simple. The bill says: When the doctor performs an abortion but the child is born alive, instead of actually born dead, that care would be provided to that child the same as any other child that is born.

Now, we are fully aware that many abortion clinics do not have a full hospital that is also attached to them. But we are also very aware that if there is a problem with the mom in an abortion clinic, they take her to a hospital. This is a simple statement to say: If a child is born alive, which we know 100 percent this has happened—even in States like Minnesota, that this is happening—what is America going to do with a fully delivered, crying baby on the table? Will they get healthcare or will they not get healthcare? That is all this bill does.

It doesn't reduce abortions, unfortunately. It doesn't do that. It doesn't change abortion processes across the country. It doesn't do that. It just says: When the abortion is unsuccessful and the child is actually delivered instead, we are going to get medical care to that child. That is what I bring in this, and it is absolutely, to me, the simplest of all possible statements to make.

So, Madam President, as if in legislative session and notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 204 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration. I further ask consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. DURBIN. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, this is a serious topic. To rush through it in a matter of minutes is unfair. More time should be devoted to it, but I am going to do my best in a short period of time to be very direct.

My first direction is, to anyone following this debate at home, pull out your cellphone, go to your search engine, whatever it happens to be, and look up the following name. I am going to spell it carefully because I want you to be able to type it in. Kermit, K-E-R-M-I-T, Gosnell, G-O-S-N-E-L-L. Kermit Gosnell.

While I speak, I hope you will take a look at what you see on your screen.

This bill has been proposed by my friend from Oklahoma. It creates new standards of care for doctors providing reproductive healthcare, and these standards are not based on medicine, fact, or science. The goal of this bill is to target and intimidate reproductive healthcare providers and make it harder for women to access comprehensive, compassionate healthcare.

Let me be clear. Despite former President Trump's wild claims, it is not legal in this country, in any State, to kill a child after it is born. Doctors already have an obligation under the law to provide appropriate medical care to any child that is born alive.

How do I know this? I voted for it. It is explicitly codified in a law which President Bush signed entitled "Born-Alive Infants Protection Act of 2002"—2002. It has been on the books over 20 years.

And when doctors harm babies in violation of State and Federal laws, they are held accountable. For example, in the year 2013, Dr. Kermit Gosnell, a Pennsylvania doctor, was convicted on three counts of first-degree murder for murdering babies after botched abortions. I want you to read, if you brought this up on your phone, the story of this man. What he did was an outrage. It was disgusting. He was held accountable for it and is serving life in prison as a result, without any possibility of parole.

So to argue that we are talking about an area of law that is not addressed by current law is just plain wrong. Our Nation already has laws in place to protect newborns. To suggest otherwise is simply false. Alleging that doctors are wantonly killing infants after birth is as ludicrous as accusing immigrants in Ohio of eating cats and dogs.

Here we are. This is today's Republican Presidential campaign. Rather than create meaningful protections for women and infants, what this bill would actually do is put politicians into private healthcare decisions.

Abortions occurring late in pregnancy are incredibly rare—incredibly rare. Why don't we hear the same level of concern for women being denied reproductive care and bleeding out in the parking lot of a hospital because of decisions by State legislatures? Let's be honest. That is a real problem and a real challenge.

In these heartbreaking situations, it is not for Congress to dictate the course of medical treatment. Those wrenching decisions must be left to medical professionals and the individuals in their care. It is the only compassionate outcome.

Therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Alabama.

Mrs. BRITT. Madam President, I appreciate my distinguished colleague from Illinois and would like to say,

with regard to the remarks from my colleague from Oklahoma, actively killing and saving are actually two different things. So for the people watching this, they should take a look at that. And I think what we are seeing is how far left this has gone. This is truly beyond comprehension.

I also just want to say that we spent time yesterday on an IVF bill that nobody actually tried to use to get to 60 votes. IVF is legal and accessible in all 50 States. And, in fact, the great State of Alabama, when forced into a decision, talking about this, immediately acted. Our State legislature and our Governor made sure that women had access to IVF in every corner of our State.

So I would wish that we would spend time on real things, like the appropriations bills that we have marked up, amongst others.

But if you are looking at where we are today, I think what we have seen is that KAMALA HARRIS has said that she is for a border wall; she has said she is for fracking; she has said she is for cracking down on illegal border crossings—all during her short campaign tenure. But the truth is that all of those things were just blocked.

It is clear that her flip-flops aren't real, and there is much more to dig into and discuss as this campaign moves forward.

I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF MICHELLE WILLIAMS COURT

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, today the Senate will vote to confirm Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Michelle Court to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

Judge Court's extensive career as a litigator for nearly two decades combined with her experience as a California State court judge have prepared her to serve on the Federal bench.

After graduating from Pomona College and Loyola Law School, Judge Court worked as an Associate at Gilbert, Kelly, Crowley & Jennett. She then worked as an attorney at the ACLU of Southern California before continuing her career in private practice as an Associate at Litt & Marquez and Milberg, Weiss, Bershad Hynes & Lerach.

Prior to taking the bench, Judge Court served in several roles at Bet Tzedek Legal Services: as a deputy director of litigation, as the director of litigation, and as the vice president and general counsel. At this organization, she provided legal services to low-income, elderly, and disabled clients and supervised more than 30 staff attorneys and advocates.

Since 2012, Judge Court has served as a judge on the civil division of the Superior Court of California in Los Angeles, where she has presided over approximately 200 civil trials and ruled on 12,000 motions and requests.

Judge Court has the strong support of her home State Senators, Ms. BUTLER and Mr. PADILLA. In addition, she

was rated unanimously "well qualified" by the American Bar Association.

Judge Court's deep ties to the California legal community, combined with her courtroom experience both on and off the bench, will ensure that she serves on the Central District of California with distinction.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting her nomination.

VOTE ON COURT NOMINATION

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

Mrs. SHAHEEN. 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 senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), 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 "nay."

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 245 Ex.]

YEAS—49

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Hassan | Peters |
| Bennet | Heinrich | Reed |
| Blumenthal | Helmy | Rosen |
| Booker | Hickenlooper | Schatz |
| Brown | Hirono | Schumer |
| Butler | Kaine | Shaheen |
| Cantwell | Kelly | Smith |
| Cardin | King | Stabenow |
| Carper | Klobuchar | Tester |
| Casey | Lujan | Van Hollen |
| Collins | Manchin | Warner |
| Coons | Markey | Warnock |
| Cortez Masto | Merkley | Warren |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Welch |
| Durbin | Murray | Whitehouse |
| Fetterman | Ossoff | |
| Gillibrand | Padilla | |

NAYS—44

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Barrasso | Fischer | Murkowski |
| Blackburn | Grassley | Paul |
| Boozman | Hagerty | Ricketts |
| Braun | Hawley | Risch |
| Britt | Hoeben | Romney |
| Budd | Hyde-Smith | Rubio |
| Capito | Johnson | Schmitt |
| Cassidy | Kennedy | Scott (FL) |
| Cornyn | Lankford | Scott (SC) |
| Cotton | Lee | Sullivan |
| Cramer | Lummis | Thune |
| Crapo | Marshall | Tuberville |
| Cruz | McConnell | Wicker |
| Daines | Moran | Young |
| Ernst | Mullin | |

NOT VOTING—7

| | | |
|---------|--------|-------|
| Graham | Sinema | Wyden |
| Rounds | Tillis | |
| Sanders | Vance | |

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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 actions.

The senior Senator from Michigan.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, on behalf of the majority leader, I ask that the Chair execute the order of July 23, 2024, with respect to the Taylor nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Margaret L. Taylor, of Maryland, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State.

VOTE ON TAYLOR NOMINATION

Ms. STABENOW. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), 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 "nay."

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 246 Ex.]

YEAS—50

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Baldwin | Heinrich | Peters |
| Bennet | Helmy | Reed |
| Blumenthal | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Booker | Hirono | Sanders |
| Brown | Kaine | Schatz |
| Butler | Kelly | Schumer |
| Cantwell | King | Shaheen |
| Cardin | Klobuchar | Smith |
| Carper | Lujan | Stabenow |
| Casey | Manchin | Tester |
| Coons | Markey | Van Hollen |
| Cortez Masto | Merkley | Warner |
| Duckworth | Murkowski | Warnock |
| Durbin | Murphy | Warren |
| Fetterman | Murray | Welch |
| Gillibrand | Ossoff | Whitehouse |
| Hassan | Padilla | |

NAYS—44

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Barrasso | Ernst | Mullin |
| Blackburn | Fischer | Paul |
| Boozman | Grassley | Ricketts |
| Braun | Hagerty | Risch |
| Britt | Hawley | Romney |
| Budd | Hoeben | Rubio |
| Capito | Hyde-Smith | Schmitt |
| Cassidy | Johnson | Scott (FL) |
| Collins | Kennedy | Scott (SC) |
| Cornyn | Lankford | Sullivan |
| Cotton | Lee | Thune |
| Cramer | Lummis | Tuberville |
| Crapo | Marshall | Wicker |
| Cruz | McConnell | Young |
| Daines | Moran | |

NOT VOTING—6

| | | |
|--------|--------|-------|
| Graham | Sinema | Vance |
| Rounds | Tillis | Wyden |

The nomination was confirmed.

(Ms. BUTLER assumed the Chair.)

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

The Senator from Vermont.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WELCH. Madam President, climate change, as we all know, has caused major disasters all across America, from Vermont's catastrophic flooding in July of 2023 and, again, exactly a year later, this past July, to the devastating wildfires in Hawaii, to hurricanes in Texas, floods in San Diego and southern Minnesota, tornadoes from Mississippi to New York. And just this week, Louisiana was hit by a hurricane, and North Carolina was hit by historic flash flooding. And North Carolina, earlier this week, saw 18—18—inches of rain in 12 hours, what the National Weather Service in Wilmington called a once-in-a-1,000-year event. That is not normal.

From 2023 to 2024, there were 48 climate disasters that incurred losses of billions of dollars and more. These events were devastating for the communities: many demolished homes and businesses, washed away roads, destroyed fields and barns, and loss of life.

And while we can count 48 from NOAA today, we know that this list will only grow as storm damage is assessed from Vermont and Louisiana and North Carolina.

Disasters literally from coast to coast hit the United States—35 severe storms; 4 floods, including Vermont's flooding; 3 tropical cyclones; 3 winter storms; 2 wildfire events; and 1 drought. This is just going on and on and on, and it is not even the full picture. We have had 125 from the same period.

I have shared the pain and anguish of Vermont's homeowners, farms, and businesses. For over 430 days, they have waited for Congress to act when it comes to supplemental relief for the Disaster Relief Fund. Vermonters need that help, as do folks in Hawaii, as do folks in North Carolina.

There is bipartisan support for this effort because it is obviously a bipartisan crisis. These weather events don't have any favorites. Whether you are in a red State or a blue State means nothing; it is the weather, and it will do what the weather decides to do.

This week, I joined with Senator BRIAN SCHATZ of Hawaii and our colleagues from Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, California, and Alaska in sending a letter to Senate leadership urging them to quickly pass disaster funding so our States can recover. We have a solid bipartisan group, and regrettably it is a growing group. The need is immense.

So we do need more financial support immediately through FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund. It is depleted, and it needs to be replenished.

One critically important program for long-term disaster recovery is through our Department of Transportation's disaster relief program. Senator SANDERS and I have seen the damage in Vermont. We have suffered brutal damage to our transit system. More than 6,000 tons of debris were removed by the State of Vermont, 409 miles of rail have been closed, 149 miles of rail trail closed, 64 bridges in Vermont closed, and 46 State roads were closed. As of last fall, Vermont incurred \$150 million in damages related to transportation alone. And then more flooding came.

Both Senator SANDERS and I have traveled across Vermont to talk with community leaders about the financial stress they face right now. We have also talked with my colleagues about the needs of our community leaders in their States and their needs as they rebuild and recover and plan for the next climate disaster. The reality is, the numbers don't paint the full picture. We do need that relief to get people moving ahead. But when your town and your street and your home and your lives, the lives of the people you represent, are so devastated, you really can't articulate a number. It doesn't capture it.

We need the Disaster Relief Fund replenished. We need transportation funding to reimburse our State governments for the costs they pay up front when a disaster hits. We need more money for the highway emergency fund. Our need is extreme. Our States and communities cannot do this alone, and that is no less true for every other colleague's State than it is for Vermont.

Today, I would also like to voice Vermonters' continued frustration—this is on a slightly different topic but related to the flooding—that 14 months after our post office was destroyed in Montpelier, the capital of the State of Vermont, we still don't have a fully functional post office.

After the July 23 floods, the Postal Service shifted its Montpelier Post Office operations to a series of temporary locations, and that included parked trucks miles away from where the old post office was. These were unsafe for the Postal Service workers, and they failed to ensure anything close to reliable service. There was no air-conditioning in the summer months or heat in the fall and no lighting. People literally were using like their iPhones to try to read what the labels were. That is unacceptable.

After a public outcry and demands from Senator SANDERS and me and our congressional colleague, Congresswoman Balint, the UPS moved postal operations to another temporary location. We thought that was progress when the Postal Service signed the new lease downtown in April, and they said it would be open by summer. It is September. The location is still not open,

and, reportedly, little progress has been made.

The capital city of the State of Vermont has not had a functioning post office for over a year. It is not a distinction we value. You know, the Postal Service has an internal benchmark of restoring retail service within 180 days of a natural disaster. They are now 256 days overdue. This failure is real and has very practical impacts on our constituents. Right now, Vermonters who live in Montpelier have to drive 7 miles if they want to buy a stamp or mail a package, and it is obviously very burdensome for our businesses.

The U.S. Postal Service and the Postmaster General, Louis DeJoy—let me be frank. They have really failed to deliver. And it is shocking to me, but we have had instances where Senator SANDERS and I and Congresswoman BALINT have tried to interact with the Postal Service, and he is silent, non-responsive. That is really an insult to the people of Vermont when they need this and can't even get an answer about what is going on.

So this is not your standard, run-of-the-mill management failure of the USPS. No. This is really a dereliction of duty, in my view, by Postmaster General DeJoy. He is choosing not to open a post office—a task his Agency has done thousands of times quickly in their 250-year history.

While the Postal Service may be independent, it is not without oversight. It does not have the authority to disregard the input of the public who so needs the services or congressional representatives, and it does not have the authority to act contrary to its statutory obligations.

I want to close by saying again that I stand ready and willing to work with any of my colleagues to get this disaster relief done. We cannot recover or rebuild without the Federal assistance that all of us in every State that has had a catastrophe, a weather event. We need the help, and we all have to help one another, not only for Vermont but for every community that needs help and will need help in the future.

Madam President, you know we can get this done. We have done it before for our constituents. But the delay is going on too long. It is that simple.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I am here for another reason this evening, but I wanted to concur with Senator WELCH. Obviously, we need more Federal disaster relief, we need reforms in FEMA, and we certainly need a permanent post office in Montpelier, VT. So I want to thank Senator WELCH for his work in that area.

ISRAEL

Madam President, in a few weeks' time, we will mark the 1-year anniversary of the war in the Middle East. It has been almost 1 year since Hamas's horrific terrorist rampage on October

7, which killed 1,200 innocent Israelis and took hundreds of hostages, including Americans. As I have said many times, Israel had an absolute right to defend itself and respond to the Hamas attack.

But, tragically, Prime Minister Netanyahu's extremist government has not simply waged war against Hamas; it has waged all-out war against the Palestinian people. Israel has conducted this war with little regard for innocent civilians, bombing indiscriminately, and severely restricting the humanitarian relief operation needed by desperate people.

After nearly 1 year of this carnage, out of a population of some 2.2 million people, more than 41,000 Palestinians have been killed and nearly 95,000 injured, 60 percent of whom are women, children, or elderly people. Let me repeat—60 percent of whom are women, children, or elderly people.

Netanyahu's policies have trampled on international law, made life unlivable in Gaza, and created one of the worst humanitarian disasters in modern history.

We cannot continue to turn a blind eye to the scale of the suffering caused by this all-out war against the Palestinian people—136,000 casualties, most of whom are civilians. The full toll is likely even higher, with thousands of bodies buried beneath the rubble.

Madam President, 90 percent of Gazans—90 percent of the people in Gaza—have been displaced from their homes, 1.9 million people. Many families have been displaced again and again and again, forced to uproot their lives and pick their way across a war zone with their children and what little they can carry. These are poor people going from place to place amid bombing and total destruction. When these families find, finally, a safe place to seek refuge, perhaps setting up a tent in a so-called safe zone, they are often then forced to evacuate due to renewed Israeli bombing.

Few of these people even have homes to ever return to. More than 60 percent of Gaza's housing has been damaged or destroyed, including 221,000 housing units that have been completely destroyed. Imagine—imagine—going from place to place, knowing that you are never going to be able to return to your home.

Today, as a result of the devastation of housing in Gaza, more than 1 million people are homeless. I would ask my colleagues to try to think for a moment what it means to be carrying your children from place to place in the heat, without food, without water, knowing that your home that you came from has been destroyed. That is what is going on today.

What we are witnessing now is not just the loss of human life, as severe and horrible as that is; Gaza's civilian infrastructure has been devastated, including water and sewage systems. Raw sewage runs through the streets, spreading disease. Clean water is still

in short supply. Most of the roads in Gaza are impassable, torn up by bombing and bulldozers. There is virtually no electricity right now.

But it is not just Gaza's infrastructure. The Netanyahu government has systematically—systematically—and I have talked to doctors about this—devastated the healthcare system in Gaza, knocking 19 hospitals out of service and killing more than 800 healthcare workers. So you have 95,000 people who have been injured, including a lot of children, and you have 19 hospitals that have been knocked out of service.

The World Health Organization has recorded thousands of attacks on healthcare facilities. Not surprisingly, with the collapse of the healthcare system, under the strain, diseases like hepatitis, dysentery, polio, and other infections have taken hold.

Gaza has 12 universities. Every single one of them has been bombed, as have hundreds of schools. Eighty-eight percent of all school buildings in Gaza have been damaged. Every university bombed, 88 percent of all school buildings in Gaza have been damaged, and more than 500 people have been killed while sheltering in U.N. schools.

There are many, many hundreds of thousands of children in Gaza. It is a young—the Palestinian population is by and large young, a lot of children. Virtually none of them have been in school since this war began.

As horrific and unspeakable as all of this is, there is something even worse taking place in Gaza now; and that is, as a result of Israeli restrictions on humanitarian aid, people in Gaza are now starving to death.

Leading experts from the U.N. and other aid organizations estimate that some 495,000 Palestinians—a quarter of the population—face starvation. These groups estimate that more than 50,000 children require treatment now for acute malnutrition and are at risk of starving to death—50,000 kids facing malnutrition.

And I am not a doctor, but I know enough to tell you that will impact these children for the rest of their lives. That is what childhood malnutrition does.

Malnourished women struggle to breastfeed their newborns. Formula is inaccessible; and even when available, it cannot be used without reliable sources of clean water.

According to the U.N. and virtually every humanitarian organization functioning in Gaza, there is one primary reason for this starvation and suffering; and that is that Israel has severely restricted the amount of humanitarian aid, including food, water, and medical supplies that can reach the desperate people of Gaza. This is a clear violation of U.S. and international law—not just immoral, not just outrageous, but a clear violation of U.S. and international law.

Every day—every single day—the bombardment continues—bombing and shelling carried out with U.S.-provided

weaponry, often financed in large part by American taxpayers—U.S. weapons financed by U.S. taxpayers.

In the last year alone, Congress has voted to send more than \$10 billion in American taxpayer dollars to the extremist Israeli government to buy more of the bombs and more of the weapons to wage war against the Palestinian people.

Enough is enough. U.S. complicity in this horrific war must end.

With a group of colleagues, I will soon be introducing a number of joint resolutions of disapproval, which would block some \$20 billion in new arms sales to Israel. Resolutions of disapproval are the only tool Congress has to block arms sales, which are inconsistent with established U.S. and international law. The Senate will vote on these measures.

Let me outline briefly why it is critical that we prevent these sales from going forward. I have laid out the horrible reality of the situation in Gaza. But the sad truth is that much of this carnage has been carried out with U.S.-provided military equipment.

Put simply, providing more offensive weapons to continue this disastrous war would be immoral. It would also be illegal.

These sales directly contradict the stated purpose of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export Control Act. These laws require that U.S. arms transfers to foreign countries must be consistent with internationally recognized human rights, advance U.S. foreign policy interests, and avoid U.S. complicity with any human rights violations. That is the purpose of these laws.

During the August recess, the administration sent to Congress official notices for several sales to Israel that clearly do not meet these criteria. The arms sales total over \$20 billion and include transfers of Joint Direct Attack Munitions, or JDAMs; 120-mm tank rounds; 120-mm high explosive mortar rounds; Medium Tactical Vehicles; and up to 50 new F-15 fighter aircraft, as well as upgrades for some of Israel's current F-15s.

All of these systems have been used in Gaza, causing massive death and suffering to innocent men, women, and children.

The JDAMs and 120-mm tank rounds, in particular, have been used indiscriminately and are responsible for a significant portion of the civilian casualties. Reliable human rights monitors have painstakingly documented numerous specific incidents involving these systems leading to unacceptable civilian death and harm. There is a mountain of documentary evidence regarding this.

Hundreds of eyewitness testimonies, photographs, videos, and satellite imagery all underscore one simple point: These weapons are being used in violation of U.S. and international law.

I have a list here of some of the most egregious incidents involving these

systems. Tragically, the list is too long for me to read here on the floor.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have the list printed in the RECORD.

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

Regarding JDAMs, these incidents include but are not limited to:

On October 10, 2023, an Israeli strike with a U.S. JDAM in Deir al-Balah killed 24, including 7 children.

On October 31, 2023, an Israeli strike with a U.S. JDAM in Deir al-Balah killed 19, including 12 children.

On October 31, 2023, an Israeli strike with U.S. JDAMs in Jabalia killed at least 126 civilians, including 69 children.

On January 18, 2024, an Israeli strike with a U.S. JDAM in al-Mawasi targeted a humanitarian facility.

On March 27, 2024, an Israeli strike with a U.S. JDAM in al-Habariyeh, Lebanon killed 7 healthcare workers.

On July 13, 2024, an Israeli strike with a U.S. JDAM in al-Mawasi killed at least 90 Palestinians—at least half of whom were women and children—and injured at least 300.

Regarding the 120mm tank rounds, these incidents include but are not limited to:

On October 13, 2023, Israeli forces attacked several journalists with 120mm tank ammunition in southern Lebanon, killing Reuters' Issam Abdallah.

On January 29, 2024, Israeli forces used U.S. 120mm tank ammunition in Gaza City in an attack that killed six-year-old Hind Rajab and two paramedics.

On February 20, 2024, Israeli tanks fired upon a Medecins Sans Frontieres guesthouse in Khan Younis, killing two people and injuring six others.

On May 28, the Israeli military used 120mm tank rounds in al-Mawasi in an attack that killed 23 people, including 12 children.

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, the administration's report pursuant to National Security Memorandum 20 concluded that "it is reasonable to assess that defense articles . . . have been used by Israeli security forces since October 7 in instances inconsistent with its . . . [international humanitarian law] obligations or with established best practices for mitigating civilian harm." That is the administration.

The report stated that "high levels of civilian casualties, raise substantial questions as to whether the IDF is using [effective civilian harm mitigation] effectively in all cases." That is the administration.

It is not just the civilian casualties and the violations of international human rights. Other provisions of U.S. law are also applicable. Section 6201 of the Foreign Assistance Act also states that "No assistance shall be furnished . . . to any country when it is made known to the President that the government of such country prohibits or otherwise restricts, directly or indirectly, the transport or delivery of United States humanitarian assistance."

The whole world has witnessed Israel's restriction of humanitarian aid. The U.N. and virtually every humanitarian group says that Israel's re-

strictive policies are the primary cause of the humanitarian catastrophe now taking place in Gaza. The administration says as much, admitting that "Israel did not fully cooperate with United States government efforts and the United States government-supported international efforts to maximize humanitarian assistance flow to and distribution within Gaza." In fact, frankly, that severely understates the reality.

No matter how people here in Washington may try to spin it, the simple fact is that we must end our complicity in Israel's illegal and indiscriminate military campaign, which has caused mass civilian death and suffering.

The law also says that arms sales must advance U.S. foreign policy interests. If we are going to sell arms, they must advance U.S. foreign policy interests.

These transfers, again, fall far short. These sales would reward Netanyahu's extremist government even as it flouts—openly flouts—U.S. policy goals at every turn and, in fact, drags the United States closer to a regional war.

For months, the Biden administration has been trying to reach a cease-fire deal that would secure the release of the hostages and allow massive amounts of humanitarian aid to flow into Gaza. Every time a deal appears close, Netanyahu moves the goalposts, introducing new demands and torpedoing the deal. It is clear to me that Netanyahu is prolonging the war in order to cling to power and avoid prosecution at home for corruption. That is why hundreds of thousands of Israelis routinely take to the streets to protest his policies.

But it is not just his sabotage of a cease-fire for hostage deal. Netanyahu has also overseen record settlement expansion in the West Bank and unleashed a wave of violence there that has killed nearly 700 Palestinians, including 150 children killed over the last 11 months. Because so much focus is on Gaza, we are not paying attention to the disaster taking place in the West Bank.

Americans have also been caught up in this bloodshed. On September 6, Israeli security forces shot a 26-year-old American recent college graduate in the head near an illegal settlement in the West Bank. In January, they shot and killed a 17-year-old American high school senior from Louisiana. In February, they shot and killed another 17-year-old American from Florida. And in October of last year, they nearly killed a constituent of mine from Vermont, Dylan Collins, a journalist for Agence France-Presse, with two tank rounds. Six journalists were wounded in that attack, which killed a Reuters journalist. The group was clearly marked as "press." These are the same tank rounds the administration would provide to Israel in this sale.

Needless to say, there has been no—zero—accountability for these deaths.

And, of course, there has been no accountability for the repeated Israeli settler attacks, enabled by security forces, on Palestinian towns and villages; no meaningful response to the burning of Palestinian homes and businesses—nothing but silence in the face of a concerted rightwing Israeli effort to illegally annex the West Bank.

Yet those are the Netanyahu extremist government policies that these sales would reward. I say that to my colleagues. All of this is going on; and should our response to Mr. Netanyahu say: Keep it up, here are more arms; here are more money?

A government that has caused mass civilian deaths, flouted U.S. and international law, and that is actively undermining key U.S. policy goals in the region should not be receiving more financial aid from America and should not be receiving military weaponry from the United States.

Passing a joint resolution to block these sales will make clear to the Netanyahu government that they cannot continue to ignore the U.S. Government's demands for an immediate cease-fire and the release of the hostages. It will put pressure on its extremist government to change Israel's military approach and avert a regional war. And it may—just may—begin to restore a shred of U.S. credibility abroad.

Passing a joint resolution of disapproval is not only the right thing to do, it is not only the legal and appropriate thing to do, it is also what the American people want us to do. According to a June 5 poll from CBS News, 61 percent of Americans oppose sending weapons and supplies to Israel, including 77 percent of Democrats, 62 percent of Independents, and many Republicans as well. And that poll is consistent with earlier polls.

This is not a new or radical idea. The United States routinely conditions military aid, arms sales, and security cooperation with every other country. This ain't new. We have done it over and over again. And we have done it many times before with Israel. It is not a new idea. It is only in recent years that the idea of leveraging aid to Israel to secure policy changes has become controversial.

President Ronald Reagan, I say to my Republican colleagues, suspended the delivery of F-16 fighter jets to Israel over its raid on the Osirak reactor in Iraq; threatened to suspend military aid to end Israel's bombardment of Beirut; and again threatened to stop military aid to force an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in 1982. That was President Ronald Reagan. President Jimmy Carter similarly leveraged aid to change Israeli policies in Lebanon. In 1991, then-Secretary of State James Baker threatened to withhold \$10 billion in loan guarantees unless Israel stopped settlement expansion.

In other words, using arms sales and military aid as leverage is not a new idea. It has been done under Repub-

lican Presidents and Democratic Presidents.

There is also recent precedent of Congress's acting to stop the indiscriminate bombing of civilians. In 2019, Congress passed a series of JRDs to block arms sales to Saudi Arabia over its bombing campaign in Yemen. At that point, the Saudi coalition was directly responsible for, roughly, 8,000 civilian deaths over 4 years, mostly from airstrikes. Israel has killed 41,000 in less than a year.

Blocking these sales would also be in keeping with actions taken by the international community and some of our closest allies. So what I am suggesting here is not unique in the world. It has taken place all over the world, including with some of our closest allies. There has been widespread condemnation of Israel's conduct during this war from governments around the world, international institutions, and humanitarian organizations.

The United Kingdom recently suspended 30 export licenses for a range of armaments after concluding there was an unacceptable risk they could be used in violation of international humanitarian law. Germany has not approved an offensive weapons transfer since March. Italy, Spain, Canada, Belgium, and the Netherlands have taken similar steps. United Nations bodies have called for an end to the arms shipments fueling the conflict.

We cannot continue to ignore what the extremist Netanyahu government is doing in Gaza. We cannot continue to be complicit in this humanitarian disaster. The time is long overdue for the U.S. Senate to act, and we must act. I hope my colleagues will support this effort on the floor, and my office is ready to answer any questions that Senators may have.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

TRIBUTE TO HENSON WEBRE

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, with me today is one of my colleagues from my office, Mr. Henson Webre, whom I thank for giving so much to our State and our country.

HURRICANE FRANCINE

Madam President, the first topic that I want to touch briefly on today provokes both sorrow and pride.

I am sorry to report that, last week, my people in Louisiana were hit by yet another hurricane, Hurricane Francine. It was a category 2. It was right on the line between a category 1 and a category 2. We had winds of 100 miles an hour. We had 9 to 10 inches of rain. We had a vicious storm surge.

My people did what they always do: They got ready for it. They reacted to the storm with grace and with pressure. My people filled sandbags, and we checked on our neighbors, and we listened to our local officials. We said prayers for our first responders. My people are as tough as a pine knot. They are also compassionate. And we made it through.

Some have said: Well, compared to past hurricanes, Francine was not as bad as some in the past.

And that is true. It could always be worse. But that is cold comfort—cold comfort—for the thousands of Louisianians who sustained damage from that storm surge and those ferocious winds and that rain. And I want to assure my people that, as we have in the past, we will persevere, and we will make it through.

I have never, in my years in the Senate, voted against providing relief for any of our sister States and my fellow Senators who have asked for it and who have been the victims of a natural disaster, and I never will. That is the first role of government. It is to protect people and property. And I will never vote against aid for one of our sister States that, through no fault of its own, is struck by nature.

I say that because I will be asking the American people to help Louisiana one more time. We won't ask for a penny more than we need. The help that I will seek will be in the form of personal assistance in housing, for example; infrastructure assistance; and mitigation grants.

I want to thank President Biden and Governor Landry, with whom I toured by helicopter the damage last week. Governor Landry asked for a disaster declaration from the President, and President Biden was quick to agree. I want to thank him for that. I want to thank our FEMA Administrator, Ms. Deanne Criswell. She came to Louisiana immediately after the storm passed through, and I want to thank our Administrator for being on the ground and her personal touch.

One of the things I talked to the Administrator about is, as you know, FEMA has implemented a new flood insurance premium program called Risk Rating 2.0, which is breaking the backs of every insured in the Flood Insurance Program. Premiums have gone through the roof. I can assure you that the damages would have been much worse with respect to Francine had it not been for the investment that the American taxpayer and the taxpayers of Louisiana have made in new flood protection systems and new levees. And with that money that we have spent—including but not limited to the money by Louisiana citizens, who taxed themselves to build these levees—our people should be given credit on their flood insurance premiums for that investment they have made.

All you have to do is take Terrebonne Parish as an example. In Louisiana, we call our counties "parishes." Terrebonne Parish, at the southern part of my State, has spent over \$1 billion of their money—and we are not a wealthy State. My people in Terrebonne taxed themselves to help build a levee system called the Morganza to the Gulf levee system, which will mitigate the damages from this last storm.

Had it not been for the levee that my people taxed themselves to build—and,

look, I don't want to be unfair. The Corps of Engineers and the American taxpayer helped us, too, but we did our fair share. Had it not been for those levees that my people contributed to, the damages would have been billions and billions and billions of dollars just from the storm surge in South Louisiana, for a category 2 storm that moved through quickly. And that investment by taxpayers should be reflected in the flood insurance premiums, and they should go down.

INFLATION

Madam President, topic No. 2: This is not a news flash. Americans are struggling to pay their bills. The reason, of course, is inflation. The inflation that the American people—and let me strike that. I don't want to call it inflation. Let me call it what it is—those high prices. Those high prices were made in Washington, and they are a cancer on the American dream. As a result of the high prices, people are struggling to pay their bills.

I was looking at a report this week—and I know the Presiding Officer feels this in her State. People are having to borrow money to pay their bills, and they are having to borrow money on their credit cards. I don't need to tell the Presiding Officer that the interest on credit cards has gone up dramatically as a result of inflation. The interest on the credit card is not like going to your bank where credit is tight. Because of inflation, the interest rates on those credit cards has gone through the roof. The credit card interest rate in March was 21.51 percent. Back in 2019, it was 15 percent. Delinquent payments on credit cards are also through the roof—9.1 percent—the highest in a decade. Credit card balances are higher too.

Auto loans: The average interest rate on a 60-month new car loan was 8.2 percent last May. That is up from 5.3 percent in 2019. And delinquency rates on auto loans are the highest they have been in 10 years.

If you look at consumer debt, last year, it hit \$17 trillion—not billion, not trillion—\$17 trillion. It hit that number last year for the first time. Inflation-adjusted debt is at its highest level since 2009.

Now, I know some folks who are thinking, yes, but inflation has come down. Yes, it has, and I want to thank the Federal Reserve for that because they had to do it alone. They sure didn't get help from Congress.

But what does that mean? When inflation comes down, that is called disinflation. What does that mean? When inflation comes down, that just means prices are not rising as quickly as they were. That is all a reduction in inflation means. Prices are still going up, but they are not going up as quickly as they were. That is called disinflation. But prices are not going down. If prices were to go down, that would be called deflation. That would be called deflation.

As Federal Reserve Chair Powell and Treasury Secretary Yellen have both

testified in front of the Banking Committee—and I hate to say this—unless we do something, these high prices are permanent. They are permanent.

Now, there are only two ways to reduce these prices. One is to go into a recession. China is in a recession. Prices in China are going down. It is too big of a price to pay. I don't want us to go into a recession. People would lose their jobs in order to get prices down.

The only other alternative is to grow out of the inflation—to lift people up; to increase wages at the low end of the wage scale, at the middle, and at the upper end of the wage scale—to help everybody. Five thousand years of human history has taught us that you cannot increase wealth, you cannot increase individuals' incomes—it can't be done—without increasing output.

So we in the Senate are going to have to put our heads together and figure out how to grow this economy, not at 1½ percent, not at 2 percent, which has become the norm. We break 2 percent GDP growth now, and we want to have a toga party. We shouldn't settle for 2 percent. We need 3 percent growth to lift everybody up.

TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE FOSTER

Madam President, the final point: We are losing—not America; we in the Senate are losing—one of our best and brightest. She is sitting right down here. Her name is Katherine Foster.

Katherine grew up in Missouri. She went to the University of Mississippi 2008 to 2012. You will notice Katherine finished in 4 years. She didn't hang around for 6 or 7 years and string it out. She got busy. She graduated.

She started as a Senate page. She has worked as a staffer for a number of Missouri Members of Congress, including Senator Kit Bond. Her first full-time job was with Senator Roy Blunt. Then, in 2015, Katherine moved to the cloakroom.

A lot of members of the public can't see the work that our cloakroom staff does, on both sides. Democrats and Republicans have a cloakroom staff. They make this place run. They keep us on time. They help us interpret the rules.

How can I put this, the Senate rules are written like somebody who has lived in outer space most of their lives. OK? They make no sense. We should fix them, but that is a topic for another day. The point is, the rules are the rules, and we depend on our cloakroom staff to interpret them for us. We depend on people like Katherine Foster.

Katherine is smart. She is a good mama. She is a good spouse. She is steady. She never panics. She is very pleasant. She puts up with a lot. She is headed into the private sector, and we wish her well. I hope she makes bucketloads, truckloads, full of money. And I hope she has better hours than she has in the U.S. Senate.

This is her last week, folks. And when I count my blessings, I count the members of our cloakroom staff, on both sides—Democrat and Republican—

and I especially count Katherine Foster twice.

So thank you, Katherine, for your extraordinary work and for giving so much to the U.S. Senate and for giving so much to your country.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I have come here periodically to speak about issues with the National Flood Insurance Program. I will today, but first I am going to talk about resiliency, environmental resiliency in particular. I am going to talk about acts of heroism; I am going to talk about North Carolina and South Carolina; and then I am going to end up with the National Flood Insurance Program.

Let's talk about resiliency. Hurricane Francine just hit my State, and where the Federal Government, State and local governments have invested and completed that investment in building resiliency, we did well. Our country did well.

From the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act by itself, \$367 million has come to build flood control structures, and where those structures have been completed, they did not flood.

It reminded me of a couple of years ago when Hurricane Ida made a direct hit on New Orleans. I was with a mayor and a local elected official. We looked at each other, and one of them said: The ground is dry. Contrasting with Katrina when the levees failed and the whole city flooded, the mayor was making the point the ground is dry.

We can build resiliency. That is important for my State. It is important for your State, Madam President. It is important for our country. Wherever there is a threat of environmental disaster, with wise planning and public investment, we can build resiliency. That is the good news, and we saw that from Hurricane Francine.

But every now and then, there is still a need for heroism. So I would like to give just some recognition to some folks in my State who did some really positive things.

Folks from Louisiana have seen the story, heard the story of a guy named Miles Crawford, a nurse in New Orleans. In the middle of the storm, he gets a text from his brother. Someone had driven into the water and was sinking beneath the bridge. So the truck goes in, and then the truck begins to sink. Miles goes out there. It is on the TV. Somebody videoed it. He walks out there. I don't know how he broke the window, but he breaks the window, and the front is going down, but the person trapped inside comes out the back.

I say that because whenever we invest, there is always going to be something that slips through. And I want to give a shout-out to a fellow American who, in an act of heroism—by the way, there were firefighters down in what we call the bayou section. There were the utility linemen who went out after

the storm and quickly put the electricity back up.

But the point is that as much as we invest, still, we can look to individual Americans doing incredibly positive things for the sake of their fellow Americans. And I just want to give a shout-out to that. That will kind of lead into what I speak of in the National Flood Insurance Program.

By the way, it is not just Miles in Lafourche Parish. The sheriff's department saved a total of 26 people from rising waters. They got calls. They went out. They rescued. Heroism almost becomes routine.

Now, I am speaking of my State. It is easy to say: Oh, Louisiana floods. But let me talk about who else floods. The Carolinas have just had a rain event.

By the way, I mentioned Lafourche Parish, but this is Morgan City. So it was through our region that you see we had rain, but they were able to address it.

Now, this is Cherry Grove, SC. So rain events occur throughout our Nation.

I remember doing a reform for the National Flood Insurance Program when I was in the House of Representatives, and the Representative from New Mexico suddenly got on my bill. I said: Hey, man, what is happening?

He goes: We just had a rain event in our mountain and we had a gully washer and it flooded people in the gully.

There was a similar incident from Colorado. So this can be not just on a coastal plain, but it can also be in a riverine system, where there is a sudden gush of water, for whatever reason, and those who are in the valley of the river or the gully also flood.

Now, this is South Carolina. And I am using this to make the point that, one, you can build resiliency. As much as you build it, we still need people helping people.

And, by the way, this is not limited to Louisiana; it is across our Nation. And this picture just gives us the opportunity to make the point that this recent rain event—September 15, 2024, in the Carolinas—is something which is across our Nation, which brings me to the National Flood Insurance Program.

You know, we speak of building resiliency, but, still, we see either the resiliency has not been built or, for whatever other circumstance, there is still flooding. We see that we have these acts of heroism in which individuals help individuals. And, man, that is what makes America great.

We see that this is not just in Louisiana, but it is across our country. That is how we get to how fellow Americans help fellow Americans, not just by our brave firefighter, sheriff, or a nurse doing something at the moment but by wise public policy.

The wise public policy, as we have mentioned, is building resiliency, but it is also doing things like strengthening the National Flood Insurance Program to make it affordable, to make it accountable, and to make it sustainable. That should be our goal.

The National Flood Insurance Program was created for a moment like this. The water is beginning to recede, but you can see water is in here now. Those folks are going to have to pick up the pieces. It was an event that was unexpected. They are flooding, and now they need help from their fellow Americans. They purchased insurance. They have done their part. But we need wise public policy to make sure that that flood insurance is affordable when the high water comes.

The National Flood Insurance Program covers about 4.7 million Americans across our country. It enables people to rebuild when a flood destroys their home or just kind of washes out their belongings.

There are two challenges that we have in Congress regarding this program. We have to reauthorize it so it doesn't expire on September 30. My colleague Senator JOHN KENNEDY is sponsoring that straight-up reauthorization. That straight-up reauthorization is important for at least maintaining that minimum of coverage. But we also have to make it affordable again. Right now, it is unaffordable. It is unaffordable when it doesn't have to be unaffordable.

At the heart of the problem is something called Risk Rating 2.0. And Risk Rating 2.0 is a way in which FEMA is adjusting premiums, not to make sure that they are still affordable but to, basically, pay back a \$20 billion debt that was accumulated after Hurricane Katrina and there were so many claims upon the system.

People in Louisiana consider that a little bit unjust. It was decided by a Federal judge that those levees failed in New Orleans because of a faulty design by the Army Corps of Engineers. But they failed. There are lots of claims, and now premiums are rising in an attempt to pay back that debt.

Now, as those premiums have increased, they have become too expensive for some who dropped their coverage because the premium is too expensive. But when the people who are least likely to flood drop their coverage, the risk is concentrated on fewer, which means the premium rises even more, premiums go even higher, and a few more drop off.

If we don't work to make this program affordable, it will enter what is called an actuarial death spiral where fewer and fewer are insured, the risk is concentrated on the remaining—which they cannot afford—and the program falls apart. And this street is out of luck in Cherry Grove, SC, or perhaps in Lafourche Parish, LA, or perhaps even in a place in Nevada, where the Presiding Officer is from.

Forty-four States have had over \$50 million in NFIP claims. Multiple States have had over \$1 billion in NFIP claims since 1978. This is not just a local issue; this is a national issue.

And so my message to colleagues who represent—here you see it. Greater than \$1 billion is the dark. Greater

than \$50 million is the in-between color between the light—notably, again, the Presiding Officer is from Nevada, which you think of as being a relatively arid State, but they have had over \$50 million worth of claims in their State. But these have had over \$1 billion.

So I am just asking colleagues to recognize that just as a firefighter, as a nurse, as a sheriff helps a neighbor in the middle of a trying time, the National Flood Insurance Program is a way that Americans help fellow Americans after a trying time. And wherever you see a color here, there are fellow Americans who have been helped by this program.

We are 12 days away from the September 30 expiration date. I would ask that we reauthorize and reform the National Flood Insurance Program before the opportunity has passed. Reauthorizing gives us time we need to find the right solution. We can reauthorize before the end of the year and find the right solution. It may be this Congress, it may be next Congress, but it is something that we must do. It must be bipartisan. It must reflect the interests of States across the Nation. But it is something that is the epitome of Americans helping fellow Americans.

I look forward to fellow Members and their staff speaking to my staff and I about this. Let's solve this problem.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). The Senator from Alaska.

(The remarks of Ms. MURKOWSKI pertaining to the introduction of S. 5081 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

TRIBUTE TO TRIMBLE GILBERT

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I would like to acknowledge for the record an individual who is being recognized as we speak over at the Library of Congress. This is Rev. Dr. Trimble Gilbert. He is 1 of 10 honorees who have been named National Heritage Fellows by the National Endowment for the Arts.

This is an extraordinarily high honor. It is one of the Nation's highest honors in the folk and traditional arts, recognizing artistic excellence, supporting contributions to traditional arts heritage.

I had an opportunity in January to travel to Anaktuvuk Pass, where Dr. Gilbert calls home, and to be able to surprise him with the news that he was getting this recognition and would receive this honor. At that time, we didn't have a date. He has now flown from Alaska to be here as part of, again, an extraordinary tribute.

This is a Native leader, an elder who is a master Gwich'in fiddler and a highly esteemed culture bearer. What he brings to the conversation in the arts is deeply cultural, deeply spiritual, and with an intellectual knowledge that is so extensive, you are just humbled to be in the man's presence.

As was stated in a local newspaper today, "His life is a walking testament

to the cultural values, practices, traditions, and knowledge of the Gwich'in people."

So I am proud to be able to acknowledge the fine work of Rev. Dr. Trimble Gilbert of Arctic Village—I said Anaktuvuk; it is Arctic Village—and also to be able to offer him my personal congratulations this evening.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

REMEMBERING JOANNE L. CICCHELLI

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, there are some people in the world who can be captured by a single word. For JoAnne L. Cicchelli, who passed away in August, that word is joy. JoAnne lived her life in search of finding joy for herself and creating it for others.

JoAnne was born in Monroe, MI, and her childhood was filled with love, laughter, and learning. She attended Monroe High School and went on to attend Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI—an affiliation she was proud to display to the world, as evidenced by the Spartan green helmet bumper sticker that adorned her car. At Michigan State, JoAnne discovered the joy of education. She attended college during the 1960s, a time when young people all across the Nation were becoming increasingly politically active. JoAnne's college years, like those of many college students, were a time of discovery and exploration, engaging new ideas, people, and points of view. She developed an earnest desire to know more about the world around her, a desire she would carry with her for the rest of her life.

Life would lead JoAnne to Illinois—which eventually became home—and where she discovered the joy of teaching. In her early career, she served as an educator, teaching fifth grade and then high school history. She would come back to the field of education years later, when she would join Prime-Time School Television, a non-profit organization that connected teachers, families, and public television. I can only imagine how passionate, dedicated, and enthusiastic a teacher she must have been. Her students were lucky to learn from her. Understanding the importance of local education policy, she was also deeply involved in the community of Frances W. Parker School, a school in Lincoln Park, IL, where her daughters, granddaughters, and nephews all attended.

She also served on the board of Christopher House, a social service agency supporting families from birth through high school. After JoAnne played a pivotal role in helping them launch their middle school, they named it in her honor. In October 2018, I was fortunate enough to attend the groundbreaking of JoAnne L. Cicchelli Middle School, which now stands as a fitting tribute to JoAnne's dedication to education, learning, and children.

Anyone who knew JoAnne also knew she was deeply passionate about politics. She first entered the political realm following the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago. She started as a precinct worker during mayoral campaigns, became a strategist, and ultimately served as the office manager for 43rd Ward Alderman Edwin Eisendrath. She loved Chicago and all who call the city home.

As an intellectual force, JoAnne could keep up with the best of them, but not everyone could keep up with her. JoAnne met her match in the early 1980s when she met former Chicago alderman, my friend William "Bill" Singer. They bonded over shared interests: politics, art, travel, and food, and in 1995, JoAnne and Bill were married in Florence, Italy. Their support and love for one another formed the foundation of their love for others.

But more than anything, JoAnne had a gift of connecting with people, making everyone she came across feel heard and valued. Whenever she would enter a store or sit down at a restaurant, she would immediately ask the saleswoman or server for their thoughts on the latest news, what was going on in Chicago, or politics. But these were not empty questions to fill moments of silence. She cared to hear what they had to say because she believed that every person had a role to play in making the world a better place. She longed to connect and find the joy in others.

JoAnne had a profound appreciation for beauty. In between discussions of how to expand access to education to more children or confront the issues of the day, she found herself most at home tending to her garden, deriving joy from the beauty of the natural world.

Loretta and I were lucky to have called JoAnne our treasured friend. To her husband Bill; her two daughters Elizabeth and Katherine; her three grandchildren Grace, Eleanor, and Beatrice; and to all of her family and friends who are also mourning this tremendous loss, we extend our sincerest sympathies. JoAnne was a light that brightened the lives of all of those in her orbit, and the world feels a little less luminous without her. We will miss her dearly.

TULE RIVER TRIBE RESERVED WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2023

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today, as ranking member of the Budget

et Committee, I placed a hold on S. 306, the Tule River Tribe Reserved Water Rights Settlement Act of 2023.

Although I don't find fault with the substance of the bill, the legislation is not paid for and would violate multiple budget enforcement rules. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the bill would increase the deficit by \$804 million.

REMEMBERING JUAN LOPEZ

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, over the past 6 years, my office, and the office of my predecessor Senator Leahy, have received reports of recurring threats, attacks, arbitrary arrests, and assassinations of members of the Guapinol, Tocoa, and other communities in the Bajo Aguan region of Honduras. Those crimes were intended to intimidate and silence those who opposed an open-pit iron oxide mine and the Ecotek Thermoelectric Project which threaten their livelihoods and the region's environment and who challenged the companies and corrupt officials who profit from those projects.

Then on Saturday, September 14, I learned of the murder of Honduran environmental activist Juan Lopez, the latest victim of this epidemic of vigilante violence. Mr. Lopez, a winner of the Letelier-Moffitt Human Rights Award in 2019, had been a victim of wrongful imprisonment, false prosecution, and had spoken out against corrupt officials in Tocoa.

This outrageous crime struck a nerve for me because Mr. Lopez's murder was the latest in a pattern of similar killings. There have been six other assassinations of members of the Guapinol water defenders. No one has been prosecuted or punished for those crimes or for the murders of scores of other environmental and human rights defenders in Honduras.

Juan Lopez, like Berta Caceres—whose murder in 2016 was linked to officers of the company responsible for the hydroelectric project she and others in her indigenous community opposed—was a person of integrity. Both were courageous defenders of the environment and their communities, threatened by powerful interests supported by the corrupt Honduran Government of former Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez who, throughout that period and until his arrest and conviction for drug trafficking, was supported by the United States.

Mr. Lopez was killed after the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) issued precautionary measures in October 2023. The issuance of an IACHR protective measure is a mechanism to insist that the Honduran Government protect individuals who are at severe and urgent risk of irreparable harm to their rights to life and safety. But the Honduran Government failed to implement effective protective measures on behalf of these communities or their advocates like Mr. Lopez.

Such measures, if not enforced, are no better than the paper they are printed on. And that is the reality in Honduras, where people like Juan Lopez have had no one and nothing to protect them.

Instead, it is the victims, the activists, who are arbitrarily arrested and imprisoned, accused of crimes which in reality amount to nothing more than peacefully defending their land and their right to a healthy environment. Some have languished in pre-trial detention for years, for simply protesting a mine that has polluted the water source of thousands of people.

Honduras is currently a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council. Members of the council have a responsibility to uphold human rights standards. That has been a criterion of membership since the council was established in 2006. Yet the human rights of people like Juan Lopez and the other Guapinol water defenders are routinely violated with impunity.

My thoughts and condolences are with Mr. Lopez's family and with the other families in the Bajo Aguan communities. In response to this pattern of violence and the assassination of Mr. Lopez last Saturday, I believe that, at a minimum, three things need to be done, beginning immediately, and I urge the U.S. Ambassador to Honduras to insist on them as well: an international commission of experts to support the Honduran prosecutor's investigation of the murder of Juan Lopez, to ensure the investigation is credible, thorough, and impartial; protection for human rights defenders at risk in the Bajo Aguan region; and investigations of the abuses and corruption denounced by Juan Lopez and the pattern of violence against the Guapinol defenders.

The threats, false arrests, wrongful imprisonment, murder, and impunity in the Bajo Aguan have been tolerated—and in effect tacitly and even actively encouraged—by Honduran officials for far too long. It has also received far too little attention from the United States and other governments that have put the interests of foreign investors above those of the impoverished people who live in that troubled region. I hope that Juan Lopez's death will not only be answered by holding accountable those responsible, but that it will also mark the beginning of real change in the Bajo Aguan. The people of those communities should not have to live in fear that powerful companies and corrupt officials will steal their land, pollute their rivers, and murder them for peacefully defending the natural resources that are rightfully theirs.

TRIBUTE TO GILLIE HOPKINS

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, today I celebrate Rachel Gilbert Hopkins, a dedicated Vermonter who has worked to improve our State's adoption system and connect children to a loving family.

Vermont's team within the Department for Children and Families, Family Services Division (FSD) is critically important and does life-changing work every day for children in need. Rachel Gilbert Hopkins, or "Gillie" as she is known by all, has made an incredible impact. As codirector of Project Family, a partnership between Lund and DCF, Gillie has overseen the completion of more than 2,260 adoptions, advancing child welfare and permanency in our State and changing the lives of children and families.

For this reason alone, she is an excellent nominee for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute's Angels in Adoption honor. But it is also Gillie's far-reaching impact beyond adoption and permanency that has inspired this honor, and at the recommendation of her friends and peers who have witnessed her dedication, I submit her name and this honor to the RECORD today.

As her peers say, Gillie has an "unwavering commitment to prioritizing the best interests of every child." She conducts trainings to empower her colleagues with the tools to advocate for children. She also works with the regional offices and the judiciary to address the barriers to permanency, using research to establish procedures that cultivate efficiency and smoother processes. Gillie has created inclusive spaces, groups, and supportive environments for people to live authentically and has worked on actions that enhance adoption competence among FSD staff.

Gillie Hopkins is champion for children, families, and Vermont communities and is well-deserving of the Angels in Adoption honor because of her extraordinary work and dedicated commitment to our State.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO HOPE PORTER AND MARIE RIDDER

• Mr. Kaine. Mr. President, I rise to recognize two champions of Virginia's outdoors, Hope Porter and Marie Ridder, as they both celebrate 100th birthdays in the coming months. I offer these comments with the support of my colleague Senator MARK WARNER.

Hope Porter's activism and advocacy for open space dates back to the 1940s living in Fauquier County, VA. Hope had the foresight to see that the post-war boom in growth and automobile travel would require new safeguards to ensure that growth was sustainable and would not erase what makes Virginia's historic Piedmont region a special place. Through leading a series of campaigns over many years, she helped pioneer land preservation tools that are known across America today, from zoning to comprehensive land-use planning to private conservation easements. Another legacy is an open space advocacy group, the Piedmont Envi-

ronmental Council, which she helped found and which for over 40 years has scrutinized proposed commercial ventures and asked tough questions while protecting hundreds of thousands of acres of Piedmont lands under conservation easement. Hope's love for Virginia's outdoors extends to her own land. She has protected 47 acres of Wildcat Mountain, a 200-acre farm near Marshall, and the farmland where she currently lives. Hope continues to follow Fauquier County government and shares her wisdom with a variety of current and aspiring leaders.

Marie Ridder has been a one-woman force of nature on behalf of the outdoors in Virginia and beyond. She chaired the Virginia State Parks Commission and Virginia Council on Environment and served as vice chair of the Landmarks Commission of the U.S. Department of the Interior. She was instrumental in the growth of organizations like the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, Piedmont Environmental Council, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Lands, and the American Farmland Trust. Her individual investments and land donations have literally shaped the landscape of Virginia, protecting countless farms and viewsheds and historic properties through conservation easements. She has influenced Presidents, Governors, and international leaders. She has given of her own time and resources and spearheaded efforts to mobilize other resources to protect open space. Any person walking or bird flying through the Virginia Piedmont has Marie to thank for the natural landscape they encounter.

I will join Hope and Marie, together with their families and friends, as the Piedmont Environmental Council celebrates their leadership this Saturday, September 21. We will also celebrate that Hope and Marie have been friends for 70 years.

As Senators and Governors, MARK WARNER and I have supported preserving Virginia's open space for future generations to enjoy. Whenever we close the deal on a particularly beautiful parcel, we get to make a speech, cut a ribbon, bask in the applause. But those moments don't happen without years of effort and persistence from people like Hope and Marie—and the organizations they have founded and the dollars and hours they have put in over many decades. I wish Hope Porter and Marie Ridder a very happy birthday and celebrate their life achievements that will be felt in Virginia for 100 more years and beyond.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages

from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13224 OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2001, WITH RESPECT TO WHO COMMIT, THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT TERRORISM—PM 62

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, as amended, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2024.

The crisis constituted by the grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, in New York and Pennsylvania and against the Pentagon, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. This crisis continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224, as amended, with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, September 18, 2024.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, an-

nounced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 7208. An act to reauthorize the Traumatic Brain Injury program.

At 2:25 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 265. An act to reauthorize the rural emergency medical service training and equipment assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 1648. An act to facilitate access to the electromagnetic spectrum for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries, and for other purposes.

S. 2825. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam.

S. 2861. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Billie Jean King, an American icon, in recognition of a remarkable life devoted to championing equal rights for all, in sports and in society.

S. 4351. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain poison control programs.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1432. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to certain organization for members of the Armed Forces.

H.R. 2911. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to periodically review the automatic maximum coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program and the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3784. An act to amend title VII of the Social Security Act to provide for a single point of contact at the Social Security Administration for individuals who are victims of identity theft.

H.R. 3800. An act to codify Internal Revenue Service guidance relating to treatment of certain services and items for chronic conditions as meeting the preventive care deductible safe harbor for purposes of high deductible health plans in connection with health savings accounts.

H.R. 4190. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to repay the estates of deceased beneficiaries for certain benefits paid by the Secretary and misused by fiduciaries of such beneficiaries.

H.R. 4424. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to study and report on the prevalence of cholangiocarcinoma in veterans who served in the Vietnam theater of operations during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4758. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines, and to prevent the use of abusive spread pricing in Medicaid.

H.R. 5464. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Guntersville, Alabama, as the "Colonel Ola Lee Mize Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic".

H.R. 5861. An act to extend reemployment services and eligibility assessments to all

claimants for unemployment benefits, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6033. An act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a task force to improve access to health care information technology for non-English speakers.

H.R. 6324. An act to authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2024, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7100. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the organization of the Office of Survivors Assistance of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

H.R. 7342. An act to establish the Veterans Advisory Committee on Equal Access, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7438. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the FIFA World Cup 2026, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7777. An act to increase, effective as of December 1, 2024, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7816. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center for an assessment of notice letters that the Secretary sends to claimants for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8292. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase penalties for unauthorized disclosure of taxpayer information.

At 2:59 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6160. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a lifespan respite care program.

H.R. 7218. An act to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to extend the program for promotion of public health knowledge and awareness of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7406. An act 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.

H.R. 7858. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare incident to modifier for mental health services furnished through telehealth and other telehealth services.

H.R. 8084. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require States to verify certain eligibility criteria for individuals enrolled for medical assistance quarterly, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8089. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require certain additional provider screening under the Medicaid program.

H.R. 8111. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure the reliability of address information provided under the Medicaid program.

H.R. 8112. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to further require certain additional provider screening under the Medicaid program.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3784. An act to amend title VII of the Social Security Act to provide for a single point of contact at the Social Security Administration for individuals who are victims of identity theft; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 3800. An act to codify Internal Revenue Service guidance relating to treatment of certain services and items for chronic conditions as meeting the preventive care deductible safe harbor for purposes of high deductible health plans in connection with health savings accounts; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 4758. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines, and to prevent the use of abusive spread pricing in Medicaid to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 5861. An act to extend reemployment services and eligibility assessments to all claimants for unemployment benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 6033. An act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a task force to improve access to health care information technology for non-English speakers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 6160. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a lifespan respite care program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 7406. An act 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; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 7438. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the FIFA World Cup 2026, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 7858. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare incident to modifier for mental health services furnished through telehealth and other telehealth services; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 8084. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require States to verify certain eligibility criteria for individuals enrolled for medical assistance quarterly, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 8089. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require certain additional provider screening under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 8111. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure the reliability of address information provided under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 8112. An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to further require certain additional provider screening under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Finance.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 7208. An act to reauthorize the Traumatic Brain Injury program.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5899. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4128" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31563)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5900. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4127" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31562)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5901. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4125" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31559)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5902. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4126" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31560)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5903. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22788" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-1286)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5904. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22787" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-1001)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5905. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment

39-22779" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-0231)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5906. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-22820" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-2017)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5907. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22782" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-1009)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5908. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22781" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-1006)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5909. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes; Amendment 39-22780" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-0999)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5910. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes; Amendment 39-22783" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-1008)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5911. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Yabara Industria Aeronautica S.A.; Embraer S.A.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22789" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-0772)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5912. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Inc. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bell Helicopter Textron Inc.) Helicopters; Amendment 39-22807" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-2010)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5913. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Air Tractor, Inc. Airplanes; Amendment 39–22812” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2024–2013)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5914. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes T–328 in the Vicinity of Deer Park, Washington” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–2086)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5915. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T–399 in the Vicinity of Clear, AK” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–0438)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5916. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Jet Route J–133 and Establishment of Area Navigation Route Q–801 in the Vicinity of Anchorage, AK” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2023–1957)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5917. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Alaskan Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range Federal Airway V–477 in the Vicinity of Ambler, AK” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–0697)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5918. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of Class E Airspace; Akiachak Airport, AK” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–1076)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5919. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of Class E Airspace; Utopia, TX” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–0732)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5920. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airspace Designations; Incorporation by Reference” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–2061)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5921. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of Multiple United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Eastern United States” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–0144)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5922. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of Class E Airspace; White Sulphur Springs Airport, White Sulphur Springs, MT” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–1265)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5923. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Jet Route J–183, United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes Q–4 and T–254, and Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal Airways V–76, V–161, V–565, and V–568; Establishment of RNAV Route T–499; and Revocation of VOR Federal Airway V–558 in the Vicinity of Llano, TX” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–0485)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5924. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modification of Class E Airspace; Bishop Airport, Bishop, CA” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2023–2422)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5925. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Jet Route J–211 and Revocation of VOR Federal Airway V–41; Youngstown, OH” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2023–2513)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5926. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revocation of Class E Airspace; Manchester, NH” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–1361)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5927. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D Airspace; Fort Liberty, NC” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–0383)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5928. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route Q–109; Eastern United States” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–1850)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5929. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Reidsville, NC” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–0319)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5930. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment and Amendment of Multiple United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; and Revocation of RNAV Route T–204; Eastern United States” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–0157)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5931. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route Q–108 and Revocation of RNAV Route Q–104; Eastern United States” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2023–2502)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5932. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Cincinnati, OH” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–0542)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5933. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modernization of Passenger Information Requirements Relating to ‘No Smoking’ Sign Illumination” ((RIN2120-AM00) (Docket No. FAA–2024–2052)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5934. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amdt. No. 580” (Docket No. 31561) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5935. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modification of Class E Airspace; Yerington Municipal Airport, Yerington, NV; Correction” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2024–0635)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5936. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “System Safety Assessments” ((RIN2120-AJ99) (Docket No. FAA–2022–1544)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 10, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5937. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to

section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Israel in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-100); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3036. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Utah certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-224).

By Mr. SCHATZ, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with amendments:

S. 616. A bill to amend the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act to provide for the transfer of additional Federal land to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-225).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 5077. A bill to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to improve Government service delivery, and build related capacity for the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 5078. A bill to establish an independent entity within the Department of Housing and Urban Development to acquire and maintain distressed real estate to stabilize communities and increase the supply of affordable housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 5079. A bill to provide for special enforcement provisions with respect to COVID-related employee retention credit claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 5080. A bill to amend title 39 of the United States Code to require the Postmaster General to be appointed by the President, subject to Senate confirmation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 5081. A bill to amend the Arctic Research Policy Act of 1984 to improve the Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. SCHMITT):

S. 5082. A bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 5083. A bill to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to extend the Every Kid Outdoors program; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 5084. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to ban foods with contaminants above safe levels in or on final products served in school meals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. HELMY:

S. 5085. A bill to condemn convicted felon, Joanne Chesimard, who is also known as Assata Shakur, and those celebrating her violent actions against New Jersey law enforcement members, to call for her immediate extradition or return to the United States from Cuba, where Ms. Chesimard is receiving safe haven to the United States to escape prosecution or confinement for criminal offenses committed in the United States, and to officially honor and commemorate the New Jersey law enforcement members killed and affected by her violent acts; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 5086. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to have an independent advocate for campus sexual assault prevention and response; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FETTERMAN (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 5087. A bill to amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 to promote the establishment of tenant organizations and provide additional amounts for tenant organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 5088. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to submit to Congress a report on the entrepreneurial challenges facing entrepreneurs with a disability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. KAINE):

S. 5089. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to the maritime militia of the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN:

S. 5090. A bill to make the Union Station Redevelopment Corporation eligible to receive certain grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 5091. A bill to provide for the basic needs of students at institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 5092. A bill to amend the Northern Border Security Review Act to require updates to the northern border threat analysis and northern border strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 5093. A bill to sunset the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 5094. A bill to amend the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to provide additional agricultural products for distribution by emergency feeding organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CARDIN:

S. 5095. A bill to counter efforts to recognize or normalize relations with any Government of Syria that is led by Bashar al-Assad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 5096. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to instruct the United States Executive Directors at the international financial institutions to advocate opposition to projects that make use of forced labor; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 5097. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration project to improve outpatient clinical care for individuals with sickle cell disease; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 5098. A bill to require certain agencies to develop plans for internal control in the event of an emergency or crisis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MURPHY, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 5099. A bill to prescribe requirements relating to the management of the Federal property commonly known as Plum Island, New York, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 5100. A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to prohibit political election or contest agreements, contracts, transactions, and swaps; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 5101. A bill to amend the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 with respect to assessments of conservation programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 5102. A bill to require annual reports on counter illicit cross-border tunnel operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. LUJAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 824. A resolution recognizing September 20, 2024, as "National LGBTQ+ Veterans Day"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. Res. 825. A resolution recognizing the significance of equal pay and the pay disparity between disabled women and both disabled and nondisabled men; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. Res. 826. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of September 16 through September 20, 2024, as “Malnutrition Awareness Week”; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself and Mr. KELLY):

S. Res. 827. A resolution designating the week of September 15 through September 21, 2024, as “National Truck Driver Appreciation Week”; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HELMY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KANE, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 828. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that every person has the basic right to emergency health care, including abortion care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 829. A resolution designating October 8, 2024, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 91

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 592

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 592, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the mileage rate offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs through their Beneficiary Travel program for health related travel, and for other purposes.

S. 633

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 633, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Everett Alvarez, Jr., in recognition of his service to the United States.

S. 652

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island

(Mr. WHITEHOUSE) 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. 677

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 677, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to certain organizations for members of the Armed Forces.

S. 711

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

S. 740

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 740, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reinstate criminal penalties for persons charging veterans unauthorized fees relating to claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1047

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1047, a bill to provide that the Federal Communications Commission may not prevent a State or Federal correctional facility from utilizing jamming equipment, and for other purposes.

S. 1350

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1350, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to issue regulations requiring certain products to have “Do Not Flush” labeling, and for other purposes.

S. 1588

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1588, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to direct the forgiveness or offset of an overpayment of retired pay paid to a joint account for a period after the death of the retired member of the Armed Forces.

S. 1957

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1957, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to allow schools that participate in the school lunch program to serve whole milk, and for other purposes.

S. 2695

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2695, a bill to amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, and for other purposes.

S. 2757

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) 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. 3197

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 3197, a bill to establish and authorize funding for an Iranian Sanctions Enforcement Fund to enforce United States sanctions with respect to Iran and its proxies and pay off the United States public debt and to codify the Export Enforcement Coordination Center.

S. 3981

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) 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. 4243

At the request of Ms. BUTLER, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 4243, a bill to award posthumously the Congressional Gold Medal to Shirley Chisholm.

S. 4292

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4292, a bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require proof of United States citizenship to register an individual to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

S. 4528

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4528, a bill to award posthumously a

Congressional Gold Medal to Marshall Walter "Major" Taylor in recognition of his significance to the nation as an athlete, trailblazer, role model, and equal rights advocate.

S. 4532

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 4532, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish requirements with respect to the use of prior authorization under Medicare Advantage plans.

S. 4901

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4901, a bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to maintain the National Mesonet Program, and for other purposes.

S. 4935

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4935, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to update the budget neutrality threshold under the Medicare physician fee schedule.

S. 4974

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4974, a bill to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to reauthorize the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System, and for other purposes.

S. 4988

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4988, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the individuals who fought for or with the United States against the armed forces of Imperial Japan in the Pacific theater and the impacted Sashinax people on Attu, whose lives, culture, and community were irrevocably changed from December 8, 1941, to August 15, 1945.

S. 4997

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 4997, a bill making supplemental appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

S. 5067

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 5067, a bill to improve individual assistance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 5081. A bill to amend the Arctic Research Policy Act of 1984 to improve the Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I wanted to take just a couple of minutes here at the close of the evening to speak to an anniversary. Today is the 40th anniversary of the Arctic Research and Policy Act. It is known as ARPA. We use the acronym "ARPA" around here quite frequently. We talk about ARPA-E and ARPA-H.

But the original ARPA was the Arctic Research and Policy Act. It was legislation that was actually drafted by the previous Senator MURKOWSKI from Alaska. It was one of the first pieces of legislation that Frank Murkowski introduced and got passed into law. It was signed by President Reagan. It was cosponsored by the likes of Ted Stevens and Scoop Jackson, Warren Magnuson; on the House side, Congressman Young.

It was significant in that it laid a foundation for the policies that we are seeing put in place today and over these past 40 years. It has been laying out much of the knowledge and the understanding and the policy for Alaska.

I talk a lot about the Arctic, coming from the State that makes us an Arctic nation, but I think it is important to recognize that many of our allies around the world—many of those who are not our friends around the world—are also talking about and taking a keen interest in the Arctic.

There is a lot of focus on this week because we are seeing levels of engagement from the Russians up in the Alaska ADIZ and the area in the high north. We have seen joint exercises with the Russians and the Chinese, both in the air and on the waters in our northern waters. There is a level of focus and intensity about what may be heating up in a cool place—not something that we like.

But it is important to recognize that when we speak about the Arctic, it is not just its geostrategic location on the globe that makes it such a key place for defense and strategic defense. It is the role that the Arctic plays when it comes to just the health of our planet. Some describe it as kind of the big thermostat up north. And we see down here on the east coast and parts of the country where, when you have Arctic weather coming down, pushing things in different directions, everything kind of goes out of whack. And we are all starting to pay attention to what is going on with the weather and where it is coming from.

Well, the science that comes to us in better understanding what is happening in the Arctic, much of this came about through the development of the Arctic Research and Policy Act.

So leading in these areas has been important for all the right reasons,

whether it has been environmental; whether, again, it has been just from a geostrategic perspective; whether it has been a focus on the health and the well-being of indigenous peoples; whether it is understanding the extraordinary science that is unique to the area, understanding the impacts of a thawing permafrost and what that may mean, understanding the impacts within our ocean.

But it is also better understanding that geography. With the mapping that we have seen that has been spurred from both NOAA and USGS, we have been able to identify an area north of the shore of Alaska—an area, well, two times bigger than the State of California—that we identify as part of our Outer Continental Shelf, allowing us to submit claim to that territory.

The real-world advances that we are seeing in understanding more about the Arctic come about because of good legislation that began so many years ago.

There is a reception probably going on right now with many of those who have been involved with the U.S. Arctic Research Commission over the years and their partner Agencies. There are some 18 partner Agencies that participate. Several of the commissioners who have served currently and who have served in the past are present and are speaking about the contributions.

Two of the former commissioners, heads of the U.S. Arctic Research Commission—actually, both former Lieutenant Governors for the State of Alaska, Fran Ulmer and Mead Treadwell—came together and penned a joint op-ed that ran in the Anchorage Daily News last month. And I want to read just one paragraph from that op-ed because I think it really is a sum of what we have seen as a result of the framework from this law. It states:

Our nation's long-running Arctic research programs in . . . NOAA and the . . . USGS provided the essential data to enable America to recently claim new rights to an offshore land area larger than two Californias. The law has added momentum to efforts to build new, powerful icebreakers and to increase our Arctic presence as Russia and China increase theirs. It laid the groundwork for safe shipping and resource development in the Arctic by identifying methods to reduce risk. It helped evolve our understanding of continental drift, and the plate tectonic evolution of the Arctic Ocean basin. Arctic health research is informing policy to improve health outcomes and to reduce disparities. Forty years of purposeful, coordinated U.S. Arctic effort, involving national resources, partners across the Arctic region, and Alaskans is something to celebrate and take pride in.

So I just wanted to include just, again, a few short moments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD today about this anniversary, with a recognition that it is important to recognize the accomplishments of what we have built and the foundation that guides our science and informs our policy, which we use to benefit our people and our Nation.

But it also needs to be a push for us, an impetus to keep our foot on the gas,

so to speak, to keep moving forward, because we need to be more than a nation in the Arctic that has the title. We need to be that active participant. We need to be the leader in the Arctic space.

So what more does that mean? It means confirming our nominee to be the first-ever Ambassador-at-Large for Arctic Affairs, a gentleman by the name of Mike Sfraga, Dr. Mike Sfraga, who is currently the head of the U.S. Arctic Research Commission. He has been nominated by the President. He has gone through the committee. We need to get him confirmed because of the immediacy of so many of these Arctic issues that are playing out now.

Every time we have national conferences and other Arctic ambassadors are there, there is a void in the U.S. space. We need to make progress on matters that have been longstanding. It has been decades now—decades—that several of us have been working to advance progress on ratification of the Law of the Sea treaty. Some on my side still have a little bit of older history, at a time—actually, during the Reagan years—when there were some concerns about ratification. I think we have tried to address them over the years.

But the world has changed up there. When I say the world has changed, the world is opening up in the Arctic: the levels of commerce that we are seeing; again, the levels of engagement from a national security perspective; other countries—China—looking to the Arctic waters for resources there, whether it be fisheries or whether it be minerals. It has changed, and so our active participation as a member of that important treaty, I think, needs to be an imperative.

We have got to figure out icebreakers. We have got to do better. We have authorized six icebreakers. We have funded—we have appropriated to three, and we still have nothing, nothing that is moving forward fast enough to satisfy anybody out there.

Other nations are not sitting still while we are trying to literally get our act together on this. This is an area where we have to keep moving. We have to keep building out our Arctic infrastructure. We are moving forward with a deepwater port in Nome that is critically important.

There are other aspects of infrastructure that we cannot assume are in place, whether it is adequate housing, water, wastewater, broadband—all of the infrastructure that is so important to live in a cold and remote area—and then recognizing the situation of the people who live and work and raise their families there and have since time immemorial and want to do so for generations going forward, making sure we are paying attention to education, to healthcare, housing, economy, jobs.

So today I have introduced legislation that would amend the Arctic Research and Policy Act with the very

fancy title “Arctic Research Policy Amendments Act of 2024.” I don’t go for the big acronyms in the titles. What we are doing is we are broadening the scope of the act to account for the Arctic’s increasing role in national homeland defense; to strengthen climate and environmental research; to establish an annual award for excellence in Arctic research—we need to support and recognize those who are doing great work; and then to reflect the essential role of the indigenous people, incorporating the wisdom and experience of those who have lived there for millennia.

So it is good to work with the Commission. They continue to do great work. It is something that I—I appreciate colleagues here also waking up to the fact that this is the age of the Arctic, and how we embrace it, how we embrace our leadership role, is critical.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 5091. A bill to provide for the basic needs of students at institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise in support of the BASIC Act, which I introduced today.

I know how important it is to help students cover the full cost of attending college, including tuition and fees, housing, food, transportation, books, childcare, healthcare, supplies, and more.

In California, even though State and institutional aid programs cover full tuition and fees for about half of the students attending California State University, University of California, and California Community College, students struggle to pay for the remaining cost of attendance. This bill will help accelerate California’s work to make college affordable and provide funding to reach more schools across California and our nation.

Last year, the first-ever nationally representative data on student basic needs was released by the National Center for Education Statistics, which indicated that nearly one in four undergraduate students across the country experiences food insecurity. We also know that rates of basic needs insecurity are much higher for historically marginalized students, including Black, Latino, and Indigenous students; parenting students; LGBTQIA+ students; first-generation students; Pell Grant recipients; former foster youth; and justice-involved students.

The evidence is clear that addressing student basic needs prevents students from sacrificing their health and well-being to succeed in higher education.

That is why I am proud to introduce this bill to authorize \$1 billion for a new grant program to help institutions

of higher education meet students’ basic needs.

This funding represents an essential aspect of building more equitable paths to higher education, and it represents an investment in our students, our institutions, and our future. The legislation also helps coordinate assistance across Federal Agency lines.

I want to thank Senator WARREN and Representative TORRES for introducing this bill with me, and I hope our colleagues will join us in ensuring that no student is forced to choose between their education and their basic needs.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 824—RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 20, 2024, AS “NATIONAL LGBTQ+ VETERANS DAY”

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. LUJAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:

S. RES. 824

Whereas lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (referred to in this preamble as “LGBTQ+”) veterans have honorably served in the Armed Forces in every war to which the United States was a party, beginning with the Revolutionary War;

Whereas LGBTQ+ veterans have served in the Armed Forces despite discriminatory policies based on who those veterans love or how those veterans identify;

Whereas, on April 27, 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed Executive Order 10450 (18 Fed. Reg. 2489; relating to security requirements for Government employment), which declared “sexual perversion” and “treatment for serious mental or neurological disorders” to be security risks and grounds for denying Federal employment;

Whereas Executive Order 10450, eventually repealed by President Barack Obama in 2017, contributed to the “Lavender Scare” of the 1950s by banning gay and lesbian people from working in the Government, including in the Armed Forces, and was similarly applied to transgender people as early as 1960;

Whereas, beginning in 1963, Army medical standards disqualified people with “behavioral disorders”, which was defined to include transgender people, from service in the Army;

Whereas, for 30 years, beginning in the mid-1980s, Department of Defense regulations declared transgender people to be both physically and mentally disordered and abnormal and continued to disqualify transgender people from military service;

Whereas, in 1982, the Department of Defense implemented a policy stating that “homosexuality is incompatible with military service”, and between 1980 and 1990, an average of 1,500 military servicemembers were discharged every year on the basis of their sexual orientation;

Whereas, in 1993, as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994 (Public Law 103-160; 107 Stat. 1547), Congress enacted the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy, which declared that the presence of gay, lesbian, and bisexual people in the

Armed Forces was an “unacceptable risk” to morale, good order, discipline, and unit cohesion, and required the Armed Forces to discharge servicemembers who—

(1) engaged in, attempted to engage in, or solicited “homosexual acts”;

(2) stated that they were homosexual or bisexual; or

(3) married or attempted to marry a same-sex partner;

Whereas the Department of Defense has acknowledged that 13,472 personnel were discharged from the Armed Forces under the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy, and an additional 19,365 personnel were discharged between 1980 and 1993 under similar policies that targeted servicemembers based on sexual orientation;

Whereas the White House estimates that more than 100,000 servicemembers have been discharged from the Armed Forces for their sexual orientation or gender identity;

Whereas, on September 20, 2011, the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy was officially repealed, 60 days after President Barack Obama approved its repeal on July 22, 2011, by signing the Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell Repeal Act of 2010 (10 U.S.C. 654 note; Public Law 111-321);

Whereas, on June 30, 2016, the Department of Defense announced an end to the ban on transgender servicemembers across all components of the Department of Defense;

Whereas, on July 26, 2017, President Donald J. Trump announced that transgender people would not be allowed to serve in the military;

Whereas, on January 25, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden signed Executive Order 14004 (86 Fed. Reg. 7471; relating to enabling all qualified Americans to serve their country in uniform), which repealed the 2017 ban on transgender military servicemembers;

Whereas the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs have taken steps to address the harms done to LGBTQ+ servicemembers and veterans under these discriminatory policies;

Whereas, in March 2021, the Secretary of Defense announced new policies to undo the President Trump-era rules banning transgender people from serving in the military;

Whereas those policies included a statement that the Defense Health Agency would develop clinical practice guidelines to support the medical treatment of servicemembers with gender dysphoria, a step that has not yet been completed;

Whereas, on June 19, 2021, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs announced that the Department of Veterans Affairs would remove the exclusion of gender-affirming surgery from the Veterans Affairs Medical Benefits package, but the Department of Veterans Affairs has yet to fulfill that promise;

Whereas, on September 20, 2021, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs issued the “Benefits Eligibility for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) Former Service Members (VIEWS 5810856)” memorandum detailing how certain former servicemembers discharged under the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy with “other than honorable” discharges could begin to access full veterans benefits;

Whereas, on September 20, 2023, the Deputy Secretary of Defense announced that the Department of Defense would proactively review the military records of certain veterans discharged under the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy to identify those who may be eligible for discharge upgrades;

Whereas, on April 25, 2024, the Department of Veterans Affairs posted a final rule eliminating the regulatory bar for “homosexual acts involving aggravating circumstances or

other factors affecting the performance of duty” as an obstacle to benefits, which could help reduce the disparity that LGBTQ+ veterans face in applying for their benefits;

Whereas, on June 26, 2024, President Joseph R. Biden pardoned veterans who had been convicted in military courts for consensual sodomy between 1951 and 2013 under former article 125 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice; and

Whereas challenges still exist for LGBTQ+ servicemembers and veterans seeking equitable treatment in service and access to benefits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes September 20, 2024, as “National LGBTQ+ Veterans Day”;

(2) celebrates the contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (referred to in this resolution as “LGBTQ+”) servicemembers and veterans who have served in the Armed Forces;

(3) regrets the harm done to LGBTQ+ servicemembers and veterans under the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy and earlier policies, bans on transgender servicemembers, and other policies that discriminate based on sexual orientation and gender identity;

(4) recognizes how “other than honorable” and “dishonorable” discharges given to LGBTQ+ servicemembers on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity—

(A) prematurely terminated the careers of LGBTQ+ servicemembers in the Armed Forces;

(B) subjected LGBTQ+ servicemembers to the trauma of investigations and criminal charges;

(C) unfairly denied LGBTQ+ servicemembers the honor associated with military service;

(D) deprived LGBTQ+ servicemembers of benefits those servicemembers have earned and deserve as veterans; and

(E) continue to cause LGBTQ+ servicemembers dignitary harm;

(5) urges the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense to—

(A) continue implementing policy changes that restore justice and right historical wrongs caused by past government-sponsored discrimination; and

(B) conduct further outreach for LGBTQ+ veteran communities to ensure that those discharged based on their sexual orientation and gender identity can receive their benefits;

(6) urges the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense to ensure that transgender veterans and servicemembers and their families have access to the full range of health care, including gender-affirming care; and

(7) urges the Department of Veterans Affairs to remove the exclusion of gender-affirming surgery from the Veterans Affairs Medical Benefits Package.

SENATE RESOLUTION 825—RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF EQUAL PAY AND THE PAY DISPARITY BETWEEN DISABLED WOMEN AND BOTH DISABLED AND NONDISABLED MEN

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 825

Whereas, more than 60 years after Congress enacted the Equal Pay Act of 1963 (29 U.S.C. 206 note; Public Law 88-38), an analysis of data from the Bureau of the Census shows that disabled women workers overall are paid an average of 50 cents for every dollar paid to nondisabled men;

Whereas an analysis by the National Partnership for Women & Families of data from the Bureau of the Census shows that—

(1) for every dollar paid to White, non-Hispanic, nondisabled men—

(A) disabled Asian-American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander women are paid 55 cents;

(B) disabled White, non-Hispanic women are paid 45 cents;

(C) disabled Black women are paid 45 cents;

(D) disabled American Indian and Alaska Native women are paid 45 cents; and

(E) disabled Latinas are paid 44 cents;

(2) disabled women are paid an average of 72 cents for every dollar paid to disabled men;

(3) disabled people overall are paid an average of 68 cents for every dollar paid to nondisabled people; and

(4) while disabled people overall experience a wage gap, disabled women, particularly disabled women of color, experience a more significant wage gap;

Whereas, of the 6 types of disability assessed in the American Community Survey—

(1) disabled women workers with each type of disability face a wage gap, as compared to nondisabled men; and

(2) the wage gap is largest for disabled women workers who have difficulty living independently, who are paid just 36 cents for every dollar paid to nondisabled men workers;

Whereas disabled women veterans are paid an average of 62 cents for every dollar paid to nondisabled veteran men;

Whereas the wage gap remains large for disabled women with more education, as disabled women workers with 4 years of college education are typically paid \$41,600 per year, which is less than nondisabled men workers with a high school degree as their highest level of education;

Whereas disabled women experience occupational segregation and are overrepresented in low-paid health care, clerical, and social service jobs;

Whereas disabled women and men workers who live in institutional group quarters are paid an average of just \$9,000 per year for disabled women workers and \$11,000 per year for disabled men workers, respectively, while nondisabled men overall are typically paid an average of \$50,000 per year;

Whereas segregated workplaces and the subminimum wage for disabled employees stifle competitive integrated employment for disabled women;

Whereas many systemic barriers affect access to livable wages and employment opportunities for disabled women, including—

(1) discrimination;

(2) public benefits work disincentives;

(3) a broken health care infrastructure;

(4) increased employment-related costs;

(5) inadequate vocational rehabilitation services; and

(6) a lack of access to supported employment services; and

Whereas LGBTQI+ disabled people face additional barriers to employment, and more inclusive data on LGBTQI+ disabled workers is needed to determine the added impact on wages and workforce participation, particularly for trans and nonbinary disabled people who are often excluded from data: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the pay disparity between disabled women and both disabled and non-disabled men and the impact of that pay disparity on women, families, and the United States; and

(2) reaffirms its commitment to supporting equal pay for disabled women, narrowing the gender, disability, and racial wage gaps, and addressing the systemic barriers that drive those inequities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 826—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 16 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 20, 2024, AS “MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK”

Mr. MURPHY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

S. RES. 826

Whereas malnutrition is the condition that occurs when a person does not get enough protein, calories, or nutrients;

Whereas malnutrition is a significant problem in the United States and around the world, crossing all age, racial, class, gender, and geographic lines;

Whereas malnutrition can be driven by social determinants of health, including poverty or economic instability, access to affordable health care, and low health literacy;

Whereas there are inextricable and cyclical links between poverty and malnutrition;

Whereas the Department of Agriculture defines food insecurity as when a person or household does not have regular, reliable access to the foods needed for good health;

Whereas communities of color, across all age groups, are disproportionately likely to experience both food insecurity and malnutrition;

Whereas American Indian and Alaska Native households are at significantly greater risk for food insecurity than all households in the United States;

Whereas 1 in 18 Asian Americans and 1 in 5 Pacific Islanders experience food insecurity;

Whereas Black children are almost 3 times more likely to live in a food-insecure household than White children;

Whereas infants, older adults, people with chronic diseases, and other vulnerable populations are particularly at risk for malnutrition;

Whereas the American Academy of Pediatrics has found that failure to provide key nutrients during early childhood may result in lifelong deficits in brain function;

Whereas disease-associated malnutrition affects between 30 and 50 percent of patients admitted to hospitals, and the medical costs of hospitalized patients with malnutrition can be 300 percent more than the medical costs of properly nourished patients;

Whereas deaths from malnutrition have increased among adults 85 and older since 2013;

Whereas, according to the “National Blueprint: Achieving Quality Malnutrition Care for Older Adults, 2020 Update”, as many as half of older adults living in the United States are malnourished or at risk for malnutrition;

Whereas, according to recent Aging Network surveys, 76 percent of older adults receiving meals at senior centers and other congregate facilities report improved health outcomes, and 84 percent of older adults receiving home-delivered meals indicate the same;

Whereas disease-associated malnutrition in older adults alone costs the United States more than \$51,300,000,000 each year; and

Whereas the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition established “Malnutrition Awareness Week” to raise awareness and promote prevention of malnutrition across the lifespan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of “Malnutrition Awareness Week”;

(2) recognizes registered dietitian nutritionists and other nutrition professionals, health care providers, school food service workers, social workers, advocates, caregivers, and other professionals and agencies for their efforts to advance awareness, treatment, and prevention of malnutrition;

(3) recognizes the importance of existing Federal nutrition programs, like the nutrition programs established under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) and Federal child nutrition programs, for their role in combating malnutrition, and supports increased funding for these critical programs;

(4) recognizes—

(A) the importance of medical nutrition therapy under the Medicare Program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.); and

(B) the need for vulnerable populations to have access to nutrition counseling;

(5) recognizes the importance of the innovative research conducted by the National Institutes of Health on—

(A) nutrition, dietary patterns, and the human gastrointestinal microbiome; and

(B) how those factors influence the prevention or development of chronic disease throughout the lifespan;

(6) supports access to malnutrition screening and assessment for all patients;

(7) encourages the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to evaluate the implementation of newly approved malnutrition electronic clinical quality measures;

(8) supports the ongoing work of the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health and its work to address malnutrition; and

(9) acknowledges the importance of healthy food access for children, especially in childcare settings and schools, and the benefits of evidence-based nutrition standards.

SENATE RESOLUTION 827—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 15 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 21, 2024, AS “NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK”

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

S. RES. 827

Whereas 3,500,000 citizens of the United States navigate the roads and highways of the United States as professional truck drivers;

Whereas the trucking industry is the backbone of our economy, and truck drivers play an essential role in moving our great country forward;

Whereas the quality of life that the people of the United States enjoy would not be possible without the steadfast dedication demonstrated by truck drivers;

Whereas truckers of the United States drive over 330,000,000,000 miles each year, the

equivalent of nearly 1,800 round trips to the sun, to deliver daily necessities and other consumer goods;

Whereas truck drivers make many sacrifices, including time away from their families, to fulfill their important responsibilities and get shipments where they need to be on time, safely, and securely;

Whereas truck drivers transport more than 11,000,000,000 tons of freight each year, which is about 70 percent of all the freight moved in the United States;

Whereas more than 80 percent of United States communities rely exclusively on truck drivers to deliver their commodities, including the most remote towns and territories that are unreachable by other modes of transportation;

Whereas the commitment of truck drivers ensures the delivery of vital public services, such as medical supplies, food distribution, and emergency relief during crises, making their role indispensable to the well-being of the United States;

Whereas truck drivers play an essential role in maintaining national security by transporting critical military equipment, supplies, and personnel in support of defense operations, ensuring the readiness and mobility of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas hundreds of billions of safe driving miles accumulated by truck drivers each year are a source of pride and reflect their unique skills and commitment to excellence;

Whereas the diligence and attention to detail displayed by truck drivers are critical to protecting the safety of all roadway users;

Whereas the partnership between truck drivers and law enforcement brings eyes and ears to every corner of the country, helping to identify and rescue countless victims of human trafficking;

Whereas the people of the United States owe a debt of gratitude to truck drivers for the work they do and the altruistic example they set to put food on our tables, keep our homes comfortable, and support our families and jobs;

Whereas this year marks the 36th annual National Truck Driver Appreciation Week;

Whereas, during National Truck Driver Appreciation Week, the people of the United States extend their most sincere thanks to professional truck drivers; and

Whereas the purpose of National Truck Driver Appreciation Week is to—

(1) raise public awareness about the invaluable contributions of truck drivers; and

(2) promote greater respect for and understanding of the essential work that truck drivers do: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) thanks the professional truck drivers of the United States; and

(2) promotes the profession of truck driving by encouraging the public to recognize National Truck Driver Appreciation Week.

SENATE RESOLUTION 828—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT EVERY PERSON HAS THE BASIC RIGHT TO EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING ABORTION CARE

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HELMY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr.

MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 828

Whereas bans and restrictions on reproductive health care, including abortion care, put the health and lives of women at risk;

Whereas State laws that purport to ban and restrict abortion in emergency circumstances force medical providers to decide between withholding necessary, stabilizing medical care from a patient experiencing a medical emergency or facing criminal prosecution, and put the lives, health, and futures of patients at risk;

Whereas the harms of criminalizing medical providers providing emergency health care or women receiving emergency health care are far-reaching, and providers and patients who are Black, Indigenous, people of color, immigrants, people with low incomes, and LGBTQI+ individuals are more likely to be put under the scrutiny of the legal system;

Whereas the harms associated with abortion bans and other restrictions on reproductive health care have a disproportionate impact on women of color, specifically Black and Indigenous pregnant patients, who are more likely to experience life-threatening pregnancy complications; and

Whereas the chaos and confusion caused by abortion bans and restrictions can dissuade providers from providing appropriate medical care to patients, including in emergency care situations such as heart failure or high blood pressure, premature rupture of membranes, severe obstetric hemorrhage or infection, sepsis, placenta previa (where the placenta attaches to the cervix), and in some cases missed miscarriages, among many other emergency medical conditions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that every person has the basic right to emergency health care, including abortion care.

SENATE RESOLUTION 829—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 8, 2024, AS “NATIONAL HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY”

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 829

Whereas hydrogen, which has an atomic mass of 1.008, is the most abundant element in the universe;

Whereas the United States is a world leader in the development and deployment of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cells played an instrumental role in the United States space program, helping the United States achieve the mission of landing a man on the Moon;

Whereas private industry, Federal and State governments, national laboratories, and institutions of higher education continue to improve fuel cell and hydrogen technologies to address the most pressing energy, environmental, and economic issues of the United States;

Whereas fuel cells utilizing hydrogen and hydrogen-rich fuels to generate electricity

are clean, efficient, safe, and resilient technologies being used for—

(1) stationary and backup power generation; and

(2) zero-emission transportation for light-duty vehicles, industrial vehicles, delivery vans, buses, trucks, trains, military vehicles, marine applications, and aerial vehicles;

Whereas stationary fuel cells are being placed in service for continuous and backup power to provide businesses and other energy consumers with reliable power in the event of grid outages;

Whereas stationary fuel cells can help reduce water use, as compared to traditional power generation technologies;

Whereas fuel cell electric vehicles that utilize hydrogen can mimic the experience of internal combustion vehicles, including comparable range and refueling times;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cell industrial vehicles are deployed at logistical hubs and warehouses across the United States and exported to facilities in Europe and Asia;

Whereas hydrogen is a nontoxic gas that can be derived from a variety of domestically available traditional and renewable resources, including solar, wind, biogas, and the abundant supply of natural gas in the United States;

Whereas hydrogen and fuel cells can store energy to help enhance the grid and maximize opportunities to deploy renewable energy;

Whereas the United States produces and uses approximately 10,000,000 metric tons of hydrogen per year;

Whereas engineers and safety code and standard professionals have developed consensus-based protocols for safe delivery, handling, and use of hydrogen; and

Whereas the ingenuity of the people of the United States is essential to paving the way for the future use of hydrogen technologies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates October 8, 2024, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3285. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) 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 3286. 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 3287. 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 3288. Ms. HASSAN (for Mr. PETERS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1871, to create intergovernmental coordination between State, local, Tribal, and territorial jurisdictions, and the Federal Government to combat United States reliance on the People's Republic of China and other covered countries for critical minerals and rare earth metals, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3285. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) 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. _____. ADVERSE INFORMATION ABOUT CONSUMERS UNLAWFULLY OR WRONGFULLY DETAINED ABROAD OR HELD HOSTAGE ABROAD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 605C the following:

“§605D. Adverse information about consumers unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad or held hostage abroad

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COVERED CONSUMER.—The term ‘covered consumer’ means an individual who has been—

“(A) a United States national unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad, as determined under section 302(a) of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741(a)); or

“(B) a United States national taken hostage abroad, as determined by the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell established by section 304 that Act (22 U.S.C. 1741b).

“(2) DETENTION OR HOSTAGE DOCUMENTATION.—The term ‘detention or hostage documentation’ means documentation that—

“(A) certifies a consumer is a covered consumer under this section;

“(B) identifies the time period during which the covered consumer was unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad or held hostage abroad; and

“(C) is authenticated by—

“(i) the Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs established by section 303 of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741a); or

“(ii) the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell established by section 304 of that Act (22 U.S.C. 1741b).

“(b) ADVERSE INFORMATION.—If a consumer reporting agency described in section 603(p) is able to authenticate detention or hostage documentation provided by a covered consumer, the consumer reporting agency may not furnish a consumer report containing any adverse item of information about the covered consumer dating during the time period the covered consumer was unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad or held hostage abroad.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of the Fair Credit Reporting Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 605C the following:

“605D. Adverse information about consumers unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad or held hostage abroad.”.

SA 3286. 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, add the following:

DIVISION E—YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2024
SEC. 5001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Act of 2024”.

SEC. 5002. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this division are—

(1) to resolve, fully and finally, all claims to rights to water, including damages claims related to water, in the State, including in the Verde River Watershed and the Colorado River, of—

(A) the Yavapai-Apache Nation, on behalf of the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees);

(B) the United States, acting as trustee for the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees);

(2) to authorize, ratify, and confirm the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement, to the extent that agreement is consistent with this division;

(3) to authorize and direct the Secretary to execute and perform the duties and obligations of the Secretary under the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement and this division;

(4) to authorize the appropriation of funds necessary to carry out the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement and this division; and

(5) to recognize the important cultural, traditional and religious value of the Verde River to the Yavépe (Yavapai) who know the Verde River as Hatayakehela (“big river”), and to the Dilzhé5 (Apache) who know the Verde River as Tú ní5?í5?níchoh (“big water flowing”), and to protect the existing flows of the Verde River, including flood flows, as described in the Agreement and this division, on the Yavapai-Apache Reservation, now and in the future.

SEC. 5003. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

(1) **AFY.**—The term “AFY” means acre-feet per Year.

(2) **AGREEMENT.**—The term “Agreement” means (A) the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement dated June 26, 2024; and (B) any amendment or exhibit (including exhibit amendments) to the Agreement that are (i) made in accordance with the Act, or (ii) otherwise approved by the Secretary and the Parties to the Agreement.

(3) **ALLOTTEE.**—The term “Allottee” means (A) an individual Indian holding an undivided fractional beneficial interest in the Dinah Hood Allotment; or (B) an Indian Tribe holding an undivided fractional beneficial interest in the Dinah Hood Allotment.

(4) **ARIZONA WATER BANKING AUTHORITY.**—The term “Arizona Water Banking Authority” means the Arizona Water Banking Authority, formed pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 45-2401 et seq.

(5) **AVAILABLE CAP SUPPLY.**—The term “Available CAP Supply” means for any Year (A) all Fourth Priority River Water available for delivery through the CAP; (B) water available from CAP dams and reservoirs other than the Modified Roosevelt Dam; and (C) return flows captured by the Secretary for CAP use.

(6) **BUREAU OF RECLAMATION.**—The term “Bureau of Reclamation” means the United States Bureau of Reclamation.

(7) **CAP OR CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT.**—The term “CAP” or “Central Arizona Project” means the reclamation project authorized and constructed by the United States in accordance with Title III of the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. §1521 et seq.).

(8) **CAP CONTRACT.**—The term “CAP Contract” means a long-term contract (as defined in the CAP Repayment Stipulation) with the United States for delivery of CAP Water through the CAP System.

(9) **CAP CONTRACTOR.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “CAP Contractor” means a person or entity that has entered into a CAP Contract.

(B) **INCLUSION.**—The term “CAP Contractor” includes the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(10) **CAP FIXED OM&R CHARGE.**—The term “CAP Fixed OM&R Charge” has the meaning given the term “Fixed OM&R Charge” in the CAP Repayment Stipulation.

(11) **CAP INDIAN PRIORITY WATER.**—The term “CAP Indian Priority Water” means water within the Available CAP Supply having an Indian delivery priority.

(12) **CAP OPERATING AGENCY.**—The term “CAP Operating Agency” means—

(A) the 1 or more entities authorized to assume responsibility for the care, operation, maintenance and replacement of the CAP System; and

(B) as of the date of enactment of this division, is CAWCD.

(13) **CAP PUMPING ENERGY CHARGE.**—The term “CAP Pumping Energy Charge” means the term “Pumping Energy Charge” in the CAP Repayment Stipulation.

(14) **CAP REPAYMENT CONTRACT.**—The term “CAP Repayment Contract” means—

(A) the contract dated December 1, 1988 (Contract No. 14-06-W-245, Amendment No. 1), between the United States and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District for the Delivery of Water and Repayment of Costs of the CAP; and

(B) any amendment to, or revision of, that contract.

(15) **CAP REPAYMENT STIPULATION.**—The term “CAP Repayment Stipulation” means the Stipulated Judgment and the Stipulation for Judgment, including any exhibits to those documents, entered on November 21, 2007, in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona in the consolidated civil action Central Arizona Water Conservation District v. United States, et al., numbered CIV 95-625-TUC-WDB-EHC and CIV 95-1720-PHX-EHC.

(16) **CAPSA.**—The term “CAPSA” means the Central Arizona Project Settlement Act of 2004, Title I of the Arizona Water Settlements Act, P.L. 108-451, 118 Stat. 3478 (2004).

(17) **CAP SUBCONTRACT.**—The term “CAP Subcontract” means a long-term subcontract (as defined in the CAP Repayment Stipulation) with the United States and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District for the delivery of CAP water through the CAP System.

(18) **CAP SUBCONTRACTOR.**—The term “CAP Subcontractor” means a person or entity that has entered into a CAP Subcontract.

(19) **CAP SYSTEM.**—The term “CAP System” means—

(A) the Mark Wilmer Pumping Plant;

(B) the Hayden-Rhodes Aqueduct;

(C) the Fannin-McFarland Aqueduct;

(D) the Tucson Aqueduct;

(E) any pumping plant or appurtenant work of a feature described in (A), (B), (C), or (D); and

(F) any extension of, addition to, or replacement of a feature described in Subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E).

(20) **CAP SYSTEM USE AGREEMENT.**—The term “CAP System Use Agreement” means that certain Central Arizona Project System Use Agreement dated February 2, 2017, between the United States of America and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District.

(21) **CAP WATER.**—The term “CAP Water” has the meaning given the term “Project Water” in the CAP Repayment Stipulation.

(22) **CAWCD.**—The term “CAWCD” means the political subdivision of the State that is the contractor under the CAP Repayment Contract and is the CAP Operating Agency as of the date of enactment of this division.

(23) **C.C. CRAGIN DAM AND RESERVOIR.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir” means—

(i) the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir located on East Clear Creek in Coconino County, Arizona, owned by the United States and operated by the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District;

(ii) associated facilities located in Gila and Coconino Counties, Arizona, including pipelines, tunnels, buildings, hydroelectric generating facilities and other structures of every kind; transmission, telephone and fiber optic lines; pumps, machinery, tools and appliances; and

(iii) all real or personal property, appurtenant to or used, or constructed or otherwise acquired to be used, in connection with the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir.

(B) **EXCLUSION.**—The term “C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir” does not include the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project.

(24) **COMMISSIONER.**—The term “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation.

(25) **CRAGIN CAPITAL COSTS.**—The term “Cragin Capital Costs” means all costs incurred by SRP for the acquisition and improvement of land, facilities, equipment, and inventories related to the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir, which shall include: labor, overhead, materials, supplies, spare parts, equipment purchase and rental, and transportation. Prior to May 1, 2009, all expenses incurred by SRP are accrued as Cragin Capital Costs excluding capital costs of the SRP-Cragin Pumping System.

(26) **CRAGIN O&M COSTS.**—The term “Cragin O&M Costs” means all costs incurred by SRP for the operation and maintenance of all C.C. Cragin facilities, except for those costs defined as Cragin Capital Costs. Such costs shall include costs for the following items: insurance, inspections, permits, taxes, fees, licenses, contract services, legal services, accounting, travel, environmental compliance, repairs, testing, labor, salaries, overhead, materials, supplies, expenses, equipment, vehicles, energy, fuel, and any cost borne by SRP prior to the assumption of care, operation, and maintenance of the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project by SRP from the United States pursuant to the 1917 Agreement, excluding O&M Costs and A&G Costs of SRP-Cragin Pumping System as defined in the YAN-SRP Water Delivery and Use Agreement.

(27) **CRAGIN-VERDE PIPELINE PROJECT.**—The term “Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project” means the water infrastructure project under the Tú ní5?í5?níchoh Water Infrastructure Project, as described in section 5103(b) of this division, which will deliver water from the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir to the Yavapai-Apache Nation, and to other beneficiaries in accordance with section 5114(a) of this division.

(28) **CAP/SRP INTERCONNECTION FACILITY.**—The term “CAP/SRP Interconnection Facility” means the interconnection facility that connects the Hayden-Rhodes Aqueduct of the CAP System to SRP’s water delivery system.

(29) **DATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION.**—The term “Date of Substantial Completion” means the date described in section 5103(d).

(30) **DEPLETION OR DEplete.**—The term “Depletion” or “Deplete” means the amount of Water Diverted less return flows to the Verde River Watershed.

(31) DINAH HOOD ALLOTMENT.—The term “Dinah Hood Allotment” means the tract of land allotted pursuant to Section 4 of the General Allotment Act of 1887, 24 Stat. 389, ch. 119 (formerly codified at 25 U.S.C. § 334) that is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of Allottees under patent number 926562, as described and depicted in Exhibit 2.37 to the Agreement.

(32) DIVERSION.—The term “Diversion” means an act to Divert.

(33) DIVERT OR DIVERTING.—The term “Divert” or “Diverting” means to receive, withdraw or develop and produce or capture Water (A) using a ditch, canal, flume, bypass, pipeline, pit, collection or infiltration gallery, conduit, well, pump, turnout, dam, or any other mechanical device; or (B) by any other human act.

(34) DOMESTIC USE.—The term “Domestic Use” means, for purposes of Paragraph 13.0 of the Agreement and section 5108 of this division, a Use of Water serving a residence, or multiple residences up to a maximum of three residential connections, for household purposes with associated irrigation of lawns, gardens or landscape in an amount of not more than one-half acre per residence. Domestic Use does not include the Use of Water delivered to a residence or multiple residences by a city, town, private water company, irrigation provider or special taxing district established pursuant to Title 48, Arizona Revised Statutes.

(35) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The term “Effective Date” means the date that the Agreement is signed by all of the Parties, other than the United States.

(36) EFFLUENT.—The term “Effluent” means water that—(A) has been used in the State for domestic, municipal, or industrial purposes, other than solely for hydropower generation; and (B) is available for reuse for any purpose in accordance with applicable law and the Agreement, regardless of whether the water has been treated to improve the quality of the water.

(37) ENFORCEABILITY DATE.—The term “Enforceability Date” means the date described in section 5112.

(38) EXCHANGE.—The term “Exchange” means a trade between 1 or more persons or entities, of any water for any other water, if each person or entity has a right or claim to use the water the person or entity provides in the trade, regardless of whether the water is traded in equal quantities or other consideration is included in the trade.

(39) FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Federal Land” means the land described in section 5201(a)(5).

(40) FOREST SERVICE.—The term “Forest Service” means the United States Forest Service.

(41) FOURTH PRIORITY WATER.—The term “Fourth Priority Water” means Colorado River water available for delivery within the State for satisfaction of entitlements (A) in accordance with contracts, Secretarial reservations, perfected rights, and other arrangements between the United States and water users in the State entered into or established subsequent to September 30, 1968, for use on Federal, State, or privately owned lands in the State, in a total quantity not to exceed 164,652 AFY of diversions; and (B) after first providing for the delivery of Colorado River water for the CAP System, including for Use on Indian land, under section 304(e) of the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. 1524(e)), in accordance with the CAP Repayment Contract.

(42) GILA RIVER ADJUDICATION PROCEEDINGS.—The term “Gila River Adjudication Proceedings” means the action pending in the Superior Court of the State, in and for the County of Maricopa, in re the General Adjudication of All Rights To Use Water In

The Gila River System and Source, W-1 (Salt), W-2 (Verde), W-3 (Upper Gila), W-4 (San Pedro) (Consolidated).

(43) GILA RIVER ADJUDICATION COURT.—The term “Gila River Adjudication Court” means the Superior Court of the State, in and for the County of Maricopa, exercising jurisdiction over the Gila River Adjudication Proceedings.

(44) GROUNDWATER.—The term “Groundwater” means all water beneath the surface of the Earth within the State that is not—(A) Surface Water; (B) Effluent; or (C) Colorado River Water.

(45) IMPOUNDMENT.—The term “Impoundment” means any human-made permanent body of water on the surface of the Earth, including Stockponds, lakes, Effluent ponds, open-air water storage tanks, irrigation ponds, and gravel pits. For purposes of the Agreement and this division, the term Impoundment does not include recharge basins or swimming pools.

(46) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian Tribe” shall have the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(47) INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Injury to Water Rights” means an interference with, diminution of, or deprivation of Water Rights under Federal, State or other law.

(B) INCLUSION.—The term “Injury to Water Rights” includes a change in the Groundwater table and any effect of such a change.

(C) EXCLUSION.—The term “Injury to Water Rights” does not include any injury to water quality.

(48) INTERIM PERIOD.—The term “Interim Period” means the period beginning on the Effective Date and ending on the Date of Substantial Completion.

(49) LEASE AGREEMENT.—The term “Lease Agreement” means any agreement entered into between the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the Secretary, and any other person or entity pursuant to the agreement.

(50) LEASED WATER.—The term “Leased Water” means the YAN CAP Water that is leased pursuant to a Lease Agreement.

(51) M&I USE.—The term “M&I Use” or “M&I Uses” means the Use of Water for domestic, municipal, industrial, and commercial purposes.

(52) MAXIMUM ANNUAL DEPLETION AMOUNT.—The term “Maximum Annual Depletion Amount” means the maximum amount of Water Depleted per Year for each Water Right set forth in Subparagraph 4.1 of the Agreement.

(53) MAXIMUM ANNUAL DIVERSION AMOUNT.—The term “Maximum Annual Diversion Amount” means the maximum amount of Water Diverted per Year for each Water Right set forth Subparagraph 4.1 the Agreement.

(54) MEMBER.—The term “Member” means any person duly enrolled as a member of the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(55) MUNICIPAL WATER PROVIDER.—The term “Municipal Water Provider” means a city, town, private water company, specially designated homeowners association, or any special taxing district established pursuant to Title 48 of the Arizona Revised Statutes that supplies water for M&I Use.

(56) NON-FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Non-Federal Land” means the land described in section 5201(a)(4).

(57) OM&R.—The term “OM&R” means—(A) any recurring or ongoing activity relating to the day-to-day operation of a project; (B) any activity relating to scheduled or unscheduled maintenance of a project; and (C) any activity relating to replacing a feature of a project.

(58) PARTY.—The term “Party” means a person or entity that is a signatory to the Agreement. The participation of the State as a Party shall be as described in Subparagraph 17.5 in the Agreement. The United States’ participation as a Party shall be in the capacity as described in Subparagraph 2.80 of the Agreement.

(59) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM.—The term “Public Water System” means a water system that—(A) provides water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances; and (B) has at least fifteen service connections or regularly serves an average of at least twenty-five persons daily for at least sixty days a year.

(60) REPLACEMENT WELL.—The term “Replacement Well” means a well that—(A) is constructed to replace a well in existence on the Effective Date; (B) is located no more than 660 feet from the well being replaced; and (C) has a pumping capacity and case diameter that do not exceed the pumping capacity and case diameter of the well being replaced.

(61) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior or the Secretary’s designee.

(62) SRP.—The term “SRP” means the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District, a political subdivision of the State, and the Salt River Valley Water Users’ Association, an Arizona Territorial Corporation.

(63) SRP WATER.—The term “SRP Water” means the Water made available in Subparagraph 8.1 of the Agreement, not to exceed an average of 500 AFY, up to maximum of 583.86 acre-feet in any given Year, to be stored in C.C. Cragin Reservoir, without cost to SRP, and delivered for Use on the Reservation, YAN Trust Land, and YAN After-Acquired Trust Land for beneficial purposes.

(64) SRRD.—The term “SRRD” means the Salt River Reservoir District as defined on December 31, 2023 in Article IV, Section 3, of the Articles of Incorporation of the Salt River Valley Water Users’ Association.

(65) STATE.—The term “State” means the State of Arizona.

(66) STOCKPOND.—The term “Stockpond” means an on-channel or off-channel impoundment of any size that stores water that is appropriable under Title 45, Arizona Revised Statutes, and that is for the sole purpose of watering livestock and wildlife.

(67) STOCK WATERING USE.—The term “Stock Watering Use” means the consumption of water by livestock and wildlife, either: (A) directly from a naturally occurring body of water, such as an undeveloped spring, cienega, seep, bog, lake, depression, sink or stream; or (B) from small facilities, other than a Stockpond, that are served by a Diversion of Water.

(68) SURFACE WATER.—The term “Surface Water” means all Water that is appropriable under State law.

(69) TOTAL MAXIMUM ANNUAL DEPLETION AMOUNT.—The term “Total Maximum Annual Depletion Amount” means the total of all Maximum Annual Depletion Amounts as described in Subparagraph 4.1 of the Agreement.

(70) TOTAL MAXIMUM ANNUAL DIVERSION AMOUNT.—The term “Total Maximum Annual Diversion Amount” means the total of all Maximum Annual Diversion Amounts as described in Subparagraph 4.1 of the Agreement.

(71) TÚ ÑL NCHOH water infrastructure project.—The term “Tú ñl níchoh Water Infrastructure Project” means the water infrastructure project including (A) the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project, as described in section 5103(b), which will deliver Water from the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir to the

Yavapai-Apache Nation and to other beneficiaries in the Verde Valley Watershed; and (B) the YAN Drinking Water System Project, as described in section 5103(c), which will treat and distribute the water delivered from the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project.

(72) USE.—The term “Use” means any beneficial use, including instream flows, recharge, underground storage, recovery or any other use recognized as beneficial under applicable law.

(73) USGS.—The term “USGS” means the United States Geological Survey.

(74) VERDE RIVER DECREE.—The term “Verde River Decree” means the decree to be entered by the Gila River Adjudication Court adjudicating all rights to water in the Verde River Watershed.

(75) VERDE RIVER SUBFLOW ZONE.—The term “Verde River Subflow Zone” means the area in the Verde River Watershed delineated by the Arizona Department of Water Resources as the subflow zone on a map or maps that are approved by the Gila River Adjudication Court.

(76) VERDE RIVER WATER.—The term “Verde River Water” means the Water as described in Paragraph 5.0 of the Agreement, whether Diverted from the stream or pumped from a well.

(77) VERDE RIVER WATERSHED.—The term “Verde River Watershed” means all lands located within the surface water drainage of the Verde River and its tributaries, depicted on the map attached as Exhibit 2.86 to the Agreement.

(78) WATER.—The term “Water,” when used without a modifying adjective, means—(A) Groundwater; (B) Surface Water; (C) Colorado River Water; (D) Effluent; or (E) CAP Water.

(79) WATER RIGHT.—The term “Water Right” means any right in or to Groundwater, Surface Water, Colorado River Water, or Effluent under Federal, State, or other law.

(80) YAN AFTER-ACQUIRED TRUST LAND.—The term “YAN After-Acquired Trust Land” means lands that is taken into trust by the United States for the benefit of the Yavapai-Apache Nation pursuant to applicable federal law after the Enforceability Date.

(81) YAN AMENDED CAP WATER DELIVERY CONTRACT.—The term “YAN Amended CAP Water Delivery Contract” means—(A) the proposed contract between the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the United States attached as Exhibit 6.1 to the Agreement and numbered _____; and any amendments to that contract.

(82) YAN CAP WATER.—The term “YAN CAP Water” means CAP Water to which the Yavapai-Apache Nation is entitled pursuant to the Agreement and section 5111 of this division, and as provided in the YAN Amended CAP Water Delivery Contract.

(83) YAN CRAGIN WATER.—The term “YAN Cragin Water” means that amount of the water made available in Subparagraph 8.2 of the Agreement, not to exceed an average of 2,910.26 AFY, up to a maximum of 3,394.06 acre-feet in any given Year, to be stored in C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir, without cost to SRP, and delivered for Use on the Yavapai-Apache Reservation, YAN Trust Land, and YAN After-Acquired Trust Land for beneficial purposes.

(84) YAN DELIVERY POINT.—The term “YAN Delivery Point” means the point or points located at the end of the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project where Water may be delivered to the YAN or the United States acting as trustee for the YAN pursuant to the YAN-SRP Water Delivery and Use Agreement.

(85) YAN DISTRICTS.—The term “YAN Districts” means (A) the Camp Verde District; (B) the Middle Verde District; (C) the Montezuma District; (D) the Clarkdale District;

and (E) the Rimrock District, of the Yavapai-Apache Reservation, each of which districts is separately depicted in Exhibits 2.96A, 2.96B, 2.96C, 2.96D and 2.96E to the Agreement, and any additions to a YAN District under applicable law.

(86) YAN DRINKING WATER SYSTEM PROJECT.—The term “YAN Drinking Water System Project” or “Yavapai-Apache Drinking Water System Project” means the Yavapai-Apache Nation’s water treatment and water distribution system project under the Tú níl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project, as described in section 5103(c) of this division, that will treat and distribute water delivered from the C.C. Cragin Reservoir.

(87) YAN FEE LAND.—The term “YAN Fee Land” means land that, as of the Enforceability Date, is: (A) located outside the exterior boundaries of the Yavapai-Apache Reservation; (B) owned in fee by the Yavapai-Apache Nation and has not been taken into trust by the United States for the benefit of the Yavapai-Apache Nation; and (C) described and shown in Exhibit 2.98 to the Agreement.

(88) YAN JUDGMENT.—The term “YAN Judgment” means the judgment and decree entered by the Gila River Adjudication Court as described in the Agreement.

(89) YAN LAND.—The term “YAN Land” means, collectively, the YAN Reservation, YAN Trust Land and YAN Fee Land.

(90) YAN POINT OF COMPLIANCE.—The term “YAN Point of Compliance” means the location of the Verde River proximate to USGS gage number 09504950 identified as the “Verde River Above Camp Verde” gage, located at Global Positioning System coordinates 34.6116972, -111.8984306 within the Middle Verde District of the Reservation.

(91) YAN PUMPED WATER.—The term “YAN Pumped Water” means the Water pumped from beneath the surface of the Earth, regardless of its legal characterization as appropriate or non-appropriate under Federal, State or other law.

(92) YAN-SRP EXCHANGE AGREEMENT.—The term “YAN-SRP Exchange Agreement” means that agreement between the Nation and SRP, as approved by the United States, in the form substantially similar to that attached as Exhibit 6.5 to the Agreement.

(93) YAN-SRP WATER DELIVERY AND USE AGREEMENT OR YAN-SRP WDUA.—The term “YAN-SRP Water Delivery and Use Agreement” or “YAN-SRP WDUA” means that agreement between the Nation and SRP, as approved by the United States, in the form substantially similar to that attached as Exhibit 10.1 to the Agreement.

(94) YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION, YAN OR NATION.—The term “Yavapai-Apache Nation”, “YAN”, or “Nation” means the Yavapai-Apache Nation of the Camp Verde Indian Reservation, Arizona, a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, 48 Stat. 987 (25 U.S.C. 5123).

(95) YAN TRUST LAND.—The term “YAN Trust Land” means land that, as of the Enforceability Date, is—(A) located outside the boundaries of the YAN Reservation; (B) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the YAN; and (C) depicted on the map attached as Exhibit 2.102 to the Agreement.

(96) YAVAPAI-APACHE RESERVATION, YAN RESERVATION OR RESERVATION.—The term “Yavapai-Apache Reservation”, “YAN Reservation” or “Reservation” means the land described in section 5110(a).

(97) YEAR.—The term “Year” (A) when used in the context of deliveries of YAN Cragin Water and SRP Water pursuant to Paragraph 8.0 of the Agreement, means May 1 through April 30; and (B) in all other instances, the term “Year” means a calendar year.

TITLE LI—YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

SEC. 5101. RATIFICATION AND EXECUTION OF THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

(a) RATIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as modified by this division, and to the extent the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement does not conflict with this division, the Agreement is authorized, ratified, and confirmed.

(2) AMENDMENTS.—If an amendment to the Agreement, including an amendment to any exhibit attached to the Agreement requiring the signature or approval of the Secretary, is executed in accordance with this division to make the Agreement consistent with this division, the amendment is authorized, ratified, and confirmed, to the extent the amendment is consistent with this division.

(b) EXECUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent the Agreement does not conflict with this division, the Secretary shall execute the Agreement, including all exhibits to, or parts of, the Agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary.

(2) MODIFICATIONS.—Nothing in this division prohibits the Secretary from approving any modification to the Agreement, including any Exhibit to the Agreement, that is consistent with this division, to the extent the modification does not otherwise require congressional approval under section 2116 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 177) or any other applicable Federal law.

(c) ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In implementing the Agreement (including all exhibits to the Agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary) and this division, the Secretary shall comply with all applicable provisions of—

(A) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

(B) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), including the implementing regulations of that Act; and

(C) all other applicable Federal environmental laws and regulations.

(2) AUTHORIZATIONS.—The Secretary shall—

(A) independently evaluate the documentation prepared and submitted under paragraph (1); and

(B) be responsible for the accuracy, scope, and contents of that documentation.

(3) EFFECT OF EXECUTION.—The execution of the Agreement by the Secretary under this section shall not constitute a major action for purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

(4) COSTS.—Any costs associated with the performance of the compliance and coordination activities under this subsection shall be paid from funds deposited in the Project Fund, subject to the condition that any costs associated with the performance of Federal approval or other review of that compliance work or costs associated with inherently Federal functions shall remain the responsibility of the Secretary.

SEC. 5102. WATER RIGHTS.

(a) CONFIRMATION OF WATER RIGHTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Water Rights of the Yavapai-Apache Nation as set forth in the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement are ratified, confirmed and declared to be valid.

(2) USE.—Any use of Water pursuant to the Water Rights described in paragraph (1) by the Yavapai-Apache Nation shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement and this division.

(3) **CONFLICT.**—In the event of a conflict between the Agreement and this division, this division shall control.

(b) **WATER RIGHTS TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION.**—The United States shall hold the following Water Rights in trust for the benefit of the Yavapai-Apache Nation:

(1) The Water Rights described in Paragraphs 5.0, 6.0, 8.0, 9.0 and 11.0 of the Agreement; and

(2) Any future Water Rights taken into trust pursuant to subsection (f) and (g).

(c) **OFF-RESERVATION USE.**—Except for Effluent as provided in Subparagraphs 4.15 of the Agreement, YAN CAP Water as provided in Subparagraph 6.0 of the Agreement, and Water that is subject to an Exchange in accordance with State law, the rights to Water set forth in Subparagraph 4.1 of the Agreement may not be sold, leased, transferred or used outside the boundaries of the YAN Reservation, YAN Trust Land, or YAN After-Acquired Trust Land.

(d) **FORFEITURE AND ABANDONMENT.**—None of the water rights described in subsection (b)(1) shall be subject to loss through non-use, forfeiture, abandonment, or other operation of law.

(e) **YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION CAP WATER.**—The Yavapai-Apache Nation shall have the right to divert, use, and store YAN CAP Water in accordance with the Agreement and section 5111 of this division.

(f) **WATER RIGHTS HELD IN TRUST FOR YAN AFTER-ACQUIRED TRUST LAND.**—As described in Subparagraph 4.13.2.1 of the Agreement, and subject to all valid and existing rights, any Water Rights appurtenant to YAN After-Acquired Trust Land at the time such land is taken into trust by the Secretary shall be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(g) **WATER RIGHTS HELD IN TRUST FOR FUTURE ACQUISITIONS OF WATER RIGHTS.**—As described in Subparagraphs 4.14.1 and 4.14.2 of the Agreement, and subject to all valid and existing rights, upon the request of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, and in accordance with applicable Federal law, the Secretary shall accept and take into trust for the benefit of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, any Water Rights severed and transferred to the Reservation, YAN Trust Land, or YAN After-Acquired Trust Land.

SEC. 5103. TÚ NL NCHOH WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, acting through the Commissioner, shall plan, design and construct the Tú nl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project, which shall consist of—

(1) the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project as described in subsection (b); and

(2) the Yavapai-Apache Nation Drinking Water System Project as described in subsection (c).

(b) **CRAGIN-VERDE PIPELINE PROJECT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, acting through the Commissioner, and without cost to the Salt River Federal Reclamation Project, shall—

(A) Plan, design and construct the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project as part of the Salt River Federal Reclamation Project; and

(B) Obtain any rights-of-way or other interests in land needed to construct the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project.

(2) **SCOPE.**—The scope of the planning, design, and construction activities for the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project shall be as generally described as Alternative 5A in the document entitled Phase II: Yavapai-Apache Nation Indian Water Rights Settlement, Value Planning Study, Bureau of Reclamation, Interior Region 8, Lower Colorado Basin, as amended.

(3) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project shall—

(A) be capable of delivering no less than 6,836.92 AFY of water from the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir for Use by the YAN as provided in the Settlement Agreement and this division, and up to an additional 1,912.18 AFY for Use by water users in Yavapai County as provided in section 5114(a)(2);

(B) include all facilities and appurtenant items necessary to divert, store, and deliver water to the YAN Delivery Point on the Yavapai-Apache Reservation; and

(C) to the maximum extent practicable, be designed and constructed to minimize care, operation, and maintenance costs.

(4) **TITLE TO FACILITIES.**—Title to the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project shall be held by the United States as part of the Salt River Federal Reclamation Project pursuant to the Reclamation Act of 1902, 43 U.S.C. 371 et seq., as amended.

(5) **ASSUMPTION OF AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR CARE, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF CRAGIN-VERDE PIPELINE PROJECT.**—Upon the Date of Substantial Completion, SRP shall assume and be responsible for the care, operation, and maintenance of the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project pursuant to the contract between the United States and the Salt River Valley Water Users' Association dated September 6, 1917, as amended.

(6) **COSTS OF CARE, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE TO BE BORNE BY PROJECT BENEFICIARIES.**—The costs of the care, operation, and maintenance of the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project shall not be borne by SRP. Except as provided in Subparagraph 10.10 of the Agreement, the Yavapai-Apache Nation and any other beneficiaries of the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project shall bear the costs of the care, operation, and maintenance of the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project on a pro rata basis after the Date of Substantial Completion. Until the Date of Substantial Completion, the costs of care, operation, and maintenance shall be borne by the Secretary.

(7) **WITHDRAWAL AND RESERVATION.**—

(A) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this paragraph (7), the term “covered land” means the portion of the National Forest System land determined by the Secretary of the Interior to be necessary for the construction and operation of the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project as depicted on the map prepared under subparagraph (D).

(B) **WITHDRAWAL OF COVERED LAND.**—The covered land is permanently withdrawn from—

(i) all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws;

(ii) location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and

(iii) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

(C) **RESERVATION OF COVERED LAND.**—Subject to valid existing rights, the covered land is reserved to the United States, through the Secretary of the Interior, for the exclusive right to use the covered land and interests in the covered land for Bureau of Reclamation purposes to construct the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project as part of the Salt River Federal Reclamation Project and operated by SRP pursuant to the contract between the United States and the Salt River Valley Water Users' Association dated September 6, 1917, as amended.

(D) **MAP OF COVERED LAND.**—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this division, the Secretary of Interior shall prepare a map depicting the boundary of the covered land which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service and the Bureau of Reclamation.

(c) **YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION DRINKING WATER SYSTEM PROJECT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, acting through the Commissioner, shall—

(A) plan, design and construct the YAN Drinking Water System Project;

(B) comply with all requirements of section 5101(c)(1); and

(C) obtain any rights-of-way or other interests in land needed to construct the YAN Drinking Water System Project.

(2) **SCOPE.**—The scope of the planning, design, and construction activities for the YAN Drinking Water System Project shall be as generally described in the document entitled Yavapai-Apache Nation Drinking Water Infrastructure Plan dated July 2024, provided that, the design of the project may be adjusted by mutual agreement of the Secretary and the Yavapai-Apache Nation if the requirements of subsection (c)(3) can be met and the adjustment is not expected to increase the total cost of the project.

(3) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The YAN Drinking Water System Project shall—

(A) include a surface water treatment facility capable of treating up to 2.25 million gallons of water per day (mgd), with a peak of 3.0 mgd, for water delivered to the YAN Delivery Point from the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir via the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project, except as otherwise provided for in paragraph (4);

(B) include pipelines, water storage tanks, pump stations, transmission mains and other associated infrastructure necessary for the delivery of the treated water from the surface water treatment facility described in subparagraph (A) to the locations described in the Yavapai-Apache Nation Drinking Water Infrastructure Plan dated July 2024, or as otherwise agreed to by the Nation and the Secretary; and

(C) to the maximum extent practicable, be designed and constructed to minimize care, operation, and maintenance costs.

(4) **INCREASE IN CAPACITY AND COST SHARE.**—For the water described in section 5114(a), the Secretary is authorized to increase the capacity of the YAN Drinking Water System Project to treat and deliver up to 1.9 mgd, with a peak of 2.5 mgd, for such water delivered to the YAN Delivery Point from the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir via the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project, provided that—

(A) the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the water user or users described in section 5114(a) agree to terms and conditions for the Nation to treat and distribute the water described in section 5114(a);

(B) the water user or water users located in Yavapai County pay their share of the cost of construction to increase the capacity of the YAN Drinking Water System Project; and payment for such costs are deposited into the YAN Drinking Water System Project Fund Account described in section 5104(c) for use for the purposes described in subsection (c)(1); and

(C) the request to increase the capacity of the YAN Drinking Water System Project and meeting the conditions required of this paragraph (4) will not delay the timely completion of the YAN Drinking Water System Project to accept delivery of water from the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project to the YAN Delivery Point for the benefit of the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(5) **TITLE TO FACILITIES.**—The YAN Drinking Water System Project shall be owned by the United States during construction. Upon the Date of Substantial Completion of the Tú nl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall transfer title to the YAN Drinking Water System Project to the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(6) **ASSUMPTION OF AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR CARE, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE YAN DRINKING WATER SYSTEM PROJECT.**—Upon the Date of Substantial Completion of the

Tú ńl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project described in subsection (a), the Yavapai-Apache Nation shall assume and be responsible for the care, operation, and maintenance of the YAN Drinking Water System Project. Until the Date of Substantial Completion, the costs of care, operation, and maintenance shall be borne by the Secretary.

(7) **APPLICABILITY OF ISDEAA.**—On receipt of a request of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, and in accordance with the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), the Secretary shall enter into 1 or more agreements with the Nation to carry out the activities authorized by this subsection.

(8) **CONDITION.**—As a condition of construction of the YAN Drinking Water System Project authorized by this subsection, the Nation shall authorize, at no cost to the Secretary, the use of all land or interests in land located on the Reservation, YAN Trust Land and YAN After-Acquired Trust Land that the Secretary identifies as necessary for the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of the YAN Drinking Water System Project until the transfer of title to the YAN Drinking Water System Project to the Nation pursuant to paragraph (5).

(d) **DATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION.**—The Tú ńl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project shall be deemed substantially complete on the date on which written notice is provided to the Parties by the Bureau of Reclamation that the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project and the YAN Drinking Water System Project are sufficiently complete to place the projects into service for their intended use (“Date of Substantial Completion”).

SEC. 5104. TÚ ńL N CHOH WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT FUND.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish a non-trust interest-bearing account to be known as the Tú ńl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project Fund (“Project Fund”) to be managed and distributed by the Secretary, for use by the Secretary for carrying out this division.

(b) **ACCOUNTS.**—The Secretary shall establish within the Project Fund the following accounts—

- (1) the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Account; and
- (2) the YAN Drinking Water System Account.

(c) **DEPOSITS.**—The Secretary shall deposit—

- (1) in the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Account, the amounts made available pursuant to section 5107(a)(1)(A); and

- (2) in the YAN Drinking Water System Account, the amounts made available pursuant to section 5107(a)(1)(B).

(d) **USES.**—

(1) **CRAGIN-VERDE PIPELINE ACCOUNT.**—The Cragin-Verde Pipeline Account shall be used by the Secretary to—

- (A) carry out section 5103(b) of this division, including all required environmental compliance under section 5101(c), for the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project; and

(B) reimburse SRP for the proportional Cragin Capital Costs and Cragin O&M Costs associated with water delivered to the Yavapai-Apache Nation from the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir under Subparagraph 8.6.1 of the Agreement.

(2) **YAN DRINKING WATER SYSTEM ACCOUNT.**—The YAN Drinking Water System Account shall be used by the Secretary to carry out section 5103(c) of this division, including all required environmental compliance under section 5101(c), for the YAN Drinking Water System Project.

(e) **AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (2), amounts appropriated to and deposited in the Project Fund Accounts

under sections 5107(a)(1)(A) and 5107(a)(1)(B) shall not be made available for expenditure until the Enforceability Date.

(2) **EXCEPTION.**—Of the amounts made available under paragraph (1), \$13,000,000 shall be made available before the Enforceability Date for the Bureau of Reclamation to carry out environmental compliance and preliminary design of the Tú ńl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project, subject to the following:

(A) The revision of the Settlement Agreement and exhibits to conform to this division.

(B) Execution by all of the required settlement parties, including the United States, of the conformed Settlement Agreement and exhibits, including the waivers and releases of claims under section 5108.

(f) **INTEREST.**—In addition to the deposits under subsection (c), any investment earnings, including interest credited to amounts unexpended, are authorized to be appropriated to be used in accordance with the uses described in subsections (d)(1) and (d)(2).

(g) **PROJECT EFFICIENCIES.**—

(1) If the total cost of the activities described in either section 5103(b) or 5103(c) are less than the amounts authorized to be obligated under sections 5107(a)(1)(A) and 5107(a)(1)(B) to carry out those activities, the Secretary shall deposit the savings into the other account within the Project Fund as described in subsection (b), if such funds are necessary to complete the construction of any component of the Tú ńl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project.

(2) Any funds remaining in the Project Fund at the Date of Substantial Completion shall be deposited in the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund no later than 60 days after the Date of Substantial Completion. No later than 30 days after the Date of Substantial Completion, the Yavapai-Apache Nation may direct the allocation and amounts for the deposit of such funds to one or more of the accounts described in section 5105(b), but if no timely direction is provided to the Secretary, the Secretary shall deposit the full amount of such funds to the Yavapai-Apache Water Projects Account described in section 5105(b)(2).

SEC. 5105. YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION WATER SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish a trust fund for the Yavapai-Apache Nation, to be known as the “Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund” (“Trust Fund”) to be managed, invested, and distributed by the Secretary and to remain available until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury, consisting of the amounts deposited in the Trust Fund under subsection (c), together with any investment earnings, including interest, earned on those amounts for the purpose of carrying out this division.

(b) **ACCOUNTS.**—The Secretary shall establish in the Trust Fund the following accounts:

- (1) The Yavapai-Apache Water Settlement Implementation Account;
- (2) The Yavapai-Apache Water Projects Account;
- (3) The Yavapai-Apache Wastewater Projects Account;
- (4) The Yavapai-Apache OM&R Account; and
- (5) The Yavapai-Apache Watershed Rehabilitation and Restoration Account.

(c) **DEPOSITS.**—The Secretary shall deposit—

- (1) in the Yavapai-Apache Water Settlement Implementation Account established under subsection (b)(1), the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraph (A) of section 5107(a)(2);

- (2) in the Yavapai-Apache Water Projects Account established under subsection (b)(2),

the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of section 5107(a)(2);

(3) in the Yavapai-Apache Wastewater Projects Account established under subsection (b)(3), the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraph (C) of section 5107(a)(2);

(4) in the Yavapai-Apache OM&R Account established under subsection (b)(4), the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraph (D) of section 5107(a)(2); and

(5) in the Yavapai-Apache Watershed Rehabilitation and Restoration Account established under subsection (b)(5), the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraph (E) of section 5107(a)(2).

(d) **MANAGEMENT AND INTEREST.**—

(1) **MANAGEMENT.**—On receipt and deposit of funds into the Trust Fund pursuant to subsection (b), the Secretary shall manage, invest, and distribute all amounts in the Trust Fund in a manner that is consistent with the investment authority of the Secretary under—

(A) the first section of the Act of June 24, 1938 (25 U.S.C. 162a);

(B) the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.); and

(C) this subsection.

(2) **INVESTMENT EARNINGS.**—In addition to the deposits made to the Trust Fund under subsection (b), any investment earnings, including interest, credited to amounts held in the Trust Fund are authorized to be used in accordance with subsection (g).

(e) **AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.**—Amounts deposited in the Trust Fund (including any investment earnings) shall be made available to the Yavapai-Apache Nation by the Secretary beginning on the Enforceability Date, subject to the requirements of this division.

(f) **WITHDRAWALS.**—

(1) **WITHDRAWALS UNDER THE AMERICAN INDIAN TRUST FUND MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT OF 1994.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Yavapai-Apache Nation may withdraw any portion of the amounts in the Trust Fund on approval by the Secretary of a Tribal management plan submitted by the Nation in accordance with the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.).

(B) **REQUIREMENTS.**—In addition to the requirements under the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Tribal management plan under this subsection shall require that the Yavapai-Apache Nation spend all amounts withdrawn from the Trust Fund and any investment earnings accrued through the investments under the Tribal management plan in accordance with this division.

(C) **ENFORCEMENT.**—The Secretary may carry out such judicial and administrative actions as the Secretary determines to be necessary—

- (i) to enforce the Tribal management plan;
- (ii) to ensure that amounts withdrawn by the Yavapai-Apache Nation from the Trust Fund under this subsection are used in accordance with this division.

(2) **EXPENDITURE PLAN.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Yavapai-Apache Nation may submit to the Secretary a request to withdraw funds from the Trust Fund pursuant to an approved expenditure plan.

(B) **REQUIREMENTS.**—To be eligible to withdraw amounts under an expenditure plan under this subparagraph, the Yavapai-Apache Nation shall submit to the Secretary an expenditure plan for any portion of the Trust Fund that the Yavapai-Apache Nation elects to withdraw pursuant to this subparagraph, subject to the condition that the amounts shall be used for the purposes described in this division.

(C) INCLUSIONS.—An expenditure plan under this subparagraph shall include a description of the manner and purpose for which the amounts proposed to be withdrawn from the Trust Fund will be used by the Yavapai-Apache Nation in accordance with this division.

(D) APPROVAL.—The Secretary shall approve an expenditure plan submitted under clause (ii) if the Secretary determines that the plan—

- (i) is reasonable; and
- (ii) is consistent with, and will be used for, the purposes of this division.

(E) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary may carry out such judicial and administrative actions as the Secretary determines to be necessary to enforce an expenditure plan to ensure that amounts disbursed under this subsection are used in accordance with this division.

(g) USES.—The amounts from the Trust Fund shall be used by the Yavapai-Apache Nation for the following purposes:

(1) THE YAVAPAI-APACHE WATER SETTLEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Yavapai-Apache Water Settlement Implementation Account may only be used for the following purposes—

(A) to pay fees and costs incurred by the Yavapai-Apache Nation for filing and processing any application or obtaining any permit required under Paragraphs 5.0, 8.0, or 11.0 of the Agreement;

(B) to pay costs incurred by the Yavapai-Apache Nation to participate in the planning, preliminary design, and environmental compliance activities for the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project;

(C) to engage in water management planning to comply with Paragraph 12.0 of the Agreement; and

(D) to pay, reimburse, or retire debt for costs incurred by the Yavapai-Apache Nation after the date of enactment of this division for work under subparagraphs (A), (B) or (C).

(2) THE YAVAPAI-APACHE WATER PROJECTS ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Yavapai-Apache Water Projects Account may only be used for the following purposes—

(A) environmental compliance, permitting, planning, engineering and design, and construction, including acquisition of any necessary rights-of-way or other interests in land, and any other related activities necessary for the completion of construction for—

(i) expansion of the YAN Drinking Water System Project after the Date of Substantial Completion;

(ii) water infrastructure, and water storage and recovery projects, that facilitate the use or management of the water sources identified in Subparagraph 4.1 of the Agreement;

(iii) the Yavapai-Apache Nation's proportionate share for any joint project with communities in the Verde Valley Watershed that facilitate the use or management of the water sources identified in Subparagraph 4.1 of the Agreement; and

(B) to pay, reimburse, or retire debt for costs incurred by the Yavapai-Apache Nation after the date of enactment of this division for projects under subparagraph (A).

(3) THE YAVAPAI-APACHE WASTEWATER PROJECTS ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Apache Wastewater Projects Account may only be used for the following purposes—

(A) environmental compliance, planning, permitting, engineering and design, and construction, including acquisition of any necessary rights-of-way or other interests in land, and any other related activities necessary for the completion of construction for—

(i) wastewater infrastructure, and wastewater storage and recovery projects, that fa-

cilitate the reuse or management of Effluent;

(ii) the Yavapai-Apache Nation's proportionate share for any joint project or projects with communities in the Verde Valley Watershed that facilitate the reuse or management of Effluent;

(B) to pay, reimburse, or retire debt for costs incurred by the Yavapai-Apache Nation after the date of enactment of this division for projects under subparagraph (A); and

(C) to pay the outstanding debt on the Yavapai-Apache Nation's loan with the Water Infrastructure and Finance Authority of Arizona for the construction of the Middle Verde Water Reclamation Facility (MVWRF) and to reimburse the Yavapai-Apache Nation up to \$8,000,000 in additional construction costs related to construction of the MVWRF.

(4) THE YAVAPAI-APACHE OM&R ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Yavapai-Apache OM&R Account may only be used to pay costs of the following—

(A) OM&R and energy costs for the Tú ń nichoh Water Infrastructure Project which includes the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Project and the YAN Drinking Water System Project;

(B) OM&R, energy costs, and any other charges assessed to the Yavapai-Apache Nation pursuant to the YAN-SRP Water Delivery and Use Agreement, the YAN-SRP Exchange Agreement, and the YAN Amended CAP Water Delivery Contract; and

(C) OM&R for Yavapai-Apache Nation projects described in subsections (a)(2), (a)(3) and (a)(5).

(5) YAVAPAI-APACHE WATERSHED REHABILITATION AND RESTORATION ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Yavapai-Apache Watershed Rehabilitation and Restoration Account may only be used for the purpose of environmental compliance, permitting, planning, engineering and design activities, and construction of projects for the protection and restoration of the Verde River Watershed, and any other related activities necessary for the completion of such projects.

(h) LIABILITY.—The Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury shall not be liable for the expenditure or investment of any amounts withdrawn from the Trust Fund by the Yavapai-Apache Nation under subsection (f).

(i) TITLE TO INFRASTRUCTURE.—Title to, control over, and operation of any project constructed using funds from the Trust Fund, shall remain in the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(j) NO PER CAPITA DISTRIBUTIONS.—No portion of the Trust Fund shall be distributed on a per capita basis to any Member of the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(k) EXPENDITURE REPORTS.—The Yavapai-Apache Nation shall annually submit to the Secretary an expenditure report describing accomplishments and amounts spent from use of withdrawals under a Tribal management plan or an expenditure plan under this division.

(l) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section gives the Yavapai-Apache Nation the right to judicial review of a determination of the Secretary relating to whether to approve a Tribal management plan under subsection (f)(1) or an expenditure plan under subsection (f)(2) except under subchapter II of chapter 5, and chapter 7, of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the "Administrative Procedure Act").

SEC. 5106. GAGING STATION.

The Secretary, acting through the Director of the USGS, shall continue to maintain and operate the existing USGS gaging station at the YAN Point of Compliance, identified as "Verde River Above Camp Verde - 09504950," within the Middle Verde District of the

Yavapai-Apache Reservation, for the purpose of monitoring the instream flow right of the Yavapai-Apache Nation to the Verde River as described in section 5102(b)(1)(A) and Paragraph 11.0 of the Agreement.

SEC. 5107. FUNDING.

(a) MANDATORY APPROPRIATIONS.—Out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary, to remain available to the Secretary until expended, withdrawn or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury, the following amounts:

(1) Tú ń nichoh water infrastructure project fund.—

(A) \$731,059,000 in the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Account described in section 5104(b)(1); and

(B) \$152,490,000 in the YAN Drinking Water System Account described in section 5104(b)(2).

(2) YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION WATER SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—

(A) \$300,000 in the Yavapai-Apache Water Settlement Implementation Account described in section 5105(b)(1);

(B) \$58,000,000 in the Yavapai-Apache Water Projects Account described in section 5105(b)(2);

(C) \$31,000,000 in the Yavapai-Apache Wastewater Projects Account described in section 5105(b)(3);

(D) \$66,000,000 in the Yavapai-Apache OM&R Account described in section 5105(b)(4); and

(E) \$700,000 in the Yavapai-Apache Watershed Rehabilitation and Restoration Account described in section 5105(b)(5).

(b) TÚ ń N CHOH Water Infrastructure Project Additional Authorization.—In addition to the mandatory appropriation made available under subsection (a)(1), there is authorized to be appropriated to the Project Fund such funds as are necessary to complete the construction of the Tú ń nichoh Water Infrastructure Project, to remain available until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury.

(c) ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATIONS.—In general there are authorized to be appropriated—

(1) such sums as necessary for section 5106 of this division; and

(2) such sums as necessary for the care, operation, and maintenance of the Tú ń nichoh Water Infrastructure Project until the Date of Substantial Completion.

(d) FLUCTUATION IN COSTS.—

(1) PROJECT FUND.—The amounts authorized to be appropriated under subsection (a)(1) shall be—

(A) increased or decreased, as appropriate, by such amounts as may be justified by reason of ordinary fluctuations in costs occurring after January 1, 2024, as indicated by the Bureau of Reclamation Construction Cost Index applicable to the types of construction involved; and

(B) adjusted to address construction cost changes necessary to account for unforeseen market volatility that may not otherwise be captured by engineering cost indices as determined by the Secretary, including repricing applicable to the means of construction and current industry standards involved.

(2) TRUST FUND.—The amounts authorized to be appropriated under subsection (a)(2) shall be—

(A) increased or decreased, as appropriate, by such amounts as may be justified by reason of ordinary fluctuations in costs occurring after January 1, 2024, as indicated by the Bureau of Reclamation Construction Cost Index—Composite Trend; and

(B) adjusted to address construction cost changes necessary to account for unforeseen market volatility that may not otherwise be

captured by engineering cost indices as determined by the Secretary, including repricing applicable to the means of construction and current industry standards involved.

(3) **REPLETION.**—The adjustment process under this subsection shall be repeated for each subsequent amount appropriated until the amount authorized, as adjusted, has been appropriated.

(4) **REQUIREMENTS FOR ADJUSTMENT PROCESS.**—The adjustment process under this subsection shall be repeated for each subsequent amount appropriated for deposit in the Project Fund under subsection (a)(1) and the Trust Fund under subsection (a)(2), until the amount authorized to be appropriated, as so adjusted, has been appropriated.

(5) **PERIOD OF INDEXING.**—

(A) **PROJECT FUND.**—With respect to the Project Fund, the period of indexing adjustment for any increment of funding shall be annual until the Tú ńl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project is completed.

(B) **TRUST FUND.**—With respect to the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund, the period of indexing adjustment for any increment of funding shall end on the date on which funds are deposited into the Trust Fund.

(e) **COMMENCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE.**—Subject to the requirements of section 5104(e)(2)(A) and (B), effective beginning on the date of deposit of funds in the Project Fund, the Secretary shall commence any planning, design, environmental, cultural, and historical compliance activities necessary to implement the Agreement and this division, including activities necessary to comply with section 5101(c)(1)(A)(B)(C) of this division.

SEC. 5108. WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTIONS OF CLAIMS.

(a) **WAIVER, RELEASE, AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS FOR WATER RIGHTS AND INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS BY THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION, ON BEHALF OF THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION AND THE MEMBERS OF THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION (BUT NOT MEMBERS IN THE CAPACITY OF THE MEMBERS AS ALLOTTEES), AND THE UNITED STATES, ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION (BUT NOT MEMBERS IN THE CAPACITY OF THE MEMBERS AS ALLOTTEES).**—

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Yavapai-Apache Nation, on behalf of the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees), and the United States, acting as trustee for the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees), as part of the performance of the respective obligations of the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the United States under the Agreement and this division, shall execute a waiver and release of any claims against the State (or any agency or political subdivision of the State), and any other individual, entity, corporation, or municipal corporation under Federal, State, or other law for all—

(A) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River water, for YAN Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever;

(B) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land by the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the predecessors of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or the predecessors of the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation;

(C) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including rights to Colorado

River water, for YAN Land, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date;

(D) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land by the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the predecessors of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or the predecessors of the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation;

(E) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River water, arising after the Enforceability Date, for YAN Land, resulting from the off-Reservation Diversion or Use of Water in a manner not in violation of the Agreement or State law; and

(F) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Agreement, or this division.

(2) The waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) shall be in the form set forth in Exhibit 13.1 to the Agreement and shall take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and set forth in Exhibit 13.1 to the Agreement, the Yavapai-Apache Nation, acting on behalf of the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, and the United States, acting as trustee for the YAN and the Members of the YAN (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees), shall retain any right—

(A) subject to Subparagraph 17.9 of the Agreement, to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, their rights under the Agreement or this division in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction;

(B) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, their rights under any judgment or decree entered by the Gila River Adjudication Court, including the Verde River Decree;

(C) to assert claims for Water Rights or Injury to Water Rights acquired before the Enforceability Date pursuant to Subparagraph 4.14.1 of the Agreement;

(D) to challenge or object to any claims for Water Rights or Injury to Water Rights by or for any Indian tribe, or the United States, acting on behalf of any Indian tribe;

(E) to assert past, present, or future claims for Injury to Water Rights against any Indian tribe, or the United States, acting on behalf of any Indian tribe;

(F) to assert claims for Injury to Water Rights arising after the Enforceability Date for YAN Land resulting from any off-Reservation Diversion of Surface Water within the Verde River Watershed, other than from a well, if the Diversion or Use of Surface Water was first initiated after the Effective Date and was not the subject of a permit to appropriate Surface Water issued by the Arizona Department of Water Resources before the Effective Date; and

(G) to assert claims for Injury to Water Rights arising after the Enforceability Date for YAN Land resulting from any off-Reservation Diversion or Use of Water from a well, if—

(i) the Water is determined by the Gila River Adjudication Court to be Surface Water; and

(ii) the well is located within the Verde River Watershed above USGS Gage No. 09506000 identified as “Verde River near Camp Verde, AZ”; and

(iii) the well was constructed after the Effective Date; and

(iv) the well is not:

(I) a Replacement Well; or

(II) a new point of Diversion for a Surface Water Use predating the Effective Date; or

(III) operated by a Municipal Water Provider pursuant to an agreement with the Yavapai-Apache Nation under Subparagraph 16.1.2 of the Agreement; or

(IV) constructed for Domestic Use or Stock Watering Use; or

(V) constructed to supply a Stockpond with a capacity not to exceed 4 acre-feet; or

(VI) used by a city or town in the Prescott active management area to:

(aa) withdraw Underground Water from land located in the Big Chino sub-basin of the Verde River groundwater basin that has historically irrigated acres for transportation to an adjacent initial active management area under the criteria set forth in A.R.S. §45-555(A)-(D), as that statute exists as of the Effective Date, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 13.1.3 to the Agreement; or

(bb) withdraw and transport 8,068 AFY of Underground Water from the Big Chino sub-basin of the Verde River groundwater basin to the Prescott active management area pursuant to the criteria set forth in A.R.S. §45-555(E) and (G), as that statute exists as of the Effective Date, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 13.1.3 to the Agreement; or

(cc) withdraw and transport Underground Water from land located in the Big Chino sub-basin of the Verde River groundwater basin to the Prescott active management area to meet the additional needs of an Indian tribe in the Prescott active management area pursuant to a federally-approved Indian water rights settlement under A.R.S. §45-555(G) and (F), as that statute exists as of the Effective date, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 13.1.3 to the Agreement.

(VII) providing a source of supply for an M&I Use for a Municipal Water Provider or a Public Water System (that does not have an agreement with the YAN pursuant to subparagraph 16.1.2 of the Agreement) that meets all of the following conditions:

(aa) The well is located outside the lateral limits of the Verde River Subflow Zone.

(bb) All buildings constructed after the well is drilled that are served by the Municipal Water Provider or Public Water System have WaterSense Labeled Fixtures, or fixtures that are equivalent to or exceed WaterSense specifications for water efficiency and performance as set forth in Exhibit 2.90 to the Agreement.

(cc) The Municipal Water Provider or Public Water System uses its best efforts to ensure that all outdoor landscaping installed after the well is drilled that is served by the Municipal Water Provider or Public Water System uses only native or drought tolerant plants, except as provided for in item (dd).

(dd) All turf or other landscape areas not using native or drought tolerant plants, including for schools, parks, cemeteries, golf courses, or common areas, installed after the well is drilled are, to the extent permitted by State law, prohibited by the Municipal Water Provider or Public Water System unless the plants are 100% served with Effluent, greywater, harvested rainwater, or some combination thereof.

(ee) Ornamental water features (except swimming pools), ponds, and lakes constructed after the well is drilled are, to the extent permitted by State law, prohibited by the Municipal Water Provider or Public Water System unless the features, ponds, and lakes are 100% served with Effluent, greywater, harvested rainwater, or some combination thereof.

(b) **WAIVER, RELEASE, AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS FOR WATER RIGHTS AND INJURY TO**

WATER RIGHTS BY THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION, ON BEHALF OF THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION AND THE MEMBERS OF THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION (BUT NOT MEMBERS IN THE CAPACITY OF THE MEMBERS AS ALLOTTEES), AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.—

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Yavapai-Apache Nation, acting on behalf of the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees), as part of the performance of the obligations of the Yavapai-Apache Nation under the Agreement and this division, shall execute a waiver and release of all claims against the United States, including agencies, officials, and employees of the United States, under Federal, State, or other law for all—

(A) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River water, for YAN Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever;

(B) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land by the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the predecessors of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or the predecessors of the members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation;

(C) Past and present claims relating in any manner to damage, losses, or injury to land or other resources due to loss of Water or Water Rights (including damages, losses, or injuries to hunting, fishing, gathering, or cultural rights due to loss of Water or Water Rights, claims relating to interference with, Diversion, or taking of Water, or claims relating to the failure to protect, acquire, or develop Water, Water Rights, or Water infrastructure) within the State that first accrued at any time prior to the Enforceability Date;

(D) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River water, for YAN Land, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date;

(E) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land by the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the predecessors of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or the predecessors of the members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation;

(F) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River water, arising after the Enforceability Date for YAN Land, resulting from the off-Reservation Diversion or Use of Water in a manner not in violation of the Agreement or State law; and

(G) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Agreement, or this division.

(2) The waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) shall be in the form set forth in Exhibit 13.2 to the Agreement and shall take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and set forth in Exhibit 13.2 to the Agreement, the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees) shall retain any right—

(A) subject to Subparagraph 17.9 of the Agreement, to assert claims for injuries to,

and seek enforcement of, their rights under the Agreement or this division in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction;

(B) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, their rights under any judgment or decree entered by the Gila River Adjudication Court, including the Verde River Decree;

(C) to assert claims for Water Rights or Injury to Water Rights acquired before the Enforceability Date pursuant to Subparagraph 4.14.1 of the Agreement;

(D) to challenge or object to any claims for Water Rights or Injury to Water Rights by or for any Indian Tribe or the United States, acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe;

(E) to assert past, present, or future claims for Injury to Water Rights against any Indian Tribe or the United States, acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe;

(F) to assert claims for Injury to Water Rights arising after the Enforceability Date for YAN Land resulting from any off-Reservation Diversion of Surface Water within the Verde River Watershed, other than from a well, if the Diversion or Use of Surface Water was first initiated after the Effective Date and was not the subject of a permit to appropriate Surface Water issued by the Arizona Department of Water Resources before the Effective Date; and

(G) to assert claims for Injury to Water Rights arising after the Enforceability Date for YAN Land resulting from any off-Reservation Diversion or Use of Water from a well, if—

(i) the Water is determined by the Gila River Adjudication Court to be Surface Water; and

(ii) the well is located within the Verde River Watershed above Gage No. 09506000, Verde River near Camp Verde, AZ; and

(iii) the well was constructed after the Effective Date; and

(iv) the well is not:

(I) a Replacement Well; or

(II) a new point of Diversion for a Surface Water Use predating the Effective Date; or

(III) operated by a Municipal Water Provider pursuant to an agreement with the Yavapai-Apache Nation under Subparagraph 16.1.2 of the Agreement; or

(IV) constructed for Domestic Use or Stock Watering Use; or

(V) constructed to supply a Stockpond with a capacity not to exceed 4 acre-feet.

(C) WAIVER, RELEASE AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS BY THE UNITED STATES IN ALL CAPACITIES (EXCEPT AS TRUSTEE FOR AN INDIAN TRIBE OTHER THAN THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION) AGAINST THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION AND THE MEMBERS OF THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION.—

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (3), the United States, in all capacities (except as trustee for an Indian Tribe other than the Yavapai-Apache Nation), as part of the performance of the obligations of the United States under the Agreement and this division, shall execute a waiver and release of all claims against the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or any agency, official, or employee of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, under Federal, State, or any other law for all—

(A) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River water, resulting from the Diversion or Use of Water on YAN Land arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date;

(B) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River water, arising after the Enforceability Date, resulting from the Diversion or Use of Water on YAN Land in a manner that is not in violation of the Agreement or State law; and

(C) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or related in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Agreement, or this division.

(2) The waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) shall be in the form set forth in Exhibit 13.3 to the Agreement and shall take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and set forth in Exhibit 13.3 to the Agreement, the United States shall retain any right to assert any claim not expressly waived in accordance with that paragraph and that exhibit.

(d) NO EFFECT ON ACTIONS RELATING TO HEALTH, SAFETY OR ENVIRONMENT.—Nothing in the Agreement or this division affects any right of the United States or the Yavapai-Apache Nation on behalf of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or on behalf of the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, to take any action authorized by law relating to health, safety, or the environment, including—

(1) The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, commonly known as “the Clean Water Act”, (33 U.S.C.1251 et seq.);

(2) The Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.).

(3) The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.); and

(4) any regulations implementing the Acts described in subsection (d)(1), (d)(2) or (d)(3).

SEC. 5109. SATISFACTION OF WATER RIGHTS AND OTHER BENEFITS; EFFECT ON MEMBERS OF THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION AND DINAH HOOD ALLOTMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The benefits provided under the Agreement and this division shall be in complete replacement of, complete substitution for, and full satisfaction of any claim of the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees) against the parties to the Agreement, including the United States, that is waived and released by the Yavapai-Apache Nation acting on behalf of the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees) pursuant to sections 5108(a) and 5108(b) of this division and Subparagraphs 13.1 and 13.2 to the Agreement.

(b) ENTITLEMENTS.—Any entitlement to Water of the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees) or the United States acting in the capacity of the United States as trustee for the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees), for YAN Land shall be satisfied out of the water resources and other benefits granted, confirmed, quantified, or recognized by the Agreement or this division to or for the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees), and the United States, acting in the capacity of the United States as trustee for the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees).

(c) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), nothing in the Agreement or this division—

(1) recognizes or establishes any right of a Member of the Yavapai-Apache Nation to Water on YAN Land; or

(2) prohibits the Yavapai-Apache Nation from acquiring additional Water Rights by

purchase or donation of land, credits, or Water Rights.

(d) EFFECT ON MEMBERS OF THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION.—Except as provided in subsections (a) and (b) and sections 5108(a) and 5108(b), the Agreement and this division shall not affect any rights of any Member of the Yavapai-Apache Nation to water for land outside of YAN Land.

(e) EFFECT ON DINAH HOOD ALLOTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) Nothing in the Agreement and this division quantifies or diminishes any Water Right, or any claim or entitlement to Water for the Dinah Hood Allotment; or

(B) precludes beneficial owners of the Dinah Hood Allotment, or the United States, acting in its capacity as trustee for beneficial owners of the Dinah Hood allotment, from making claims for Water Rights in Arizona. To the extent authorized by applicable law, beneficial owners of the Dinah Hood Allotment, or the United States, acting in its capacity as trustee for beneficial owners of the Dinah Hood allotment, may make claims to, and may be adjudicated, individual Water Rights in Arizona.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Yavapai-Apache Nation, in its capacity as a holder of a beneficial real property interest in the Dinah Hood Allotment, shall not object to, challenge or dispute the claims of Water users to Water from the Verde River Watershed, in the Gila River Adjudication Proceedings or in any other judicial or administrative proceeding.

SEC. 5110. TRUST LAND.

(a) YAVAPAI-APACHE RESERVATION.—The Yavapai-Apache Reservation includes—

(1) the land located within the exterior boundaries of the Yavapai-Apache Reservation as described and depicted in Exhibits 2.96A through E and Exhibit 2.102 to the Agreement, as documented by the Department Interior Division of Land Titles and Records Office;

(2) the land added to the Reservation pursuant to subsection (b);

(3) the land added to the Reservation pursuant to section 5201(c); and

(4) land that, as of the Enforceability Date, has been added to the Reservation pursuant to Federal law.

(b) LAND TO BE TAKEN INTO TRUST.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Within thirty (30) days of enactment of this division, the Secretary is authorized and directed to accept the transfer of title to the land shown on the maps in Exhibits 2.98A and 2.98B to the Agreement, as identified in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), and (G) and to hold such land in trust for the benefit of the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(A) OTTER WATERS.—A tract of land located in Section 33, Township 15 North, Range 4 East, Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in instrument number 2023-0005245 recorded on February 3, 2023 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(B) CEMETERY PROPERTY.—A tract of land located in the East half of the Northeast quarter of Section 11, Township 14 North, Range 4 East, Gila and Salt River Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in instrument number 2023-0025892 recorded on June 15, 2023 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(C) BROWN PROPERTY.—

(i) PARCEL 1.—A tract of land located in the Southwest quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 2, Township 14 North, Range 4 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in instrument number 2021-0087445 recorded on December 9, 2021 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(ii) PARCEL 2.—A tract of land located in the Southwest quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 2 and the Northwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 11, Township 14 North, Range 4 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in instrument number 2021-0087445 recorded on December 9, 2021 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(D) DISTANCE DRUMS RV PARK PROPERTY.—

(i) PARCEL 1.—A tract of land as recorded in Book 3627, Page 782, Records of Yavapai County, located in a portion of Government Lots 10 and 11 of Section 7 and Government Lots 13 and 14 of Section 18, Township 14 North, Range 5 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in Book 4332, Page 281 recorded on November 7, 2005 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(ii) PARCEL 2.—A tract of land located in a portion of Government Lot 12 of Section 7, Township 14 North, Range 5 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in Book 4332, Page 281 recorded on November 7, 2005 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(iii) PARCEL 3.—A tract of land located in Section 7, Township 14 North, Range 5 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in Book 4332, Page 281 recorded on November 7, 2005 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(E) SONIC/CHEVRON PROPERTY.—

(i) PARCEL 1.—A tract of land located in that part of Lot 13, Section 18, Township 14 North, Range 5 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, being a portion of that parcel of land described in Book 3068, Page 519 in the Office of the Yavapai County Recorder, as described in Book 4115, Page 876 recorded on February 2, 2004 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(ii) PARCEL 2.—A tract of land located in that part of Lot 13, Section 18, Township 14 North, Range 5 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, being a portion of that parcel of land described in Book 3068, Page 519 in the Office of the Yavapai County Recorder, as described in Book 4115, Page 876 recorded on February 2, 2004 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(iii) PARCEL 3.—A tract of land located in that part of Lot 13, Section 18, Township 14 North, Range 5 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, being a portion of that parcel of land described in Book 3068, Page 519 in the office of the Yavapai County Recorder, as described in Book 4115, Page 888 recorded on February 2, 2004 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(F) ARENA DEL LOMA PROPERTY.—

(i) PARCEL 1.—A tract of land located in Section 19, Township 14 North, Range 5 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in instrument number 2020-0044727 recorded on August 7, 2020 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(ii) PARCEL 2.—A tract of land located in Section 19, Township 14 North, Range 5 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, lying within South Middle Verde Road (Arena Del Loma Road) as abandoned by Town of Camp Verde, as shown on plat of record in Book 198 of Maps, Page 51, records of Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in instrument number 2020-0044727 recorded on August 7, 2020 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(iii) PARCEL 3.—A tract of land located in the Northeast quarter of Section 19, Township 14 North, Range 5 East, of the Gila and

Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, being a portion of that parcel described in Book 4227, page 525 Record Source #1 (R1), records of the Yavapai County Recorder's Office, as described in instrument number 2022-0059695 recorded on October 6, 2022 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(G) GIANT'S GRAVE PROPERTY.—

(i) PARCEL 1.—A tract of land located in the Northeast quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 19, Township 16 North, Range 3 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in Book 3319, Page 620, instrument number 9667800 recorded on November 27, 1996 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(ii) PARCEL 2.—A tract of land located in the South half of the South half of Section 19 and in the Northeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 30, Township 16 North, Range 3 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in Book 3319, Page 620, instrument number 9667800 recorded on November 27, 1996 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(iii) PARCEL 3.—A tract of land 20 feet in width and more or less 178 feet in length located in the South ½ of Section 19, Township 16 North, Range 3 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Yavapai County, Arizona, being a portion of that certain parcel of land described in Book 3568, Page 18, Official Records recorded in the Yavapai County Recorder's Office, Yavapai County, Arizona, as described in instrument number 2022-0036985 recorded on June 15, 2022 in the records of the Yavapai County Recorder.

(2) RESERVATION STATUS.—The land taken into trust under paragraph (1) shall be a part of the Yavapai-Apache Reservation and administered in accordance with the laws and regulations generally applicable to the land held in trust by the United States for an Indian Tribe.

(3) VALID EXISTING RIGHTS.—The land taken into trust under paragraph (1) shall be subject to valid existing rights, including easements, rights-of-way, contracts, and management agreements.

(4) LIMITATIONS.—Nothing in this subsection affects any right or claim of the Yavapai-Apache Nation to any land or interest in land in existence before the date of enactment of this division.

(5) LAND DESCRIPTIONS.—The Secretary may correct, by mutual agreement with the Yavapai-Apache Nation, any errors in the land descriptions of the land conveyed to the Secretary pursuant to this subsection and section 5201(b).

(6) CONFLICT.—If there is a conflict between a map and a description of land in this division, the map shall control unless the Secretary and the Yavapai-Apache Nation mutually agree otherwise.

SEC. 5111. YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION CAP WATER.

(a) YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION AMENDED CAP WATER DELIVERY CONTRACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with the Yavapai-Apache Nation Water Rights Settlement Agreement and the requirements described in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall enter into the YAN Amended CAP Water Delivery Contract.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements referred to in paragraph (1) are the following:

(A) IN GENERAL.—The YAN Amended CAP Water Delivery Contract shall—

(i) be for permanent service (as that term is used in section 5 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act (43 U.S.C. 617d));

(ii) take effect on the Enforceability Date; and

(iii) be without limit as to term.

(B) YAN CAP WATER.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The YAN CAP water may be delivered for use in the State through—

(I) any project authorized under this division; or

(II) the CAP System.

(C) CONTRACTUAL DELIVERY.—The Secretary shall deliver the YAN CAP water to Yavapai-Apache Nation in accordance with the terms and conditions of the YAN Amended CAP Water Delivery Contract.

(D) DELIVERY OF CAP INDIAN PRIORITY WATER.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—If a time of shortage exists, as that term is described in the YAN Amended CAP Water Delivery Contract, the amount of CAP Indian Priority Water available to the YAN in such Year shall be computed in accordance with subsection 5.8 of the YAN Amended CAP Repayment Contract.

(E) LEASES AND EXCHANGES OF YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION CAP WATER.—On or after the date on which the YAN Amended CAP Water Delivery Contract becomes effective, the Yavapai-Apache Nation may, with the approval of the Secretary, enter into contracts or options to lease or to exchange YAN CAP Water in Coconino, Gila, Maricopa, Pinal, Pima, and Yavapai counties, Arizona, providing for the temporary delivery to any individual or entity of any portion of the YAN CAP Water.

(F) TERMS OF LEASES AND EXCHANGES.—

(i) LEASING.—Contracts or options to lease under subparagraph (E) shall be for a term of not more than 100 years.

(ii) EXCHANGES.—Contracts or options to exchange under subparagraph (E) shall be for the term provided for in the contract or option, as applicable.

(iii) RENEGOTIATION.—The YAN may, with the approval of the Secretary, renegotiate any lease described in subparagraph (E), at any time during the term of the lease, if the term of the renegotiated lease does not exceed 100 years.

(G) PROHIBITION ON PERMANENT ALIENATION.—No YAN CAP Water may be permanently alienated.

(H) ENTITLEMENT TO LEASE AND EXCHANGE FUNDS; OBLIGATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES.—

(i) ENTITLEMENT.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—The Yavapai-Apache Nation shall be entitled to all consideration due to the Yavapai-Apache Nation under any contract to lease, option to lease, contract to exchange, or option to exchange the YAN CAP Water entered into by the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(II) EXCLUSION.—The United States shall not, in any capacity, be entitled to the consideration described in subclause (I).

(ii) OBLIGATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES.—The United States shall not, in any capacity, have any trust or other obligation to monitor, administer, or account for, in any manner, any funds received by the Yavapai-Apache Nation as consideration under any contract to lease, option to lease, contract to exchange, or option to exchange the YAN CAP Water entered into by Yavapai-Apache Nation, except in a case in which the Yavapai-Apache Nation deposits the proceeds of any lease, option to lease, contract to exchange, or option to exchange into an account held in trust for the Yavapai-Apache Nation by the United States.

(I) WATER USE AND STORAGE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Yavapai-Apache Nation may use YAN CAP Water on or off the YAN Reservation.

(ii) STORAGE.—The Yavapai-Apache Nation, in accordance with State law, may store YAN CAP Water at 1 or more underground storage facilities or groundwater savings facilities.

(iii) ASSIGNMENT.—The Yavapai-Apache Nation may, without the approval of the Secretary, sell, transfer, or assign any long-term storage credits accrued as a result of storage described in clause (ii).

(J) USE OUTSIDE STATE.—The Yavapai-Apache Nation may not use, lease, exchange, forbear, or otherwise transfer any YAN CAP Water for use directly or indirectly outside the State.

(K) CAP FIXED OM&R CHARGES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The CAP Operating Agency shall be paid the CAP Fixed OM&R charges associated with the delivery of all YAN CAP Water.

(ii) PAYMENT OF CHARGES.—Except as provided in subparagraph (N), all CAP Fixed OM&R charges associated with the delivery of YAN CAP Water to the Yavapai-Apache Nation shall be paid by—

(I) the Secretary, pursuant to section 403(f)(2)(A) of the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. 1543(f)(2)(A)), subject to the condition that funds for that payment are available in the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund; and

(II) if the funds described in subclause (I) become unavailable, the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(L) CAP PUMPING ENERGY CHARGES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The CAP Operating Agency shall be paid the CAP Pumping Energy Charge associated with the delivery of YAN CAP Water only in cases in which the CAP System is used for the delivery of that water.

(ii) PAYMENT OF CHARGES.—Except for CAP Water not delivered through the CAP System, which does not incur a CAP Pumping Energy Charge, or water delivered to other persons as described in subparagraph (N), any applicable CAP Pumping Energy Charge associated with the delivery of the YAN CAP Water shall be paid by the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(M) WAIVER OF PROPERTY TAX EQUIVALENCY PAYMENTS.—No property tax or in-lieu property tax equivalency shall be due or payable by the Yavapai-Apache Nation for the delivery of CAP Water or for the storage of CAP Water in an underground storage facility or groundwater savings facility.

(N) LESSEE RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHARGES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Any lease or option to lease providing for the temporary delivery to other persons of any YAN CAP Water shall require the lessee to pay to the CAP Operating Agency the CAP Fixed OM&R Charge and the CAP Pumping Energy Charge associated with the delivery of the leased water.

(ii) NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAYMENT.—Neither the Yavapai-Apache Nation nor the United States in any capacity shall be responsible for the payment of any charges associated with the delivery of the YAN CAP Water leased to other persons.

(O) ADVANCE PAYMENT.—No YAN CAP Water shall be delivered unless the CAP Fixed OM&R Charge and any applicable CAP Pumping Energy Charge associated with the delivery of that water have been paid in advance.

(P) CALCULATION.—The charges for delivery of YAN CAP Water pursuant to the Yavapai-Apache Nation Amended CAP Water Delivery Contract shall be calculated in accordance with the CAP Repayment Stipulation.

(Q) CAP REPAYMENT.—For purposes of determining the allocation and repayment of costs of any stages of the CAP System constructed after November 21, 2007, the costs associated with the delivery of YAN CAP Water, whether such water is delivered for use by the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or in accordance with any assignment, exchange, lease, option to lease, or other agreement for the temporary disposition of YAN CAP Water entered into by the YAN, shall be—

(i) nonreimbursable; and

(ii) excluded from the repayment obligation of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District.

(R) NONREIMBURSABLE CAP CONSTRUCTION COSTS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—With respect to the costs associated with the construction of the CAP System allocable to the Yavapai-Apache Nation—

(I) the costs shall be nonreimbursable; and

(II) the Yavapai-Apache Nation shall have no repayment obligation for the costs.

(ii) CAPITAL CHARGES.—No CAP water service capital charges shall be due or payable for the YAN CAP Water, regardless of whether the YAN CAP Water is delivered—

(I) for use by the Yavapai-Apache Nation; or

(II) under any lease, option to lease, exchange, or option to exchange entered into by the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

SEC. 5112. ENFORCEABILITY DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Agreement, including the waivers and releases of claims described in section 5108, shall take effect and be fully enforceable on the date on which the Secretary publishes in the Federal Register a statement of findings that—

(1) to the extent the Agreement conflicts with this division—

(A) the Agreement has been revised through an amendment to eliminate the conflict; and

(B) the revised Agreement, including any exhibit requiring amendment or execution by any party to the Agreement, has been executed by all required parties;

(2) the waivers, releases and retentions of claims described in paragraph 13.0 of the Agreement and in section 5108 of this division have been executed by the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the United States, and the other parties to the Agreement;

(3) the full amount described in section 5107(a)(1)(A), as adjusted by section 5107(d)(1), has been deposited into the Cragin-Verde Pipeline Account of the Tú ńl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project Fund;

(4) the full amount described in section 5107(a)(1)(B), as adjusted by section 5107(d)(1), has been deposited into the YAN Drinking Water System Account of the Tú ńl nichoh Water Infrastructure Project Fund;

(5) the full amounts described in sections 5107(a)(2)(A), (B), (C), (D) and (E), as adjusted by section 5107(d)(2), have been deposited into the Trust Fund;

(6) the Arizona Department of Water Resources has conditionally approved the severance and transfer of the right of SRP to the diversion and beneficial use of water under Arizona Department of Water Rights Certificate of Water Right No. 3696.0002 as described in Paragraph 8.0 of the Agreement, in an amount not to exceed an average of 3,410.26 AFY, up to a maximum of 3,977.92 acre-feet in any given Year, to the Nation and the United States in its capacity as trustee for the Nation, and has issued a conditional certificate of water right to the Nation and the United States in its capacity as trustee for the Nation, to become effective on the Enforceability Date;

(7) the changes in places of use and points of diversion for the surface water rights to the Verde River as described in Subparagraph 5.4 of the Agreement have been conditionally approved, to become effective on the Enforceability Date, provided that the YAN, in its sole discretion, may waive this condition;

(8) the Gila River Adjudication Court has included the water right for instream flow for the Nation and the United States as trustee for the Nation, as described in Subparagraphs 11.2 and 11.3 of the YAN Judgment, which substantially conforms to the

attributes described in Exhibit 11.1B to the Agreement, provided that the Nation, in its sole discretion, may waive this condition;

(9) except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (7) and (8), the Gila River Adjudication Court has approved the YAN Judgment in substantially the same form attached as Exhibit 13.9 to the Agreement, as amended to ensure consistency with this division;

(10) the Secretary has issued a final record of decision approving the construction of the Tú ní nichoh Water Infrastructure Project as described section 5103 of this division;

(11) the Nation and the Town of Clarkdale have executed the Water and Sewer Service Agreement described in Exhibit 16.1.2.3 to the Agreement, provided that, the Nation, in its sole discretion, may waive this condition;

(12) the Nation and the Town of Camp Verde have executed the Interconnection and Exchange Agreement described in Exhibit 16.1.2.2 to the Agreement provided that, the Nation, in its sole discretion, may waive this condition; and

(13) The tribal council of the Yavapai-Apache Nation has adopted a resolution, as described in section 5113(a) of this division, consenting to the limited waiver of sovereign immunity from suit in the circumstances described in section 5113(a)(3).

(b) FAILURE TO SATISFY CONDITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), if the Secretary fails to publish in the Federal Register a statement of findings under subsection (a) by June 30, 2035, or such alternative later date as may be agreed to by the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the Secretary, and the State:

(A) this division is repealed with the exception described in paragraph (2) below;

(B) any action taken by the Secretary and any contract or agreement entered into pursuant to this division shall be void;

(C) The United States shall be entitled to Offset any Federal amounts made available under section 5107(e)(2) that were used under that section against any claims asserted by the Yavapai-Apache Nation against the United States; and

(D) Any amounts appropriated under section 5107, together with any investment earnings on those amounts, less any amounts expended under section 5104(e)(2), shall revert immediately to the general fund of the Treasury.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1), if the Secretary fails to publish in the Federal Register a statement of findings under subsection (a) by June 30, 2035, or such alternative later date as may be agreed to by the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the Secretary, and the State, sections 5110 and 5201 shall remain in effect.

SEC. 5113. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY BY THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION AND THE UNITED STATES ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Yavapai-Apache Nation, and the United States acting as trustee for the Yavapai-Apache Nation, may be joined in any action brought in any circumstance described in paragraph (3), and any claim by the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the United States to sovereign immunity from any such action is waived.

(2) CONSENT OF YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION.—By resolution dated June 26, 2024, the Yavapai-Apache Nation Council has affirmatively consented to the limited waiver of sovereign immunity from suit in any circumstance described in paragraph (3) notwithstanding any provision of the Yavapai-Apache Nation Code or any other Yavapai-Apache Nation law.

(3) CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED.—A circumstance referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) is described as any of the following:

(A) Any party to the Agreement:

(i) brings an action in any court of competent jurisdiction relating only and directly to the interpretation or enforcement of:

(I) this division; or

(II) the Agreement and exhibits to the Agreement;

(ii) names the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or the United States acting as trustee for the Yavapai-Apache Nation, as a party in that action; and

(iii) does not include any request for award against the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or the United States acting as trustee for the Yavapai-Apache Nation, for money damages, court costs, or attorney fees, except for claims brought by a party pursuant to the YAN-SRP Water Delivery and Use Agreement and YAN-SRP Exchange Agreement.

(B) Any landowner or water user in the Gila River Watershed:

(i) brings an action in any court of competent jurisdiction relating only and directly to the interpretation or enforcement of:

(I) paragraph 13.0 of the Agreement;

(II) the Gila River Adjudication Decree;

(III) section 5108 of this division; or

(ii) names the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or the United States acting as trustee for the Yavapai-Apache Nation, as a party in that action; and

(iii) shall not include any request for award against the Yavapai-Apache Nation, or the United States acting as trustee for the Yavapai-Apache Nation, for money damages, court costs or attorney fees.

(b) ANTIDEFICIENCY.—Notwithstanding any authorization of appropriations to carry out this division, the United States shall not be liable for any failure of the United States to carry out any obligation or activity authorized by this division (including all agreements or exhibits ratified or confirmed by this division) if adequate appropriations are not provided expressly by Congress to carry out the purposes of this division.

(c) APPLICABILITY OF RECLAMATION REFORM ACT.—The Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390aa et seq.) and any other acreage limitation or full-cost pricing provision under Federal law shall not apply to any individual, entity, or land solely on the basis of—

(1) receipt of any benefit under this title;

(2) the execution or performance of the Agreement; or

(3) the use, storage, delivery, lease, or exchange of CAP water.

SEC. 5114. MISCELLANEOUS.

(a) C.C. CRAGIN DAM AND RESERVOIR.—Section 213(i)(3)(B) of the Gila River Indian Community Water Rights Settlement Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-451; 118 Stat. 3533) is amended—

(1) by striking “Blue Ridge Reservoir” and inserting “C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following: “Up to 1,639.74 acre-feet of water per year may be made available from the C.C. Cragin Reservoir for municipal and domestic uses in Yavapai County, Arizona, without cost to the Salt River Federal Reclamation Project, provided that, on or before December 31, 2029, water users in Yavapai County have contracted with the Salt River Federal Reclamation Project for the use of the water described in this subparagraph.”

(b) EFFECT OF TITLE.—Nothing in this title quantifies or otherwise affects any water right or claim or entitlement to water of any Indian tribe, band, or community other than the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

TITLE LII—YAVAPAI-APACHE LAND EXCHANGE

SEC. 5201. YAVAPAI-APACHE LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) YAVAPAI-APACHE LAND EXCHANGE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the

Secretary of the Department of Agriculture is directed to—

(1) within thirty (30) days of enactment of this division, unless the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture has already accepted title to such land, accept title to the Non-Federal Land consisting of approximately 4,781.96 acres owned by the Yavapai-Apache Nation in the State, as described in subparagraphs (4)(A), (B), (C), (D), (E) and (F) and Exhibits 2.98G-1, 2.98G-2, 2.98G-3, 2.98G-4, 2.98G-5 and 2.98G-6 to the Agreement, and such lands are deemed added to each National Forest listed in the description in subparagraphs (a)(4)(A)-(F) upon the date of acceptance of title by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture;

(2) within thirty (30) days of enactment of this division, unless such lands have already been transferred by the Forest Service to the Yavapai-Apache Nation, transfer the Federal Land consisting of approximately 3,087.90 acres held by the Forest Service, as described in subparagraphs (5)(A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), (H) and (I) and shown in Exhibit 2.98A to the Agreement, to the Secretary of the Interior to be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Yavapai-Apache Nation; and

(3) within thirty (30) days of enactment of this division, unless such lands have already been transferred by the Forest Service to the Yavapai-Apache Nation as of the date of enactment of this division, convey the Federal Land consisting of approximately 118.92 acres held by the Forest Service as described in subparagraph (5)(J), to the Yavapai-Apache Nation in fee.

(4) NON-FEDERAL LAND.—For purposes of this subsection (b), Non-Federal Land shall include the following as depicted in Exhibit 2.98 of the Agreement:

(A) Red Mountain at Yavapai Ranch Six Sections Parcel (YAN1) – Prescott National Forest

(B) Johnston Ranch Parcel (YAN2) – Coconino National Forest

(C) Pinedale Parcel (YAN3) – Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest

(D) Laurel Leaf Parcel (YAN4) – Prescott National Forest

(E) Heber Parcel (YAN5) – Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest

(F) Williams Parcel (YAN6) – Kaibab National Forest

(5) FEDERAL LAND.—For purposes of this subsection (b), Federal Land shall include the following as depicted in Exhibit 2.98 of the Agreement:

(A) Montezuma A Parcel (NF1)

(B) Montezuma B Parcel (NF2)

(C) Montezuma C Parcel (NF3)

(D) Montezuma D Parcel (NF4)

(E) Lower 260 Parcel (NF5)

(F) Upper 260 Parcel (NF6)

(G) Middle Verde A Parcel (NF7)

(H) Middle Verde B Parcel (NF8)

(I) Middle Verde C Parcel (NF9)

(J) Cedar Ridge Parcel (NF10)

(b) LAND TO BE TAKEN INTO TRUST.—If the lands described in subparagraphs (5)(A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), (H) and (I) are held by the Yavapai-Apache Nation in fee as of the date of enactment of this division, within thirty (30) days of enactment of this division, the Secretary is authorized and directed to take legal title to the land and hold such land in trust for the benefit of the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

(c) RESERVATION STATUS.—The land taken into trust under subsection (b) shall be a part of the Yavapai-Apache Reservation and administered in accordance with the laws and regulations generally applicable to the land held in trust by the United States for an Indian Tribe.

(d) VALID EXISTING RIGHTS.—The land taken into trust under subsection (b) shall be

subject to valid existing rights, including easements, rights-of-way, contracts, and managements agreements.

(e) **LIMITATIONS.**—Nothing in this section 5201 affects any right or claim of the Yavapai-Apache Nation to any land or interest in land in existence before the date of enactment of this division.

SEC. 5202. TOWN OF CAMP VERDE AND FOREST SERVICE.

Pursuant to existing authorities, the Forest Service shall work expeditiously with the Town of Camp Verde to transfer title to the Town of Camp Verde of up to 40 acres of Forest Service land located at the intersection of Interstate 17 and General Crook Trail within the municipal boundaries of the Town of Camp Verde for public safety and other municipal purposes.

SA 3287. 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, add the following:

DIVISION E—NORTHEASTERN ARIZONA INDIAN WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2024

SEC. 5001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “North-eastern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement Act of 2024”.

SEC. 5002. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this division are—

(1) to achieve a fair, equitable, and final settlement of all claims to rights to water in the State for—

(A) the Navajo Nation and Navajo Allottees;

(B) the Hopi Tribe and Hopi Allottees;

(C) the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe; and

(D) the United States, acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, Navajo Allottees, and Hopi Allottees;

(2) to authorize, ratify, and confirm the Northeastern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement Agreement entered into by the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the State, and other Parties to the extent that the Settlement Agreement is consistent with this division;

(3) to authorize and direct the Secretary to execute and perform the duties and obligations of the Secretary under the Settlement Agreement and this division; and

(4) to authorize funds necessary for the implementation of the Settlement Agreement and this division.

SEC. 5003. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

(1) **1882 RESERVATION.**—The term “1882 Reservation” means—

(A) land within the exterior boundaries of the “Hopi Indian Reservation” defined as District 6 in *Healing v. Jones*, 210 F. Supp. 125, 173 (D. Ariz. 1962), *aff’d*, 373 U.S. 758 (1963), and *Masayesva* for and on Behalf of Hopi Indian Tribe v. Hale, 118 F.3d 1371, 1375–76 (9th Cir. 1997); and

(B) all land withdrawn by the Executive order of December 16, 1882, and partitioned to the Hopi Tribe in accordance with section 4 of the Act of December 22, 1974 (Public Law 93–531; 88 Stat. 1713), by Judgment of Partition, February 10, 1977, *Sekaquaptewa v. MacDonald*, Case No. CIV-579-PCT-JAW (D. Ariz.), *aff’d*, 626 F.2d 113 (9th Cir. 1980).

(2) **AFY.**—The term “AFY” means acre-foot per year.

(3) **ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES.**—The term “Arizona Department of Water Resources” means the agency of the State established pursuant to section 45-102 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, or a successor agency or entity.

(4) **BUREAU.**—The term “Bureau” means the Bureau of Reclamation.

(5) **CAP; CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT.**—The terms “CAP” and “Central Arizona Project” mean the Federal reclamation project authorized and constructed by the United States in accordance with title III of the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. 1521 et seq.).

(6) **CAP REPAYMENT CONTRACT.**—The term “CAP Repayment Contract” means—

(A) the contract dated December 1, 1988 (Contract No. 14-06-W-245, Amendment No. 1), between the United States and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District for the delivery of water and the repayment of costs of the Central Arizona Project; and

(B) any amendment to, or revision of, that contract.

(7) **CAWCD; CENTRAL ARIZONA WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT.**—The terms “CAWCD” and “Central Arizona Water Conservation District” mean the political subdivision of the State that is the contractor under the CAP Repayment Contract.

(8) **CIBOLA WATER.**—The term “Cibola Water” means the entitlement of the Hopi Tribe to the diversion of up to 4,278 AFY of the Fourth Priority Water described in the Hopi Tribe Existing Cibola Contract.

(9) **COLORADO RIVER COMPACT.**—The term “Colorado River Compact” means the Colorado River Compact of 1922, as ratified and reprinted in article 2 of chapter 7 of title 45, Arizona Revised Statutes.

(10) **COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM.**—The term “Colorado River System” has the meaning given the term in Article II(a) of the Colorado River Compact.

(11) **COLORADO RIVER WATER.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “Colorado River Water” means the waters of the Colorado River apportioned for Use within the State by—

(i) sections 4 and 5 of the Boulder Canyon Project Act (43 U.S.C. 617c, 617d);

(ii) the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact of 1948, as ratified and reprinted in article 3 of chapter 7 of title 45, Arizona Revised Statutes;

(iii) the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.);

(iv) the contract for delivery of water between the United States and the State, dated February 9, 1944; and

(v) the Decree.

(B) **LIMITATIONS.**—The term “Colorado River Water”—

(i) shall only be used for purposes of interpreting the Settlement Agreement and this division; and

(ii) shall not be used for any interpretation of existing law or contract, including any law or contract described in clauses (i) through (v) of subparagraph (A).

(12) **DECREE.**—The term “Decree”, when used without a modifier, means—

(A) the decree of the Supreme Court of the United States in *Arizona v. California*, 376 U.S. 340 (1964);

(B) the consolidated decree entered on March 27, 2006, in *Arizona v. California*, 547 U.S. 150 (2006); and

(C) any modification to a decree described in subparagraph (A) or (B).

(13) **DIVERSION.**—The term “diversion” means an act to divert.

(14) **DIVERT.**—The term “divert” means to receive, withdraw, develop, produce, or capture water using—

(A) a ditch, canal, flume, bypass, pipeline, pit, collection or infiltration gallery, conduit, well, pump, turnout, dam, or any other mechanical device; or

(B) any other human act.

(15) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The term “Effective Date” means the date as of which the Settlement Agreement has been executed by not fewer than 30 of the Parties, including—

(A) the Navajo Nation;

(B) the Hopi Tribe;

(C) the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe;

(D) the State;

(E) the Arizona State Land Department;

(F) the Central Arizona Water Conservation District;

(G) the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District; and

(H) the Salt River Valley Water Users’ Association.

(16) **EFFLUENT.**—The term “Effluent” means water that—

(A) has been used in the State for domestic, municipal, or industrial purposes, other than solely for hydropower generation; and

(B) is available for reuse for any purpose, regardless of whether the water has been treated to improve the quality of the water.

(17) **ENFORCEABILITY DATE.**—The term “Enforceability Date” means the date described in section 5016(a).

(18) **FIFTH PRIORITY WATER.**—The term “Fifth Priority Water” has the meaning given the term in the Hopi Tribe Existing Cibola Contract.

(19) **FOURTH PRIORITY WATER.**—The term “Fourth Priority Water” means Colorado River Water available for delivery within the State for satisfaction of entitlements—

(A) in accordance with contracts, Secretarial reservations, perfected rights, and other arrangements between the United States and water users in the State entered into or established after September 30, 1968, for Use on Federal, State, or privately owned land in the State, in a total quantity not greater than 164,652 AFY of diversions; and

(B) after first providing for the delivery of Colorado River Water for the CAP System, including for Use on Indian land, under section 304(e) of the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. 1524(e)), in accordance with the CAP Repayment Contract.

(20) **GILA RIVER ADJUDICATION.**—The term “Gila River Adjudication” means the action pending in the Superior Court of the State, in and for the County of Maricopa, in re the General Adjudication of All Rights To Use Water in The Gila River System and Source, W-1 (Salt), W-2 (Verde), W-3 (Upper Gila), W-4 (San Pedro) (Consolidated).

(21) **GILA RIVER ADJUDICATION COURT.**—The term “Gila River Adjudication Court” means the Superior Court of the State, in and for the County of Maricopa, exercising jurisdiction over the Gila River Adjudication.

(22) **GILA RIVER ADJUDICATION DECREE.**—The term “Gila River Adjudication Decree” means the judgment or decree entered by the Gila River Adjudication Court in substantially the same form as the form of judgment attached as Exhibit 3.1.47 to the Settlement Agreement.

(23) **GROUNDWATER.**—The term “Groundwater” means all water beneath the surface of the earth within the State that is not—

(A) Surface Water;

(B) Colorado River Water; or

(C) Effluent.

(24) **HOPÍ ALLOTMENT.**—The term “Hopi Allotment” means any of the 11 parcels allotted pursuant to section 4 of the Act of February 8, 1887 (commonly known as the “Indian General Allotment Act”) (24 Stat. 389, chapter 119; 25 U.S.C. 334), that are—

(A) located within the exterior boundaries of the Hopi Reservation; and

(B) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of 1 or more individual Indians under allotment record numbers AR-39, AR-40, AR-41, AR-42, AR-43, AR-44, AR-45, AR-46, AR-47, AR-48, and AR-49.

(25) HOPI ALLOTTEE.—The term “Hopi Allottee” means—

(A) an individual Indian holding a beneficial interest in a Hopi Allotment; or

(B) an Indian Tribe holding an undivided fractional beneficial interest in a Hopi Allotment.

(26) HOPI FEE LAND.—The term “Hopi Fee Land” means land, other than Hopi Trust Land, that—

(A) is located in the State;

(B) is located outside the exterior boundaries of the Hopi Reservation; and

(C) as of the Enforceability Date, is owned by the Hopi Tribe in its own name or through an entity wholly owned or controlled by the Hopi Tribe.

(27) HOPI LAND.—The term “Hopi Land” means—

(A) the Hopi Reservation;

(B) Hopi Trust Land; and

(C) Hopi Fee Land.

(28) HOPI RESERVATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Hopi Reservation” means—

(i) land within the exterior boundaries of the “Hopi Indian Reservation” defined as District 6 in *Healing v. Jones*, 210 F. Supp. 125, 173 (D. Ariz. 1962), *aff’d*, 373 U.S. 758 (1963), and *Masayesva* for and on Behalf of Hopi Indian Tribe v. *Hale*, 118 F.3d 1371, 1375–76 (9th Cir. 1997);

(ii) land withdrawn by the Executive Order of December 16, 1882, and partitioned to the Hopi Tribe in accordance with the Act of December 22, 1974 (Public Law 93–531; 88 Stat. 1713), by Judgment of Partition, February 10, 1977, *Sekaquaptewa v. MacDonald*, Case No. CIV-579-PCT-JAW (D. Ariz.), *aff’d*, 626 F.2d 113 (9th Cir. 1980); and

(iii) land recognized as part of the Hopi Reservation in *Honyoama v. Shirley, Jr.*, Case No. CIV 74-842-PHX-EHC (D. Ariz. 2006).

(B) MAP.—Subject to subparagraph (C), the descriptions of the Hopi Reservation described in clauses (i) through (iii) of subparagraph (A) are generally shown on the map attached as Exhibit 3.1.56 to the Settlement Agreement.

(C) CONFLICT.—In the case of a conflict between the definition in subparagraph (A) and Exhibit 3.1.56 of the Settlement Agreement, the definition in that subparagraph shall control.

(29) HOPI TRIBE.—The term “Hopi Tribe” means the Hopi Tribe, a tribe of Hopi Indians—

(A) organized under section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the “Indian Reorganization Act”) (48 Stat. 987, chapter 576; 25 U.S.C. 5123); and

(B) recognized by the Secretary in the notice of the Secretary entitled “Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs” (89 Fed. Reg. 944 (January 8, 2024)).

(30) HOPI TRIBE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term “Hopi Tribe Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account” means the account—

(A) established under section 5011(b)(3); and

(B) described in subparagraph 12.3.3 of the Settlement Agreement.

(31) HOPI TRIBE CIBOLA WATER.—The term “Hopi Tribe Cibola Water” means the Fourth Priority Water, Fifth Priority Water, and Sixth Priority Water to which the Hopi Tribe is entitled pursuant to subparagraphs 5.8.2 and 5.8.3 of the Settlement Agreement.

(32) HOPI TRIBE EXISTING CIBOLA CONTRACT.—The term “Hopi Tribe Existing Cibola Contract” means Contract No. 04-XX-

30-W0432 between the United States and the Hopi Tribe, as amended and in full force and effect as of the Effective Date.

(33) HOPI TRIBE GROUNDWATER PROJECTS.—The term “Hopi Tribe Groundwater Projects” means the projects described in—

(A) section 5011(f)(1); and

(B) subparagraph 12.3.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(34) HOPI TRIBE GROUNDWATER PROJECTS TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term “Hopi Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account” means the account—

(A) established under section 5011(b)(1); and

(B) described in subparagraph 12.3.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(35) HOPI TRIBE LOWER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER ACQUISITION TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term “Hopi Tribe Lower Basin Colorado River Water Acquisition Trust Fund Account” means the account—

(A) established under section 5011(b)(4); and

(B) described in subparagraph 12.3.4 of the Settlement Agreement.

(36) HOPI TRIBE OM&R TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term “Hopi Tribe OM&R Trust Fund Account” means the account—

(A) established under section 5011(b)(2); and

(B) described in subparagraph 12.3.2 of the Settlement Agreement.

(37) HOPI TRIBE UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—The term “Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water” means the 2,300 AFY of Upper Basin Colorado River Water allocated to the Hopi Tribe—

(A) pursuant to section 5006; and

(B) as provided in subparagraphs 5.7 and 11.1.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(38) HOPI TRIBE WATER DELIVERY CONTRACT.—The term “Hopi Tribe Water Delivery Contract” means 1 or more contracts entered into by Secretary and the Hopi Tribe in accordance with section 5006 and pursuant to paragraph 11 of the Settlement Agreement for the delivery of Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water or Hopi Tribe Cibola Water.

(39) HOPI TRUST LAND.—The term “Hopi Trust Land” means land that—

(A) is located in the State;

(B) is located outside the exterior boundaries of the Hopi Reservation; and

(C) as of the Enforceability Date, is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Hopi Tribe.

(40) IINÁ BÁ – PAA TUWAQAT’SÍ PIPELINE.—The term “iiná bá – paa tuwaqat’sí pipeline” means the water project described in—

(A) section 5008; and

(B) subparagraph 12.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(41) IINÁ BÁ – PAA TUWAQAT’SÍ PIPELINE IMPLEMENTATION FUND ACCOUNT.—The term “iiná bá – paa tuwaqat’sí pipeline Implementation Fund Account” means the account—

(A) established under section 5009(a); and

(B) described in subparagraph 12.1.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(42) IMPOUNDMENT.—The term “impoundment” means a human-made structure used to store water.

(43) INJURY TO WATER.—The term “Injury to Water” means injury to water based on changes in or degradation of the salinity or concentration of naturally occurring chemical constituents contained in water.

(44) INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Injury to Water Rights” means an interference with, diminution of, or deprivation of Water Rights under Federal, State, or other law.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term “Injury to Water Rights” does not include any injury to water quality.

(45) IRRIGATION.—The term “irrigation” means the Use of water on 2 or more acres of land to produce plants or parts of plants—

(A) for sale or human consumption; or

(B) as feed for livestock, range livestock, or poultry.

(46) LCR.—The term “LCR” means the Little Colorado River.

(47) LCR ADJUDICATION.—The term “LCR Adjudication” means the action pending in the Superior Court of the State, in and for the County of Apache, In re: the General Adjudication of All Rights to Use Water in the Little Colorado River System and Source, CIV No. 6417.

(48) LCR ADJUDICATION COURT.—The term “LCR Adjudication Court” means the Superior Court of the State, in and for the County of Apache, exercising jurisdiction over the LCR Adjudication.

(49) LCR DECREE.—The term “LCR Decree” means the judgment or decree entered by the LCR Adjudication Court in substantially the same form as the form of judgment attached as Exhibit 3.1.82 to the Settlement Agreement.

(50) LCR WATERSHED.—The term “LCR Watershed” means land located within the Surface Water drainage of the LCR and its tributaries in the State, as shown on the map attached as Exhibit 3.1.83 to the Settlement Agreement.

(51) LOWER BASIN.—The term “Lower Basin” has the meaning given the term in Article II(g) of the Colorado River Compact.

(52) MEMBER.—The term “Member” means any person duly enrolled as a member of the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, or the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(53) NAVAJO ALLOTMENT.—The term “Navajo Allotment” means a parcel of land patented pursuant to section 1 of the Act of February 8, 1887 (commonly known as the “Indian General Allotment Act”) (24 Stat. 388, chapter 119; 25 U.S.C. 331) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Indian Land Consolidation Act Amendments of 2000 (Public Law 106-462; 114 Stat. 1991))—

(A) originally allotted to an individual identified in the allotting document as a Navajo Indian;

(B) located within the exterior boundaries of the Navajo Reservation; and

(C) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of 1 or more individual Indians.

(54) NAVAJO ALLOTTEE.—The term “Navajo Allottee” means—

(A) an individual Indian holding a beneficial interest in a Navajo Allotment; or

(B) an Indian Tribe holding an undivided fractional beneficial interest in a Navajo Allotment.

(55) NAVAJO FEE LAND.—The term “Navajo Fee Land” means land, other than Navajo Trust Land, that—

(A) is located in the State;

(B) is located outside the exterior boundaries of the Navajo Reservation; and

(C) as of the Enforceability Date, is owned by the Navajo Nation, whether in its own name or through an entity wholly owned or controlled by the Navajo Nation.

(56) NAVAJO-GALLUP WATER SUPPLY PROJECT.—The term “Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project” means the project authorized, constructed, and operated pursuant to part III of the Northwestern New Mexico Rural Water Projects Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1379).

(57) NAVAJO LAND.—The term “Navajo Land” means—

(A) the Navajo Reservation;

(B) Navajo Trust Land; and

(C) Navajo Fee Land.

(58) NAVAJO NATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Navajo Nation” means the Navajo Nation, a body politic and federally recognized Indian nation recognized by the Secretary in the notice of the Secretary entitled “Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible To Receive Services

From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs" (89 Fed. Reg. 944 (January 8, 2024)), and also known variously as the "Navajo Tribe", the "Navajo Tribe of Arizona, New Mexico & Utah", the "Navajo Tribe of Indians", and other similar names.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term "Navajo Nation" includes all bands of Navajo Indians and chapters of the Navajo Nation.

(59) NAVAJO NATION AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term "Navajo Nation Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account" means the account—

(A) established under section 5010(b)(3); and
(B) described in subparagraph 12.2.4 of the Settlement Agreement.

(60) NAVAJO NATION CIBOLA WATER.—The term "Navajo Nation Cibola Water" means the entitlement of the Navajo Nation to the diversion of up to 100 AFY of Fourth Priority Water at the same location and for the same Uses described in the Hopi Tribe Existing Cibola Contract or the delivery and consumptive use of up to 71.5 AFY of Fourth Priority Water at locations and for Uses within the State other than as described in the Hopi Tribe Existing Cibola Contract, which shall have been assigned and transferred by the Hopi Tribe from its Cibola Water under the Hopi Tribe Existing Cibola Contract to the Navajo Nation.

(61) NAVAJO NATION FOURTH PRIORITY WATER.—The term "Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water" means the diversion right to 3,500 AFY of Fourth Priority Water reserved for Use in a Navajo-Hopi Indian water rights settlement under paragraph 11.3 of the Arizona Water Settlement Agreement among the United States, the State, and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District—

(A) as authorized by paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 106(a) of the Central Arizona Project Settlement Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-451; 118 Stat. 3492);

(B) as allocated to the Navajo Nation pursuant to section 5006; and

(C) as described in subparagraphs 4.9 and 10.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(62) NAVAJO NATION LOWER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER ACQUISITION TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term "Navajo Nation Lower Basin Colorado River Water Acquisition Trust Fund Account" means the account—

(A) established under section 5010(b)(5); and
(B) described in subparagraph 12.2.5 of the Settlement Agreement.

(63) NAVAJO NATION OM&R TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term "Navajo Nation OM&R Trust Fund Account" means the account—

(A) established under section 5010(b)(2); and
(B) described in subparagraph 12.2.2 of the Settlement Agreement.

(64) NAVAJO NATION RENEWABLE ENERGY TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term "Navajo Nation Renewable Energy Trust Fund Account" means the account—

(A) established under section 5010(b)(4); and
(B) described in subparagraph 12.2.3 of the Settlement Agreement.

(65) NAVAJO NATION UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—The term "Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water" means the 44,700 AFY of Upper Basin Colorado River Water—

(A) allocated to the Navajo Nation pursuant to section 5006; and

(B) described in subparagraphs 4.7 and 10.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(66) NAVAJO NATION WATER DELIVERY CONTRACT.—The term "Navajo Nation Water Delivery Contract" means 1 or more contracts entered into by the Secretary and the Navajo Nation in accordance with section 5006 and pursuant to paragraph 10 of the Settlement Agreement for the delivery of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, or Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water.

(67) NAVAJO NATION WATER PROJECTS.—The term "Navajo Nation Water Projects" means the projects described in—

(A) section 5010(f)(1); and
(B) subparagraph 12.2.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(68) NAVAJO NATION WATER PROJECTS TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term "Navajo Nation Water Projects Trust Fund Account" means the account—

(A) established under section 5010(b)(1); and
(B) described in subparagraph 12.2.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(69) NAVAJO RESERVATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "Navajo Reservation" means—

(i) land within the exterior boundaries of the "Navajo Indian Reservation" in the State, as defined by the Act of June 14, 1934 (48 Stat. 960, chapter 521);

(ii) land withdrawn by the Executive order of December 16, 1882, and partitioned to the Navajo Nation in accordance with section 8(b) of the Act of December 22, 1974 (Public Law 93-531; 88 Stat. 1715), by Judgment of Partition, February 10, 1977, *Sekaquaptewa v. MacDonald*, Case No. CIV-579-PCT-JAW (D. Ariz.), *aff'd*, 626 F.2d 113 (9th Cir. 1980);

(iii) land taken into trust as a part of the Navajo Reservation before the Effective Date pursuant to the Act of December 22, 1974 (Public Law 93-531; 88 Stat. 1712), a copy of which is attached as Exhibit 3.1.112B to the Settlement Agreement; and

(iv) any land taken into trust as part of the Navajo Reservation after the Effective Date pursuant to the Act of December 22, 1974 (Public Law 93-531; 88 Stat. 1712), except as provided in subparagraphs 3.1.12, 3.1.13, 3.1.87, 3.1.170, 4.1.5, 4.1.6, 4.6.1, and 8.1.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term "Navajo Reservation" does not include land within the Hopi Reservation or the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation.

(C) MAP.—Subject to subparagraph (D), the descriptions of the Navajo Reservation described in clauses (i) through (iv) of subparagraph (A) are generally shown on the map attached as Exhibit 3.1.112A to the Settlement Agreement.

(D) CONFLICT.—In the case of a conflict between the definition in subparagraphs (A) and (B) and Exhibit 3.1.112A of the Settlement Agreement, the definition described in those subparagraphs shall control.

(70) NAVAJO TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY.—The term "Navajo Tribal Utility Authority" means the enterprise established by the Navajo Nation pursuant to chapter 1, section 21 of the Navajo Nation Code, or a successor agency or entity.

(71) NAVAJO TRUST LAND.—The term "Navajo Trust Land" means land that—

(A) is located in the State;
(B) is located outside the exterior boundaries of the Navajo Reservation; and

(C) as of the Enforceability Date, is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Navajo Nation.

(72) OFF-RESERVATION.—The term "off-Reservation" means land located in the State outside the exterior boundaries of—

(A) the Navajo Reservation;
(B) the Hopi Reservation; and
(C) the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation.

(73) OM&R.—The term "OM&R" means operation, maintenance, and replacement.

(74) PARTY.—The term "Party" mean a Person that is a signatory to the Settlement Agreement.

(75) PERSON.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "Person" means—

(i) an individual;
(ii) a public or private corporation;
(iii) a company;

(iv) a partnership;
(v) a joint venture;
(vi) a firm;
(vii) an association;
(viii) a society;
(ix) an estate or trust;
(x) any other private organization or enterprise;

(xi) the United States;
(xii) an Indian Tribe;
(xiii) a State, territory, or country;
(xiv) a governmental entity; and
(xv) any political subdivision or municipal corporation organized under or subject to the constitution and laws of the State.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term "Person" includes the officers, directors, agents, insurers, representatives, employees, attorneys, assigns, subsidiaries, affiliates, enterprises, legal representatives, predecessors, and successors in interest and their heirs, of any entity or individual described in subparagraph (A).

(76) PUBLIC DOMAIN ALLOTMENT OUTSIDE THE NAVAJO RESERVATION.—The term "Public Domain Allotment outside the Navajo Reservation" means any of the 51 parcels of land allotted to individual Indians from the public domain pursuant to section 4 of the Act of February 8, 1887 (commonly known as the "Indian General Allotment Act") (24 Stat. 389, chapter 119; 25 U.S.C. 334) that is—

(A) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of 1 or more individual Indians or Indian Tribes; and

(B) located outside the exterior boundaries of the Navajo Reservation and the Hopi Reservation, as depicted on the map attached as Exhibit 3.1.132A to the Settlement Agreement.

(77) PUBLIC DOMAIN ALLOTMENT WITHIN THE NAVAJO RESERVATION.—The term "Public Domain Allotment within the Navajo Reservation" means any land allotted to individual Indians from the public domain that is—

(A) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of 1 or more individual Indians or Indian Tribes;

(B) located within the exterior boundaries of the Navajo Reservation; and

(C) described in Exhibit 3.1.131 to the Settlement Agreement.

(78) PUBLIC DOMAIN ALLOTTEE.—The term "Public Domain Allottee" means an individual Indian or Indian Tribe holding a beneficial interest in—

(A) a Public Domain Allotment outside the Navajo Reservation; or

(B) a Public Domain Allotment within the Navajo Reservation.

(79) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE FEE LAND.—The term "San Juan Southern Paiute Fee Land" means land, other than San Juan Southern Paiute Trust Land, that—

(A) is located in the State;

(B) is located outside the exterior boundaries of the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation; and

(C) as of the Enforceability Date, is owned by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, whether in its own name or through an entity wholly owned or controlled by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(80) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE GROUNDWATER PROJECTS.—The term "San Juan Southern Paiute Groundwater Projects" means the projects described in—

(A) section 5012; and
(B) subparagraph 12.4.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(81) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE LAND.—The term "San Juan Southern Paiute Land" means—

(A) the San Juan Southern Paiute Southern Area;

(B) San Juan Southern Paiute Trust Land; and

(C) San Juan Southern Paiute Fee Land.

(82) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE NORTHERN AREA.—The term “San Juan Southern Paiute Northern Area” means the land depicted on the map attached as Exhibit 3.1.146 to the Settlement Agreement.

(83) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE RESERVATION.—The term “San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation” means the approximately 5,400 acres of land described in paragraph 6.0 of the Settlement Agreement as the San Juan Southern Paiute Northern Area and the San Juan Southern Paiute Southern Area, as depicted in the maps attached as Exhibits 3.1.146 and 3.1.147 to the Settlement Agreement.

(84) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term “San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account” means the account—

(A) established under section 5012(b)(2); and
(B) described in subparagraph 12.4.3 of the Settlement Agreement.

(85) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE GROUNDWATER PROJECTS TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term “San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account” means the account—

(A) established under section 5012(b)(1); and
(B) described in subparagraph 12.4.1 of the Settlement Agreement.

(86) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE OM&R TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—The term “San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe OM&R Trust Fund Account” means the account—

(A) established under section 5012(b)(3); and
(B) described in subparagraph 12.4.2 of the Settlement Agreement.

(87) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE SOUTHERN AREA.—The term “San Juan Southern Paiute Southern Area” means the land depicted on the map attached as Exhibit 3.1.147 to the Settlement Agreement.

(88) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE.—The term “San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe” means the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, a body politic and federally recognized Indian Tribe, as recognized by the Secretary in the notice of the Secretary entitled “Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs” (89 Fed. Reg. 944 (January 8, 2024)).

(89) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRUST LAND.—The term “San Juan Southern Paiute Trust Land” means land that—

(A) is located in the State;
(B) is located outside the exterior boundaries of the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation; and

(C) as of the Enforceability Date, is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(90) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(91) SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.—The term “Settlement Agreement” means—

(A) the Northeastern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement Agreement dated as of May 9, 2024; and

(B) any exhibits attached to that agreement.

(92) SIXTH PRIORITY WATER.—The term “Sixth Priority Water” has the meaning given the term in the Hopi Tribe Existing Cibola Contract.

(93) STATE.—The term “State” means the State of Arizona.

(94) SURFACE WATER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Surface Water” means all water in the State that is appropriable under State law.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term “Surface Water” does not include Colorado River Water.

(95) TREATY.—The term “Treaty” means the Articles of Treaty and Agreement entered into by the Navajo Nation and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe to settle land

claims and other disputes, as executed on March 18, 2000.

(96) TREATY ADDENDUM.—The term “Treaty Addendum” means the Addendum to the Treaty entered into by the Navajo Nation and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe on May 7, 2004.

(97) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means, individually, as applicable—

(A) the Navajo Nation;
(B) the Hopi Tribe; or
(C) the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(98) TRIBES.—The term “Tribes” means, collectively—

(A) the Navajo Nation;
(B) the Hopi Tribe; and
(C) the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(99) UNDERGROUND WATER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “Underground Water” means all water beneath the surface of the earth within the State, regardless of its legal characterization as appropriable or non-appropriable under Federal, State, or other law.

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term “Underground Water” does not include Colorado River Water or Effluent.

(100) UNITED STATES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “United States” means the United States, acting as trustee for the Tribes, their Members, the Hopi Allottees, and the Navajo Allottees, except as otherwise expressly provided.

(B) CLARIFICATION.—When used in reference to a particular agreement or contract, the term “United States” means the United States acting in the capacity as described in that agreement or contract.

(101) UPPER BASIN.—The term “Upper Basin” has the meaning given the term in article II(f) of the Colorado River Compact.

(102) UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—The term “Upper Basin Colorado River Water” means the 50,000 AFY of consumptive use of Colorado River Water apportioned to the State in the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact of 1948, as ratified and reprinted in article 3 of chapter 7 of title 45, Arizona Revised Statutes.

(103) USE.—The term “Use” means any beneficial use, including instream flow, recharge, storage, recovery, or any other use recognized as beneficial under applicable law.

(104) WATER.—The term “water”, when used without a modifying adjective, means Groundwater, Surface Water, Colorado River Water, or Effluent.

(105) WATER RIGHT.—The term “Water Right” means any right in or to Groundwater, Surface Water, Colorado River Water, or Effluent under Federal, State, or other law.

(106) WELL.—The term “well” means a human-made opening in the earth through which Underground Water may be withdrawn or obtained.

(107) ZUNI TRIBE.—The term “Zuni Tribe” means the body politic and federally recognized Indian Tribe, as recognized by the Secretary in the notice of the Secretary entitled “Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs” (89 Fed. Reg. 944 (January 8, 2024)).

SEC. 5004. RATIFICATION AND EXECUTION OF THE NORTHEASTERN ARIZONA INDIAN WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

(a) RATIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as modified by this division and to the extent the Settlement Agreement does not conflict with this division, the Settlement Agreement is authorized, ratified, and confirmed.

(2) AMENDMENTS.—If an amendment to the Settlement Agreement, or to any exhibit attached to the Settlement Agreement requir-

ing the signature of the Secretary, is executed in accordance with this division to make the Settlement Agreement consistent with this division, the amendment is authorized, ratified, and confirmed, to the extent the amendment is consistent with this division.

(b) EXECUTION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent the Settlement Agreement does not conflict with this division, the Secretary shall execute the Settlement Agreement, including all exhibits to the Settlement Agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary.

(2) MODIFICATIONS.—Nothing in this division prohibits the Secretary from approving any modification to the Settlement Agreement, including any exhibit to the Settlement Agreement, that is consistent with this division, to the extent the modification does not otherwise require congressional approval under section 2116 of the Revised Statutes (25 U.S.C. 177) or any other applicable Federal law.

(c) ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In implementing the Settlement Agreement (including all exhibits to the Settlement Agreement requiring the signature of the Secretary) and this division, the Secretary shall comply with all applicable provisions of—

(A) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

(B) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), including the implementing regulations of that Act; and

(C) all other Federal environmental laws and regulations.

(2) COMPLIANCE.—In implementing the Settlement Agreement and this division, but excluding environmental compliance related to the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat’si pipeline, the applicable Tribe shall prepare any necessary environmental documents consistent with all applicable provisions of—

(A) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

(B) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), including the implementing regulations of that Act; and

(C) all other Federal environmental laws and regulations.

(d) AUTHORIZATIONS.—The Secretary shall—

(1) independently evaluate the documentation submitted under subsection (c)(2); and

(2) be responsible for the accuracy, scope, and contents of that documentation.

(e) EFFECT OF EXECUTION.—The execution of the Settlement Agreement by the Secretary under this section shall not constitute a major Federal action for purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

(f) COSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any costs associated with the performance of the compliance activities under subsection (c) shall be paid from funds deposited in the Navajo Nation Water Projects Trust Fund Account, the Hopi Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account, or the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account, as applicable, subject to the condition that any costs associated with the performance of Federal approval or other review of that compliance work or costs associated with inherently Federal functions shall remain the responsibility of the Secretary.

(2) INÁ BÁ – PAA TUWAQAT’SI PIPELINE.—Any costs associated with the performance of the compliance activities under subsection (c) relating to the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat’si pipeline shall be paid from funds deposited in the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat’si pipeline Implementation Fund Account.

SEC. 5005. WATER RIGHTS.**(a) CONFIRMATION OF WATER RIGHTS.—**

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Water Rights of the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Navajo Allottees, and the Hopi Allottees as described in the Settlement Agreement are ratified, confirmed, and declared to be valid.

(2) USE.—Any use of water pursuant to the Water Rights described in paragraph (1) by the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Navajo Allottees, or the Hopi Allottees shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement and this division.

(3) CONFLICT.—In the event of a conflict between the Settlement Agreement and this division, this division shall control.

(b) INTENT OF CONGRESS.—It is the intent of Congress to provide to the Navajo Allottees benefits that are equivalent to, or exceed, the benefits the Navajo Allottees possess on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, taking into consideration—

(1) the potential risks, cost, and time delay associated with litigation that would be resolved by the Settlement Agreement and this division;

(2) the availability of funding under this division and from other sources;

(3) the availability of water from the Water Rights of the Navajo Nation; and

(4) the applicability of section 7 of the Act of February 8, 1887 (24 Stat. 390, chapter 119; 25 U.S.C. 381), and this division to protect the interests of the Navajo Allottees.

(c) WATER RIGHTS TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE TRIBES, THE NAVAJO ALLOTTEES, AND THE HOPI ALLOTTEES.—The United States shall hold the following Water Rights in trust for the benefit of the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Navajo Allottees, and the Hopi Allottees:

(1) NAVAJO NATION AND THE NAVAJO ALLOTTEES.—The United States shall hold the following Water Rights in trust for the benefit of the Navajo Nation and Navajo Allottees:

(A) Underground Water described in subparagraph 4.2 of the Settlement Agreement.

(B) Springs described in subparagraph 4.4 of the Settlement Agreement.

(C) Little Colorado River tributary water described in subparagraph 4.5 of the Settlement Agreement.

(D) Little Colorado River Mainstem water described in subparagraph 4.6 of the Settlement Agreement.

(E) Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water described in subparagraph 4.7 of the Settlement Agreement.

(F) Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water described in subparagraph 4.9 of the Settlement Agreement.

(G) Water Rights appurtenant to or associated with land held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Navajo Nation, as described in subparagraphs 4.12, 4.13, 4.15, and 4.16 of the Settlement Agreement.

(2) HOPI TRIBE.—The United States shall hold the following Water Rights in trust for the benefit of the Hopi Tribe:

(A) Underground Water described in subparagraph 5.2 of the Settlement Agreement.

(B) Surface Water described in subparagraph 5.4 of the Settlement Agreement.

(C) Springs described in subparagraph 5.5 of the Settlement Agreement.

(D) Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water described in subparagraph 5.7 of the Settlement Agreement.

(E) Water Rights appurtenant to or associated with land held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Hopi Tribe, as described in subparagraphs 5.10, 5.11, 5.12, and 5.13 of the Settlement Agreement.

(3) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE.—The United States shall hold the following Water

Rights in trust for the benefit of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe:

(A) Underground Water described in subparagraph 6.2.3 of the Settlement Agreement.

(B) Surface Water described in subparagraph 6.2.4 of the Settlement Agreement.

(C) Springs described in subparagraph 6.2.6 of the Settlement Agreement.

(D) Water Rights appurtenant to or associated with land held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, as described in subparagraphs 6.5 and 6.6 of the Settlement Agreement.

(4) HOPI ALLOTTEES.—The United States shall hold the Water Rights described in subparagraph 5.9 of the Settlement Agreement in trust for the benefit of the Hopi Allottees.

(d) PLACES OF USE.—

(1) NAVAJO NATION.—The rights of the Navajo Nation, and the United States acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation, to the water described in subparagraphs 4.2, 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6 of the Settlement Agreement—

(A) may be used anywhere on the Navajo Reservation or on off-Reservation land held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Navajo Nation; but

(B) may not be sold, leased, transferred, or in any way used off of the Navajo Reservation or off of land outside the Navajo Reservation that is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Navajo Nation.

(2) HOPI TRIBE.—The rights of the Hopi Tribe, and the United States acting as trustee for the Hopi Tribe, to the water described in subparagraphs 5.2, 5.4, and 5.5 of the Settlement Agreement—

(A) may be used anywhere on the Hopi Reservation or on off-Reservation land held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Hopi Tribe; but

(B) may not be sold, leased, transferred, or in any way used off of the Hopi Reservation or off of land outside the Hopi Reservation that is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Hopi Tribe.

(3) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE.—The rights of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the United States acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, to the water described in subparagraphs 6.2.3, 6.2.4, and 6.2.6 of the Settlement Agreement—

(A) may be used on the San Juan Southern Paiute Southern Area or on land outside the San Juan Southern Paiute Southern Area that is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe; but

(B) may not be sold, leased, transferred, or in any way used off of the San Juan Southern Paiute Southern Area or off of land outside the San Juan Southern Paiute Southern Area that is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(e) NONUSE, FORFEITURE, AND ABANDONMENT.—

(1) NAVAJO NATION AND NAVAJO ALLOTTEES.—Water Rights of the Navajo Nation and the Navajo Allottees described in subparagraphs 4.2, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, and 4.9 of the Settlement Agreement and Water Rights relating to land held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Navajo Nation, as described in subparagraphs 4.12, 4.13, 4.15, and 4.16 of the Settlement Agreement, shall not be subject to loss by non-use, forfeiture, or abandonment.

(2) HOPI TRIBE.—Water Rights of the Hopi Tribe described in subparagraphs 5.2, 5.4, 5.5, and 5.7 of the Settlement Agreement and Water Rights relating to land held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Hopi Tribe, as described in subparagraphs 5.10, 5.11, 5.12, and 5.13 of the Settlement

Agreement, shall not be subject to loss by non-use, forfeiture, or abandonment.

(3) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE.—Water Rights of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe described in subparagraphs 6.2.3, 6.2.4, and 6.2.6 of the Settlement Agreement shall not be subject to loss by non-use, forfeiture, or abandonment.

(4) HOPI ALLOTTEES.—Water Rights of the Hopi Allottees described in subparagraph 5.9 of the Settlement Agreement shall not be subject to loss by non-use, forfeiture, or abandonment.

(f) NAVAJO ALLOTTEES.—

(1) APPLICABILITY OF THE ACT OF FEBRUARY 8, 1887.—Section 7 of the Act of February 8, 1887 (24 Stat. 390, chapter 119; 25 U.S.C. 381), shall apply to the Water Rights described in subsection (c)(1).

(2) ENTITLEMENT TO WATER.—The rights of Navajo Allottees, and the United States acting as trustee for Navajo Allottees, to use water on Navajo Allotments located on the Navajo Reservation shall be satisfied solely from the Water Rights described in subsection (c)(1).

(3) ALLOCATIONS.—A Navajo Allottee shall be entitled to a just and equitable distribution of water for irrigation purposes.

(4) CLAIMS.—

(A) EXHAUSTION OF REMEDIES.—Before asserting any claim against the United States under section 7 of the Act of February 8, 1887 (24 Stat. 390, chapter 119; 25 U.S.C. 381), or any other applicable law, a Navajo Allottee shall exhaust remedies available under the Navajo Nation Water Code or other applicable Navajo law.

(B) ACTION FOR RELIEF.—After the exhaustion of all remedies available under the Navajo Nation Water Code or other applicable Navajo law pursuant to subparagraph (A), a Navajo Allottee may seek relief under section 7 of the Act of February 8, 1887 (24 Stat. 390, chapter 119; 25 U.S.C. 381), or other applicable law.

(5) AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY.—The Secretary may protect the rights of Navajo Allottees in accordance with this subsection.

(g) NAVAJO NATION WATER CODE.—To the extent necessary, and subject to the approval of the Secretary, the Navajo Nation shall amend the Navajo Nation Water Code to provide—

(1) that Use of water by Navajo Allottees shall be satisfied with water from the Water Rights described in subsection (c)(1);

(2) a process by which a Navajo Allottee may request that the Navajo Nation provide water in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, including the provision of water under any Navajo Allottee lease under section 4 of the Act of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. 856, chapter 431; 25 U.S.C. 403);

(3) a due process system for the consideration and determination by the Navajo Nation of any request of a Navajo Allottee (or a successor in interest to a Navajo Allottee) for an allocation of water on a Navajo Allotment, including a process for—

(A) appeal and adjudication of any denied or disputed distribution of water; and

(B) resolution of any contested administrative decision; and

(4) a requirement that any Navajo Allottee asserting a claim relating to the enforcement of rights of the Navajo Allottee under the Navajo Nation Water Code, including to the quantity of water allocated to land of the Navajo Allottee, shall exhaust all remedies available to the Navajo Allottee under Navajo law before initiating an action against the United States or petitioning the Secretary pursuant to subsection (f)(4)(B).

(h) ACTION BY THE SECRETARY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—During the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on the date on which a Navajo

Nation Water Code is amended pursuant to subsection (g), the Secretary shall administer, with respect to the rights of the Navajo Allottees, the Water Rights identified under subsection (c)(1).

(2) APPROVAL.—The Navajo Nation Water Code amendments described in subsection (g) shall not be valid unless—

(A) the amendments described in that subsection have been approved by the Secretary; and

(B) each subsequent amendment to the Navajo Nation Water Code that affects the rights of a Navajo Allottee is approved by the Secretary.

(3) APPROVAL PERIOD.—

(A) APPROVAL PERIOD.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall approve or disapprove the Navajo Nation Water Code amendments described in subsection (g) not later than 180 days after the date on which the amendments are submitted to the Secretary.

(B) EXTENSION.—The deadline described in subparagraph (A) may be extended by the Secretary after consultation with the Navajo Nation.

(i) EFFECT.—Except as otherwise expressly provided in this section, nothing in this division—

(1) authorizes any action by a Navajo Allottee against any individual or entity, or against the Navajo Nation, under Federal, State, Tribal, or local law; or

(2) alters or affects the status of any action brought pursuant to section 1491(a) of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 5006. ALLOCATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF COLORADO RIVER WATER TO THE TRIBES; WATER DELIVERY CONTRACTS.

(a) ALLOCATION AND ASSIGNMENT TO THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE HOPI TRIBE.—

(1) ALLOCATION AND ASSIGNMENT TO THE NAVAJO NATION.—

(A) NAVAJO NATION UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—

(i) STATE AGREEMENT.—Pursuant to subparagraph 4.7.1 of the Settlement Agreement, the State has expressly agreed to the allocation described in clause (ii).

(ii) ALLOCATION.—44,700 AFY of Upper Basin Colorado River Water is allocated to the Navajo Nation on the Enforceability Date.

(B) NAVAJO NATION CIBOLA WATER.—Pursuant to subparagraph 4.8.2 of the Settlement Agreement, the State has recommended the assignment of Navajo Nation Cibola Water by the Hopi Tribe to the Navajo Nation effective on the Enforceability Date.

(C) NAVAJO NATION FOURTH PRIORITY WATER.—

(i) STATE RECOMMENDATION.—Pursuant to subparagraph 4.9.1 of the Settlement Agreement, the State has recommended the allocation described in clause (ii).

(ii) ALLOCATION.—3,500 AFY of uncontracted Fourth Priority Water reserved for Use in a Navajo-Hopi Indian Water Rights settlement under paragraph 11.3 of the Arizona Water Settlement Agreement among the United States, the State, and CAWCD, as authorized by paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 106(a) of the Central Arizona Project Settlement Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-451; 118 Stat. 3492), is allocated to the Navajo Nation on the Enforceability Date.

(2) ALLOCATION TO HOPI TRIBE AND AMENDMENT TO CIBOLA CONTRACT.—

(A) ARIZONA HOPI TRIBE UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—

(i) STATE AGREEMENT.—Pursuant to subparagraph 5.7.1 of the Settlement Agreement, the State has expressly agreed to the allocation described in clause (ii).

(ii) ALLOCATION.—2,300 AFY of Upper Basin Colorado River Water is allocated to the Hopi Tribe on the Enforceability Date.

(B) HOPI TRIBE CIBOLA WATER.—Pursuant to subparagraph 5.8.1 of the Settlement Agreement, the State has recommended the amendment of the existing Hopi Tribe Cibola Contract to reduce the Fourth Priority Water diversion entitlement of the Hopi Tribe to 4,178 AFY, and to provide for additional Uses and places of Use of Hopi Tribe Cibola Water, effective on the Enforceability Date.

(b) COLORADO RIVER WATER USE AND STORAGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) NAVAJO NATION UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER AND HOPI TRIBE UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water and Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water may be used at any location within the State.

(B) NAVAJO NATION CIBOLA WATER, NAVAJO NATION FOURTH PRIORITY WATER, AND HOPI TRIBE CIBOLA WATER.—Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water may be used at any location within the State.

(C) STORAGE IN ARIZONA.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water may be stored at underground storage facilities or Groundwater savings facilities located—

(I) within the Navajo Reservation in accordance with Navajo law, or State law if mutually agreed to by the Navajo Nation and the State;

(II) within the Hopi Reservation in accordance with Hopi law, or State law if mutually agreed to by the Hopi Tribe and the State;

(III) on any other Indian reservation located in the State in accordance with applicable law; and

(IV) within the State and outside of any Indian reservation in accordance with State law.

(ii) STORAGE CREDITS.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—The Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe may assign any long-term storage credits accrued as a result of storage under clause (i) in accordance with applicable law.

(II) STORAGE PURSUANT TO TRIBAL LAW.—Any water stored pursuant to Tribal law may only be recovered on the Indian reservation where the water was stored.

(D) TRANSPORTATION OF WATER THROUGH THE CAP SYSTEM.—The Navajo Nation or the Hopi Tribe may transport Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water through the CAP system for storage or Use in accordance with all laws of the United States and the agreements between the United States and CAWCD governing the Use of the CAP system to transport water other than CAP Water, subject to payment of applicable charges.

(2) STORAGE IN NEW MEXICO.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Navajo Nation may store its Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water at the Navajo Reservoir and the Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir in New Mexico, subject to the condition that the water stored at the Navajo Reservoir or the Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir is subsequently transported to the State for Use in the State.

(B) CREDIT AGAINST UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Any storage of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water in the Navajo Reservoir or the Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir shall be credited against Upper Basin Colorado River Water in the year in which the diversions for storage in the Reservoir occurs.

(ii) ACCOUNTING.—Water described in clause (i) shall be accounted for and reported by the Secretary separately from any other water stored in the Navajo Reservoir or the Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir.

(C) CREDIT AGAINST STATE APPORTIONMENT OF LOWER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Any storage of Navajo Nation Cibola Water or Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water in the Navajo Reservoir or the Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir shall be credited against the apportionment of the State of Lower Basin Colorado River Water in the year in which the diversion for storage in the Navajo Reservoir or Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir occurs.

(ii) ACCOUNTING.—Water described in clause (i) shall be accounted for and reported by the Secretary separately from any other water stored in the Navajo Reservoir or the Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir.

(3) NO USE OUTSIDE ARIZONA.—

(A) NAVAJO NATION.—The Navajo Nation—

(i) may divert its Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water in the State, New Mexico, and Utah; and

(ii) with the exception of storage in the Navajo Reservoir and Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir in New Mexico under paragraph (2), may not use, lease, exchange, forbear, or otherwise transfer any of the water for Use directly or indirectly outside of the State.

(B) HOPI TRIBE.—The Hopi Tribe—

(i) may divert its Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water in the State; and

(ii) may not use, lease, exchange, forbear, or otherwise transfer any of the water described in clause (i) for Use directly or indirectly outside of the State.

(4) STORAGE CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—All contracts to store Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water or Hopi Tribe Cibola Water shall identify—

(i) the place of storage of the water;

(ii) the mechanisms for delivery of the water; and

(iii) each point of diversion under the applicable contract.

(B) CONFLICTS.—A contract to store Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, or Hopi Tribe Cibola Water shall not conflict with the Settlement Agreement or this division.

(c) WATER DELIVERY CONTRACTS.—The Secretary shall enter into the following water delivery contracts, which shall be without limit as to term:

(1) NAVAJO NATION WATER DELIVERY CONTRACTS FOR NAVAJO NATION UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter into a water delivery contract with the Navajo Nation for Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, which shall provide for, among other things—

(i) the delivery of up to 44,700 AFY of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water;

(ii) 1 or more points of diversion in the State, New Mexico, and Utah;

(iii) 1 or more storage locations at any place within the State and in the Navajo Reservoir and the Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir in New Mexico;

(iv) Use at any location within the State; and

(v) delivery of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water to the Navajo Nation's lessees and exchange partners in the Upper Basin and the Lower Basin within the State.

(B) EXISTING WATER SERVICE CONTRACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Water Service Contract No. 09-WC-40-318 between the United States and the Navajo Nation dated December 23, 2009, for the delivery of up to 950 AFY of water from Lake Powell to the Navajo Nation for municipal and industrial Use within the Community of LeChee shall be replaced with a Navajo Nation Water Delivery Contract for the delivery of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water that complies with subparagraph (A).

(ii) TERMINATION.—As provided in the Settlement Agreement, on the Enforceability Date, the water service contract described in clause (i) shall terminate.

(2) NAVAJO NATION WATER DELIVERY CONTRACT FOR NAVAJO NATION CIBOLA WATER.—The Secretary shall enter into a water delivery contract with the Navajo Nation for the Navajo Nation Cibola Water in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, which shall provide for, among other things—

(A)(i) the diversion of up to 100 AFY at the location and for the same Uses described in the Hopi Tribe Existing Cibola Contract; or

(ii) delivery and consumptive use of up to 71.5 AFY at locations and for Uses within the State other than as described in the Hopi Tribe Existing Cibola Contract;

(B) 1 or more points of diversion in the State, New Mexico, and Utah;

(C) storage in any location within the State and in the Navajo Reservoir and the Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir in New Mexico;

(D) Use at any location within the State;

(E) delivery of Navajo Nation Cibola Water to the Navajo Nation's lessees and exchange partners in the Upper Basin and the Lower Basin within the State; and

(F) curtailment as provided in subsection (e).

(3) NAVAJO NATION WATER DELIVERY CONTRACT FOR NAVAJO NATION FOURTH PRIORITY WATER.—The Secretary shall enter into a water delivery contract with the Navajo Nation for Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, which shall provide for, among other things—

(A) delivery of up to 3,500 AFY of Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water;

(B) 1 or more points of diversion in the State, New Mexico, and Utah;

(C) storage in any location within the State and in the Navajo Reservoir and the Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir in New Mexico;

(D) Use at any location within the State;

(E) delivery of Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water to the Navajo Nation's lessees and exchange partners in the Upper Basin and the Lower Basin within the State; and

(F) curtailment as provided in subsection (e).

(4) HOPI TRIBE DELIVERY CONTRACTS FOR HOPI TRIBE UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—The Secretary shall enter into a water delivery contract with the Hopi Tribe for Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, which shall provide for, among other things—

(A) the delivery of up to 2,300 AFY of Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water;

(B) 1 or more points of diversion in the State, including Lake Powell;

(C) 1 or more storage locations at any place within the State;

(D) Use at any location within the State; and

(E) delivery of Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water to the Hopi Tribe's lessees and exchange partners in the Upper Basin and the Lower Basin within the State.

(5) HOPI TRIBE WATER DELIVERY CONTRACT FOR HOPI TRIBE CIBOLA WATER.—The Secretary shall enter into a water delivery contract with the Hopi Tribe for Hopi Tribe Cibola Water in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, which shall provide for, among other things—

(A) the delivery of up to 4,178 AFY of Fourth Priority water, 750 AFY of Fifth Priority Water, and 1,000 AFY of Sixth Priority Water;

(B) 1 or more points of diversion in the State, including Lake Powell;

(C) storage in any location within the State;

(D) Use at any location within the State, consistent with subparagraph 5.8.3 of the Settlement Agreement;

(E) delivery of Hopi Tribe Cibola Water to the Hopi Tribe's lessees and exchange partners in the Upper Basin and Lower Basin within the State; and

(F) curtailment as provided in subsection (e).

(d) REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS APPLICABLE TO WATER DELIVERY CONTRACTS.—The Navajo Nation Water Delivery Contracts and Hopi Tribe Water Delivery Contracts shall be subject to the following requirements and limitations:

(1) Except for storage by the Navajo Nation at the Navajo Reservoir and the Frank Chee Willetto, Sr. Reservoir in New Mexico, a water delivery contract shall not permit the Use of the water outside of the State.

(2) A water delivery contract shall not, either temporarily or permanently, alter or reduce the annual Lower Basin apportionment of the State pursuant to the Boulder Canyon Project Act (43 U.S.C. 617 et seq.) and the Decree, or annual Upper Basin apportionment pursuant to the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact, as ratified and reprinted in article 3 of chapter 7 of title 45, Arizona Revised Statutes.

(3) Nothing in a water delivery contract shall alter or impair the rights, authorities, and interests of the State under the Boulder Canyon Project Act (43 U.S.C. 617 et seq.), the contract between the United States and the State dated February 9, 1944, the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact of 1948, as ratified and reprinted in article 3 of chapter 7 of title 45, Arizona Revised Statutes, or the Decree.

(4) A water delivery contract shall not limit the ability of the State to seek or advocate changes in the operating rules, criteria, or guidelines of the Colorado River System as those rules, criteria, or guidelines apply to the apportionments of the State from the Upper Basin and the Lower Basin of the Colorado River.

(5) In the event that a water delivery contract will result in the delivery of Upper Basin Colorado River Water to the Lower Basin or Lower Basin Colorado River Water to the Upper Basin, the Secretary shall confer with the State prior to executing that water delivery contract with respect to—

(A) the impact of the water deliveries on the availability of Upper Basin or Lower Basin Colorado River Water within the State;

(B) the annual accounting conducted by the Bureau for the water on the Colorado River apportionments of the State in the Upper Basin and Lower Basin; and

(C) as appropriate, the impact of the water deliveries on the operations of the Central Arizona Project.

(6) A water delivery contract shall identify—

(A) the place of Use of the water;

(B) the purpose of the Use of the water during the term of the contract;

(C) the mechanism for delivery of the water; and

(D) each point of diversion under the contract.

(7) A water delivery contract shall not prejudice the interests of the State, or serve as precedent against the State, in any litigation relating to the apportionment, diversion, storage, or Use of water from the Colorado River System.

(8) In the case of a conflict between a water delivery contract and this division or the Settlement Agreement, this division or the Settlement Agreement shall control.

(9) Any material amendment or modification of a water delivery contract shall comply with, and be subject to, all requirements and limitations for the water delivery contract, as described in the Settlement Agreement and this division.

(10) A water delivery contract shall become effective on the Enforceability Date and, once effective, shall be permanent and without limit as to term.

(11) The United States shall waive Colorado River Storage Project standby charges and delivery charges and annual administration fees for water delivered pursuant to a water delivery contract.

(e) CURTAILMENT.—

(1) NAVAJO NATION CIBOLA WATER AND NAVAJO NATION FOURTH PRIORITY WATER.—Delivery of Navajo Nation Cibola Water and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, regardless of the point of diversion, shall be subject to reduction in any year in which a shortage is declared to the same extent as other non-CAP Fourth Priority Water.

(2) OTHER LOWER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER ACQUIRED BY THE NAVAJO NATION.—Any other Lower Basin Colorado River Water that the Navajo Nation may acquire shall be subject to reduction in any year in which a shortage is declared in accordance with criteria applied by the Secretary to water of the same priority.

(3) HOPI TRIBE CIBOLA WATER.—

(A) FOURTH PRIORITY.—Delivery of Hopi Tribe Cibola Water of fourth priority, regardless of the point of diversion, shall be subject to reduction in any year in which a shortage is declared to the same extent as other non-CAP Fourth Priority Water.

(B) FIFTH PRIORITY.—Delivery of Hopi Tribe Cibola Water of fifth priority, regardless of the point of diversion, shall be subject to reduction in any year in which a shortage is declared to the same extent as other Fifth Priority Water.

(4) OTHER LOWER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER ACQUIRED BY THE HOPI TRIBE.—Any other Lower Basin Colorado River Water that the Hopi Tribe may acquire shall be subject to reduction in any year in which a shortage is declared in accordance with criteria applied by the Secretary to water of the same priority.

(f) USE OF THE COLORADO RIVER MAINSTREAM AND SAN JUAN RIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may use—

(A) the Colorado River mainstream and dams and works on the mainstream controlled or operated by the United States, which regulate the flow of water in the mainstream or the diversion of water from the mainstream in the Upper Basin or the Lower Basin to transport and deliver Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo

Nation Fourth Priority Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water; and

(B) the San Juan River and the dams and works described in subparagraphs 4.7.5, 4.8.4, and 4.9.4 of the Settlement Agreement to transport, store, and deliver Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water.

(2) NAVAJO NATION UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER; HOPI TRIBE UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water or Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water that enters the Lower Basin at Lee Ferry shall—

(A) retain its character as Upper Basin Colorado River Water; and

(B) be accounted for separately by the Secretary in a manner such that the Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water or the Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water is not subject to paragraphs II(A) and II(B) of the Decree.

(3) SAN JUAN RIVER.—Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water that enters the San Juan River and the dams and works described in subparagraphs 4.7.5, 4.8.4, and 4.9.4 of the Settlement Agreement shall retain its character as Upper Basin Colorado River Water, but if Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water spills from dams on the San Juan River described in subparagraphs 4.7.5, 4.8.4, and 4.9.4 of the Settlement Agreement, that water shall become part of the San Juan River system.

(g) ACQUISITIONS OF ENERGY.—Amounts of energy needed to deliver water to the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, or the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe shall be acquired by the Tribes.

(h) REPORTING BY NAVAJO NATION AND HOPI TRIBE.—

(1) NAVAJO NATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on March 1 of the first year following the year in which the Enforceability Date occurs, and on March 1 of each year thereafter, the Navajo Nation shall submit to the Arizona Department of Water Resources a report describing—

(i) the annual diversion amount, point of diversion, and places of Use of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water;

(ii) the annual diversion amount, point of diversion, and places of Use of Navajo Nation Cibola Water;

(iii) the annual diversion amount, point of diversion, and places of Use of Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water;

(iv) the location and annual amount of any off-Reservation storage of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water;

(v) the amount of an off-Reservation exchange involving Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water; and

(vi) the location and annual amount of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water leased off-Reservation.

(B) MEASUREMENT OF DIVERTED WATER.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—In order to accurately measure the flow of water diverted in the Upper Basin for Use by the Navajo Nation in the State, the Navajo Nation shall install suitable measuring devices at or near each point of diversion of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water from the Colorado River's mainstem in the Upper Basin and the San Juan River in the Upper Basin.

(ii) NOTIFICATION.—The Navajo Nation shall notify the Arizona Department of Water Resources, in writing, of any annual

reporting conflicts between the Bureau, the Navajo Nation, or the Upper Colorado River Commission prior to the completion by the Bureau of the annual "Colorado River Accounting and Water Use Report for the Lower Basin".

(2) HOPI TRIBE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on March 1 of the first year following the year in which the Enforceability Date occurs, and on March 1 of each year thereafter, the Hopi Tribe shall submit to the Arizona Department of Water Resources a report describing—

(i) the annual diversion amount, point of diversion, and places of Use of Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water;

(ii) the annual diversion amount, point of diversion, and places of Use of Hopi Tribe Cibola Water;

(iii) the location and annual amount of any off-Reservation storage of Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water;

(iv) the amount of an off-Reservation exchange involving Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water or Hopi Tribe Cibola Water; and

(v) the location and annual amount of Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water leased off-Reservation.

(B) MEASUREMENT OF DIVERTED WATER.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—In order to accurately measure the flow of water diverted in the Upper Basin for Use by the Hopi Tribe in the State, the Hopi Tribe shall install suitable measuring devices at or near each point of diversion of Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water from the Colorado River's mainstem in the Upper Basin.

(ii) NOTIFICATION.—The Hopi Tribe shall notify the Arizona Department of Water Resources, in writing, of any annual reporting conflicts between the Bureau, the Hopi Tribe, or the Upper Colorado River Commission prior to the completion by the Bureau of the annual "Colorado River Accounting and Water Use Report for the Lower Basin".

SEC. 5007. COLORADO RIVER WATER LEASES AND EXCHANGES; USES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to approval by the Secretary—

(1) the Navajo Nation may enter into leases, or options to lease, or exchanges, or options to exchange, Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, for Use and storage in the State, in accordance with the Settlement Agreement and all applicable Federal and State laws governing the transfer of Colorado River Water entitlements within the State; and

(2) the Hopi Tribe may enter into leases, or options to lease, or exchanges, or options to exchange, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water for Use and storage in the State, in accordance with the Settlement Agreement and all applicable Federal and State laws governing the transfer of Colorado River Water entitlements within the State.

(b) TERMS OF LEASES AND EXCHANGES.—

(1) ON-RESERVATION LEASING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Navajo Nation may lease the Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, the Navajo Nation Cibola Water, and the Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water for Use or storage on the Navajo Reservation and the Hopi Tribe may lease Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water for Use or storage on the Hopi Reservation.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—A lease or option to lease under subparagraph (A) shall be subject to—

(i) the leasing regulations of the Navajo Nation or Hopi Tribe, as applicable; and

(ii) subsections (a) and (e) of the first section of the Act of August 9, 1955 (69 Stat. 539, chapter 615; 25 U.S.C. 415) (commonly known as the "Long-Term Leasing Act").

(2) EXCHANGES AND OFF-RESERVATION LEASING.—

(A) NAVAJO NATION LEASING.—Subject to approval by the Secretary for an off-Reservation lease, the Navajo Nation may lease Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water for Use or storage off of the Navajo Reservation anywhere within the State, in accordance with the Settlement Agreement and all applicable Federal and State laws governing the transfer of Colorado River Water within the State.

(B) HOPI TRIBE LEASING.—Subject to approval by the Secretary for an off-Reservation lease, the Hopi Tribe may lease Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water for Use or storage off of the Hopi Reservation anywhere within the State, in accordance with the Settlement Agreement and all applicable Federal and State laws governing the transfer of Colorado River Water within the State.

(C) TERM OF LEASES AND EXCHANGES.—

(i) LEASES.—A contract to lease and an option to lease off of the Reservation under subparagraph (A) or (B), as applicable, shall be for a term not to exceed 100 years.

(ii) EXCHANGES.—An exchange or option to exchange shall be for the term provided for in the exchange or option, as applicable.

(D) RENEGOTIATION; RENEWAL.—The Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe may, with the approval of the Secretary, renegotiate any lease described in subparagraph (A) or (B), as applicable, at any time during the term of that lease, subject to the condition that the term of the renegotiated lease off of the Reservation may not exceed 100 years.

(3) REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CONTRACTS TO LEASE AND CONTRACTS TO EXCHANGE.—All contracts to lease or exchange Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water shall—

(A) identify the places of Use of the water, the purpose of the Uses of the water during the term of the contract, the mechanisms for delivery of the water, and each point of diversion under the contract; and

(B) provide that the water received from the Navajo Nation or the Hopi Tribe, as applicable, shall be used in accordance with applicable law.

(4) NO CONFLICT WITH SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT OR THIS DIVISION.—A contract to lease or exchange Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, or Hopi Tribe Cibola Water shall not conflict with the Settlement Agreement or this division.

(c) PROHIBITION ON PERMANENT ALIENATION.—No Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, or Hopi Tribe Cibola Water may be permanently alienated.

(d) ENTITLEMENT TO LEASE AND EXCHANGE MONIES.—

(1) ENTITLEMENT.—The Navajo Nation or the Hopi Tribe, as applicable, shall be entitled to all consideration due to the Navajo Nation or Hopi Tribe under any lease, option to lease, exchange, or option to exchange Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe

Upper Basin Colorado River Water, or Hopi Tribe Cibola Water entered into by the Navajo Nation or the Hopi Tribe.

(2) **EXCLUSION.**—The United States shall not, in any capacity, be entitled to the consideration described in paragraph (1).

(3) **OBLIGATION OF THE UNITED STATES.**—The United States shall not, in any capacity, have any trust or other obligation to monitor, administer, or account for, in any manner, any funds received by the Navajo Nation or the Hopi Tribe as consideration under any lease, option to lease, exchange, or option to exchange Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water entered into by the Navajo Nation or the Hopi Tribe.

(e) **DELIVERY OF COLORADO RIVER WATER TO LESSEES.**—All lessees of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water shall pay all OM&R charges, all energy charges, and all other applicable charges associated with the delivery of the leased water.

(f) **DELIVERY OF COLORADO RIVER WATER THROUGH THE CAP SYSTEM.**—

(1) **CAWCD APPROVAL.**—The Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, or any person who leases Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water under subsection (a) may transport that Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, or Hopi Tribe Cibola Water, as applicable, through the CAP system in accordance with all laws of the United States and the agreements between the United States and CAWCD governing the use of the CAP system to transport water other than CAP water, and other applicable charges.

(2) **LESSEE RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHARGES.**—Any lease or option to lease providing for the temporary delivery of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water through the CAP system shall require the lessee to pay the CAP operating agency all CAP fixed OM&R charges and all CAP pumping energy charges associated with the delivery of the leased water, and other applicable charges.

(3) **NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAYMENT.**—The Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the United States acting in any capacity shall not be responsible for the payment of any charges associated with the delivery of Colorado River Water leased to others.

(4) **PAYMENT IN ADVANCE.**—No leased Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, or Hopi Tribe Cibola Water shall be delivered through the CAP system unless the CAP fixed OM&R charges, the CAP pumping energy charges, and other applicable charges associated with the delivery of that Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, or Hopi Tribe Cibola Water, as applicable, have been paid in advance.

(5) **CALCULATION.**—The charges for delivery of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water, Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo

Nation Fourth Priority Water, Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water delivered through the CAP system pursuant to a lease shall be calculated in accordance with the agreements between the United States and CAWCD governing the use of the CAP system to transport water other than CAP water.

SEC. 5008. IINÁ BÁ – PAA TUWAQAT'SI PIPELINE.

(a) **IINÁ BÁ – PAA TUWAQAT'SI PIPELINE.**—

(1) **PLANNING, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE IINÁ BÁ – PAA TUWAQAT'SI PIPELINE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, shall plan, design, and construct the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline.

(B) **PROJECT CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE.**—As provided in subparagraph 12.1.4 of the Settlement Agreement, the Secretary shall form a Project Construction Committee, which shall include the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, for purposes of planning and designing the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline to provide water delivery to the Navajo Reservation, the Hopi Reservation, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Southern Area.

(C) **DESIGN.**—The iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline shall be substantially configured as Alternative 5, Option B-100 described in the report of the Bureau entitled “Navajo-Hopi Value Planning Study—Arizona” and dated October 2020.

(D) **EXISTING COMPONENTS.**—The iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline may include components that have already been built or acquired by the Navajo Nation or the Hopi Tribe as a contribution by the Navajo Nation or the Hopi Tribe towards the cost of planning, designing, and constructing the pipeline.

(E) **USE OF PIPELINE.**—The iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline shall deliver potable water for domestic, commercial, municipal, and industrial Uses and be capable of delivering from Lake Powell—

(i) up to 7,100 AFY of potable Colorado River Water to the Navajo Nation for Use in delivering up to 6,750 AFY to serve Navajo communities and up to 350 AFY to serve the San Juan Southern Paiute Southern Area; and

(ii) up to 3,076 AFY of potable Colorado River Water to the Hopi Tribe for Use in delivering up to 3,076 AFY to serve Hopi communities.

(F) **COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Construction of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline shall commence after environmental compliance, design, construction phasing, cost estimating, and value engineering have occurred and the phasing of construction has been agreed by the Secretary, the Navajo Nation, and the Hopi Tribe, with the Secretary deciding on phasing if an agreement is not reached.

(2) **OWNERSHIP.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline shall be owned by the United States during construction of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline.

(B) **TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP.**—On substantial completion of all or a phase of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline, in accordance with paragraph (3), the Secretary shall—

(i) transfer title to the applicable section of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline on the Navajo Reservation, except that section that lies on the Navajo Reservation between Moenkopi and the boundary of the 1882 Reservation, to the Navajo Nation; and

(ii) transfer title to the applicable section of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline on the Hopi Reservation, and the section of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline that lies on the Navajo Reservation between Moenkopi and the boundary of the 1882 Reservation and

the right-of-way for that section of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline, to the Hopi Tribe.

(3) **SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall determine that the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline or a phase of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline is substantially complete after consultation with the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe.

(B) **SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION DESCRIBED.**—Substantial completion of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline project or a phase of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline project occurs when the infrastructure constructed is capable of storing, diverting, treating, transmitting, and distributing a supply of water as set forth in the final project design described in subsection (a)(1)(C).

(4) **OPERATION.**—

(A) **PROJECT OPERATION COMMITTEE.**—The Secretary shall form a Project Operation Committee, which shall include the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe—

(i) to develop a project operations agreement to be executed by the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the Secretary prior to substantial completion of any phase of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline that will provide water to the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe; and

(ii) to describe all terms and conditions necessary for long-term operations of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline, including—

(I) distribution of water;

(II) responsibility for maintenance of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline or section of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline;

(III) the allocation and payment of annual OM&R costs of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline or section of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline based on the proportionate uses and ownership of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline; and

(IV) a right to sue in a district court of the United States to enforce the project operations agreement.

(B) **NAVAJO TRIBE OPERATION.**—The Navajo Nation shall operate the section of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline that delivers water to the Navajo communities, other than Coal Mine Mesa, and that may deliver water through the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline to the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(C) **HOPi TRIBE OPERATION.**—The Hopi Tribe shall operate the section of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline that delivers water to Moenkopi, the 1882 Reservation, and the Navajo community of Coal Mine Mesa.

(b) **TRIBAL EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In partial consideration for the funding provided under section 5013, the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe shall each timely consent to the grant of rights-of-way as described in, and in accordance with, subparagraphs 12.5.1, 12.5.2, and 12.5.3 of the Settlement Agreement.

(2) **LEGAL DEVICES.**—With the consent of each affected Tribe, the Secretary may enter into legal devices, other than rights-of-way, such as construction corridors, when operating within the jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe, or San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe in furtherance of the planning, design, and construction of the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline.

(3) **AUTHORIZATION AND GRANTING OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY.**—The Secretary shall grant the rights-of-way consented to by the Tribes under paragraph (1).

SEC. 5009. IINÁ BÁ – PAA TUWAQAT'SI PIPELINE IMPLEMENTATION FUND ACCOUNT.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish a non-trust, interest-bearing account, to be known as the “iiná bá – paa

tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account", to be managed and distributed by the Secretary, for use by the Secretary in carrying out this division.

(b) DEPOSITS.—The Secretary shall deposit in the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account the amounts made available pursuant to section 5013(a)(1).

(c) USES.—The iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account shall be used by the Secretary to carry out section 5008.

(d) INTEREST.—In addition the amounts deposited in the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account under subsection (b), any investment earnings, including interest credited to amounts unexpended in the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account, are authorized to be appropriated to be used in accordance with the uses described in subsection (c).

SEC. 5010. NAVAJO NATION WATER SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a trust fund for the Navajo Nation, to be known as the "Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund," to be managed, invested, and distributed by the Secretary and to remain available until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury, consisting of the amounts deposited in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund under subsection (c), together with any investment earnings, including interest, earned on those amounts, for the purpose of carrying out this division.

(b) ACCOUNTS.—The Secretary shall establish in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund the following accounts:

(1) The Navajo Nation Water Projects Trust Fund Account.

(2) The Navajo Nation OM&R Trust Fund Account.

(3) The Navajo Nation Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account.

(4) The Navajo Nation Renewable Energy Trust Fund Account.

(5) The Navajo Nation Lower Basin Colorado River Water Acquisition Trust Fund Account.

(c) DEPOSITS.—The Secretary shall deposit—

(1) in the Navajo Nation Water Projects Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraph (A)(i) of section 5013(b)(3);

(2) in the Navajo Nation OM&R Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii) of that section;

(3) in the Navajo Nation Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraph (A)(iii) of that section;

(4) in the Navajo Nation Renewable Energy Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraph (A)(iv) of that section; and

(5) in the Navajo Nation Lower Basin Colorado River Water Acquisition Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to subparagraph (A)(v) of that section.

(d) MANAGEMENT AND INTEREST.—

(1) MANAGEMENT.—On receipt and deposit of the funds into the accounts in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund Accounts pursuant to subsection (c), the Secretary shall manage, invest, and distribute all amounts in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund in a manner that is consistent with the investment authority of the Secretary under—

(A) the first section of the Act of June 24, 1938 (25 U.S.C. 162a);

(B) the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.); and

(C) this subsection.

(2) INVESTMENT EARNINGS.—In addition to the deposits made to the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund under subsection (c), any investment earnings, including interest, credited to amounts held in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund are authorized to be appropriated to be used in accordance with subsection (f).

(e) WITHDRAWALS.—

(1) AMERICAN INDIAN TRUST FUND MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT OF 1994.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Navajo Nation may withdraw any portion of the amounts in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund on approval by the Secretary of a Tribal management plan submitted by the Navajo Nation in accordance with the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.).

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—In addition to the requirements under the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Tribal management plan under this paragraph shall require that the Navajo Nation spend all amounts withdrawn from the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund, and any investment earnings accrued through the investments under the Tribal management plan, in accordance with this division.

(C) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary may carry out such judicial and administrative actions as the Secretary determines to be necessary—

(i) to enforce a Tribal management plan; and

(ii) to ensure that amounts withdrawn from the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund by the Navajo Nation under this paragraph are used in accordance with this division.

(2) EXPENDITURE PLAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Navajo Nation may submit to the Secretary a request to withdraw funds from the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund pursuant to an approved expenditure plan.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible to withdraw funds under an expenditure plan under this paragraph, the Navajo Nation shall submit to the Secretary for approval an expenditure plan for any portion of the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund that the Navajo Nation elects to withdraw pursuant to this paragraph, subject to the condition that the funds shall be used for the purposes described in this division.

(C) INCLUSIONS.—An expenditure plan under this paragraph shall include a description of the manner and purpose for which the amounts proposed to be withdrawn from the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund Accounts will be used by the Navajo Nation in accordance with subsection (f).

(D) APPROVAL.—On receipt of an expenditure plan under this paragraph, the Secretary shall approve the expenditure plan if the Secretary determines that the expenditure plan—

(i) is reasonable; and

(ii) is consistent with, and will be used for, the purposes of this division.

(E) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary may carry out such judicial and administrative actions as the Secretary determines to be necessary to enforce an expenditure plan under this paragraph to ensure that amounts disbursed under this paragraph are used in accordance with this division.

(f) USES.—Amounts from the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund shall be used by the Navajo Nation for the following purposes:

(1) NAVAJO NATION WATER PROJECTS TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Navajo Nation Water Projects Trust Fund Account may only be used for the purpose of environmental compliance, planning, engineering

activities, and construction of projects designed to deliver potable water to communities, such as Leupp, Dilkon, Ganado, Black Mesa, Sweetwater, Chinle, Lupton/Nahata Dziłil Area, Kayenta, and Oljato.

(2) NAVAJO NATION OM&R TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Navajo Nation OM&R Trust Fund Account may only be used to pay OM&R costs of the Navajo Water projects described in paragraph (1) and the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline project.

(3) NAVAJO NATION AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), amounts in the Navajo Nation Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account may only be used to pay the costs of improvements to reduce water shortages on the historically irrigated land of the Navajo Nation, including sprinklers, drip or other efficient irrigation systems, land leveling, wells, pipelines, pumps and storage, stream bank stabilization and restoration, pasture seeding and management, fencing, wind breaks, and alluvial wells.

(B) LIMITATION.—Not more than half of the amounts in the Navajo Nation Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account may be used for replacement and development of livestock wells and impoundments on the Navajo Reservation and Navajo Trust Land.

(4) NAVAJO NATION RENEWABLE ENERGY TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Navajo Nation Renewable Energy Trust Fund Account may only be used to pay the cost of planning, designing, and constructing renewable energy facilities to support the costs of operating the Navajo Nation Water projects and the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline.

(5) NAVAJO NATION LOWER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER ACQUISITION TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the Navajo Nation Lower Basin Colorado River Water Acquisition Trust Fund Account may only be used to purchase land within the State and associated Lower Basin Colorado River Water Rights.

(g) LIABILITY.—The Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury shall not be liable for the expenditure or investment of any amounts withdrawn from the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund by the Navajo Nation pursuant to subsection (e).

(h) TITLE TO INFRASTRUCTURE.—Title to, control over, and operation of any project constructed using funds from the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund shall remain in the Navajo Nation.

(i) ACCOUNT TRANSFERS.—If the activities described in any of paragraphs (1) through (5) of subsection (f) are complete and amounts remain in the applicable Trust Fund Account described in those paragraphs, the Secretary, at the request of the Navajo Nation, shall transfer the remaining amounts to one of the other accounts within the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund.

(j) CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INÁ BÁ - PAA TUWAQAT'SI PIPELINE.—In its sole discretion, the Navajo Nation may use amounts in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund to supplement funds in the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account.

(k) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Navajo Nation shall submit to the Secretary an annual expenditure report describing accomplishments and amounts spent from use of withdrawals under a Tribal management plan approved under paragraph (1) of subsection (e) or an expenditure plan approved under paragraph (2) of that subsection.

(l) NO PER CAPITA PAYMENTS.—No principal or interest amount in any account established by this section shall be distributed to any member of the Navajo Nation on a per capita basis.

(m) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section entitles the Navajo Nation to judicial review of

a determination of the Secretary relating to whether to approve a Tribal management plan under paragraph (1) of subsection (e) or an expenditure plan under paragraph (2) of that subsection, except as provided under subchapter II of chapter 5, and chapter 7, of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the "Administrative Procedure Act").

SEC. 5011. HOPI TRIBE SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish a trust fund for the Hopi Tribe, to be known as the "Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund", to be managed, invested, and distributed by the Secretary and to remain available until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury, consisting of the amounts deposited in the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund under subsection (c), together with any investment earnings, including interest, earned on those amounts, for the purpose of carrying out this division.

(b) **ACCOUNTS.**—The Secretary shall establish in the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund the following accounts:

(1) The Hopi Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account.

(2) The Hopi Tribe OM&R Trust Fund Account.

(3) The Hopi Tribe Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account.

(4) The Hopi Tribe Lower Basin Colorado River Water Acquisition Trust Fund Account.

(c) **DEPOSITS.**—The Secretary shall deposit—

(1) in the Hopi Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to clause (i) of section 5013(b)(3)(B);

(2) in the Hopi Tribe OM&R Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to clause (ii) of that section;

(3) in the Hopi Tribe Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to clause (iii) of that section; and

(4) in the Hopi Tribe Lower Basin Colorado River Water Acquisition Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to clause (iv) of that section.

(d) **MANAGEMENT AND INTEREST.**—

(1) **MANAGEMENT.**—On receipt and deposit of the funds into the accounts in the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund pursuant to subsection (c), the Secretary shall manage, invest, and distribute all amounts in the Trust Fund in a manner that is consistent with the investment authority of the Secretary under—

(A) the first section of the Act of June 24, 1938 (25 U.S.C. 162a);

(B) the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.); and

(C) this subsection.

(2) **INVESTMENT EARNINGS.**—In addition to the deposits made to the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund under subsection (c), any investment earnings, including interest, credited to amounts held in accounts of the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund are authorized to be appropriated to be used in accordance with subsection (f).

(e) **WITHDRAWALS.**—

(1) **AMERICAN INDIAN TRUST FUND MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT OF 1994.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Hopi Tribe may withdraw any portion of the amounts in the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund on approval by the Secretary of a Tribal management plan submitted by the Hopi Tribe in accordance with the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.).

(B) **REQUIREMENTS.**—In addition to the requirements under the American Indian Trust

Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Tribal management plan under this paragraph shall require that the Hopi Tribe spend all amounts withdrawn from the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund Accounts, and any investment earnings accrued through the investments under the Tribal management plan, in accordance with this division.

(C) **ENFORCEMENT.**—The Secretary may carry out such judicial and administrative actions as the Secretary determines to be necessary—

(i) to enforce a Tribal management plan; and

(ii) to ensure that amounts withdrawn from the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund by the Hopi Tribe under this paragraph are used in accordance with this division.

(2) **EXPENDITURE PLAN.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Hopi Tribe may submit to the Secretary a request to withdraw funds from the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund pursuant to an approved expenditure plan.

(B) **REQUIREMENTS.**—To be eligible to withdraw funds under an expenditure plan under this paragraph, the Hopi Tribe shall submit to the Secretary for approval an expenditure plan for any portion of the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund that the Hopi Tribe elects to withdraw pursuant to this paragraph, subject to the condition that the funds shall be used for the purposes described in this division.

(C) **INCLUSIONS.**—An expenditure plan under this paragraph shall include a description of the manner and purpose for which the amounts proposed to be withdrawn from the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund Accounts will be used by the Hopi Tribe in accordance with subsection (f).

(D) **APPROVAL.**—On receipt of an expenditure plan under this paragraph, the Secretary shall approve the expenditure plan if the Secretary determines that the expenditure plan—

(i) is reasonable; and

(ii) is consistent with, and will be used for, the purposes of this division.

(E) **ENFORCEMENT.**—The Secretary may carry out such judicial and administrative actions as the Secretary determines to be necessary to enforce an expenditure plan under this paragraph to ensure that amounts disbursed under this paragraph are used in accordance with this division.

(F) **USES.**—Amounts from the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund shall be used by the Hopi Tribe for the following purposes:

(1) **THE HOPI TRIBE GROUNDWATER PROJECTS TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.**—Amounts in the Hopi Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account may only be used for the purpose of environmental compliance, planning, engineering and design activities, and construction to deliver water to Hopi communities.

(2) **THE HOPI TRIBE OM&R TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.**—Amounts in the Hopi Tribe OM&R Trust Fund Account may only be used to pay the OM&R costs of the Hopi Groundwater projects described in paragraph (1) and the *iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si* pipeline project.

(3) **THE HOPI TRIBE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.**—Amounts in the Hopi Tribe Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account may only be used to pay the costs of improvements to reduce water shortages on the historically irrigated land and grazing land of the Hopi Tribe, including sprinklers, drip or other efficient irrigation systems, land leveling, wells, impoundments, pipelines, pumps and storage, stream bank stabilization and restoration, pasture seeding and management, fencing, and wind breaks or alluvial wells, and spring restoration, repair, replacement, and relocation of low technology structures to support Akchin

farming, flood-water farming, and other traditional farming practices.

(4) **THE HOPI TRIBE LOWER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER ACQUISITION TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.**—Amounts in the Hopi Tribe Lower Basin Colorado River Water Acquisition Trust Fund Account may only be used to purchase land within the State and associated Lower Basin Colorado River Water Rights.

(g) **LIABILITY.**—The Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury shall not be liable for the expenditure or investment of any amounts withdrawn from the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund Accounts by the Hopi Tribe pursuant to subsection (e).

(h) **TITLE TO INFRASTRUCTURE.**—Title to, control over, and operation of any project constructed using funds from the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund shall remain in the Hopi Tribe.

(i) **ACCOUNT TRANSFERS.**—If the activities described in any of paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (f) are complete and amounts remain in the applicable Trust Fund Account described in those paragraphs, the Secretary, at the request of the Hopi Tribe, shall transfer the remaining amounts to one of the other accounts within the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund.

(j) **CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE IINÁ BÁ – PAA TUWAQAT'SI PIPELINE.**—In its sole discretion, the Hopi Tribe may use amounts in the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund to supplement funds in the *iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si* pipeline Implementation Fund Account.

(k) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—The Hopi Tribe shall submit to the Secretary an annual expenditure report describing accomplishments and amounts spent from use of withdrawals under a Tribal management plan under paragraph (1) of subsection (e) or an expenditure plan under paragraph (2) of that subsection.

(l) **NO PER CAPITA PAYMENTS.**—No principal or interest amount in any account established by this section shall be distributed to any member of the Hopi Tribe on a per capita basis.

(m) **EFFECT.**—Nothing in this section entitles the Hopi Tribe to judicial review of a determination of the Secretary regarding whether to approve a Tribal management plan under paragraph (1) of subsection (e) or an expenditure plan under paragraph (2) of that subsection, except as provided under subchapter II of chapter 5, and chapter 7, of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the "Administrative Procedure Act").

SEC. 5012. SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE WATER SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish a trust fund for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, to be known as the "San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund", to be managed, invested, and distributed by the Secretary and to remain available until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury, consisting of the amounts deposited in the Trust Fund Accounts under subsection (c), together with any investment earnings, including interest, earned on those amounts, for the purpose of carrying out this division.

(b) **ACCOUNTS.**—The Secretary shall establish in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund the following accounts:

(1) The San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account.

(2) The San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account.

(3) The San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe OM&R Trust Fund Account.

(c) **DEPOSITS.**—The Secretary shall deposit—

(1) in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to clause (i) of section 5013(b)(3)(C);

(2) in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to clause (iii) of that section; and

(3) in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe OM&R Trust Fund Account, the amounts made available pursuant to clause (ii) of that section.

(d) MANAGEMENT AND INTEREST.—

(1) MANAGEMENT.—On receipt and deposit of the funds into the accounts in the San Juan Southern Paiute Water Settlement Trust Fund pursuant to subsection (c), the Secretary shall manage, invest, and distribute all amounts in the San Juan Southern Paiute Trust Fund Accounts in a manner that is consistent with the investment authority of the Secretary under—

(A) the first section of the Act of June 24, 1938 (25 U.S.C. 162a);

(B) the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.); and

(C) this subsection.

(2) INVESTMENT EARNINGS.—In addition to the deposits made to the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund under subsection (c), any investment earnings, including interest, credited to amounts held in accounts of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund are authorized to be appropriated to be used in accordance with subsection (f).

(e) WITHDRAWALS.—

(1) AMERICAN INDIAN TRUST FUND MANAGEMENT REFORM ACT OF 1994.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe may withdraw any portion of the amounts in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund on approval by the Secretary of a Tribal management plan submitted by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe in accordance with the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.).

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—In addition to the requirements under the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Tribal management plan under this paragraph shall require that the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe spend all amounts withdrawn from the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund, and any investment earnings accrued through the investments under the Tribal management plan, in accordance with this division.

(C) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary may carry out such judicial and administrative actions as the Secretary determines to be necessary—

(i) to enforce a Tribal management plan; and

(ii) to ensure that amounts withdrawn from the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe under this paragraph are used in accordance with this division.

(2) EXPENDITURE PLAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe may submit to the Secretary a request to withdraw funds from the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund pursuant to an approved expenditure plan.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible to withdraw funds under an expenditure plan under this paragraph, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe shall submit to the Secretary for approval an expenditure plan for any portion of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund that the San

Juan Southern Paiute Tribe elects to withdraw pursuant to this paragraph, subject to the condition that the funds shall be used for the purposes described in this division.

(C) INCLUSIONS.—An expenditure plan under this paragraph shall include a description of the manner and purpose for which the amounts proposed to be withdrawn from the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund Accounts will be used by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe in accordance with subsection (f).

(D) APPROVAL.—On receipt of an expenditure plan under this paragraph, the Secretary shall approve the expenditure plan if the Secretary determines that the expenditure plan—

(i) is reasonable; and

(ii) is consistent with, and will be used for, the purposes of this division.

(E) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary may carry out such judicial and administrative actions as the Secretary determines to be necessary to enforce an expenditure plan under this paragraph to ensure that amounts disbursed under this paragraph are used in accordance with this division.

(F) USES.—Amounts from the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund shall be used by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe for the following purposes:

(1) THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE GROUNDWATER PROJECTS TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account may only be used to pay the cost of designing and constructing water projects, including Water treatment facilities, pipelines, storage tanks, pumping stations, pressure reducing valves, electrical transmission facilities, and the other appurtenant items, including real property and easements necessary to deliver water to the areas served.

(2) THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), amounts in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account may only be used to pay the costs of improvements to reduce water shortages on the historically irrigated land of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, including sprinklers, drip or other efficient irrigation systems, land leveling, wells, pipelines, pumps and storage, stream bank stabilization and restoration, pasture seeding and management, fencing, wind breaks, and alluvial wells.

(B) LIMITATION.—Not more than half of the amounts in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account may be used for replacement and development of livestock wells and impoundments on San Juan Southern Paiute Land.

(3) THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE OM&R TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.—Amounts in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe OM&R Trust Fund Account may only be used to pay the OM&R costs of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water projects described in paragraph (1) and for the imputed costs for delivery of water from the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline.

(G) LIABILITY.—The Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury shall not be liable for the expenditure or investment of any amounts withdrawn from the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund Accounts by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe pursuant to subsection (e).

(H) TITLE TO INFRASTRUCTURE.—Title to, control over, and operation of any project constructed using funds from the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement

Trust Fund shall remain in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(i) ACCOUNT TRANSFERS.—If the activities described in any of paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (f) are complete and amounts remain in the applicable Trust Fund Account described in those paragraphs, the Secretary, at the request of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, shall transfer the remaining amounts to one of the other accounts within the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund.

(j) CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INÁ BÁ - PAA TUWAQAT'SI PIPELINE.—In its sole discretion, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe may use amounts in the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund to supplement funds in the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account.

(k) ANNUAL REPORT.—The San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe shall submit to the Secretary an annual expenditure report describing accomplishments and amounts spent from use of withdrawals under a Tribal management plan submitted under paragraph (1) of subsection (e) or an expenditure plan under paragraph (2) of that subsection.

(l) NO PER CAPITA PAYMENTS.—No principal or interest amount in any account established by this section shall be distributed to any member of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe on a per capita basis.

(m) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section entitles the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe to judicial review of a determination of the Secretary regarding whether to approve a Tribal management plan under paragraph (1) of subsection (e) or an expenditure plan under paragraph (2) of that subsection, except as provided under subchapter II of chapter 5, and chapter 7, of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the "Administrative Procedure Act").

SEC. 5013. FUNDING.

(a) INÁ BÁ - PAA TUWAQAT'SI PIPELINE IMPLEMENTATION FUND ACCOUNT.—

(1) MANDATORY APPROPRIATION.—Out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary \$1,715,000,000 for deposit in the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account, to carry out the planning, engineering, design, environmental compliance, and construction of the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline, to remain available until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury.

(2) AVAILABILITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), amounts appropriated to and deposited in the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account under paragraph (1) shall not be available for expenditure until such time as the Secretarial findings required by section 5016(a) are made and published.

(B) EXCEPTION.—Of the amounts made available under paragraph (1), \$25,000,000 shall be made available before the Enforceability Date for the Bureau to carry out environmental compliance and preliminary design of the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline, subject to the following:

(i) The revision of the Settlement Agreement and exhibits to conform to this division.

(ii) Execution by all of the required settlement parties, including the United States, to the conformed Settlement Agreement and exhibits, including the waivers and releases of claims under section 5014.

(3) ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION.—In addition to the amounts made available under paragraph (1), there are authorized to be appropriated to the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account such sums as are necessary to complete the construction of the iiná bá - paa tuwaqat'si pipeline.

(b) NAVAJO NATION WATER SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND, THE HOPI TRIBE WATER SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND AND THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND.—

(1) MANDATORY APPROPRIATION.—Out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Secretary \$3,285,000,000, for deposit in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund, the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Settlement Trust Fund, in accordance with paragraph (3), to remain available until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury.

(2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated to and deposited in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund, the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Water Settlement Trust Fund under paragraph (1) shall not be available for expenditure until such time as the Secretarial findings required by section 5016(a) are made and published.

(3) ALLOCATION.—The Secretary shall distribute and deposit the amounts made available under paragraph (1) in accordance with the following:

(A) THE NAVAJO NATION WATER SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND.—The Secretary shall deposit in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund \$2,746,700,000, to remain available until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury and to be allocated to the accounts of the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund in accordance with the following:

(i) The Navajo Nation Water Projects Trust Fund Account, \$2,369,200,000.

(ii) The Navajo Nation OM&R Trust Fund Account, \$229,500,000.

(iii) The Navajo Nation Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account, \$80,000,000.

(iv) The Navajo Nation Renewable Energy Trust Fund Account, \$40,000,000.

(v) The Navajo Nation Lower Basin Colorado River Water Acquisition Trust Fund Account, \$28,000,000.

(B) THE HOPI TRIBE WATER SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND.—The Secretary shall deposit in the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund \$508,500,000, to remain available until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury and to be allocated to the accounts of the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund in accordance with the following:

(i) The Hopi Tribe Groundwater Projects Trust Fund Account, \$390,000,000.

(ii) The Hopi Tribe OM&R Trust Fund Account, \$87,000,000.

(iii) The Hopi Tribe Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account, \$30,000,000.

(iv) The Hopi Tribe Lower Basin Colorado River Water Acquisition Trust Fund Account, \$1,500,000.

(C) THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE WATER SETTLEMENT TRUST FUND.—The Secretary shall deposit in the San Juan Southern Paiute Water Settlement Trust Fund \$29,800,000, to remain available until expended, withdrawn, or reverted to the general fund of the Treasury and to be allocated to the accounts of the San Juan Southern Paiute Water Settlement Trust Fund in accordance with the following:

(i) The San Juan Southern Paiute Groundwater Project Trust Fund Account, \$28,000,000.

(ii) The San Juan Southern Paiute OM&R Trust Fund Account, \$1,500,000.

(iii) The San Juan Southern Paiute Agricultural Conservation Trust Fund Account, \$300,000.

(c) INVESTMENTS.—The Secretary shall invest amounts deposited in the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account under subsection (a) and the Navajo

Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund, Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Water Settlement Trust Fund under subsection (b) in accordance with—

(1) the Act of April 1, 1880 (25 U.S.C. 161);

(2) the first section of the Act of June 24, 1938 (25 U.S.C. 162a); and

(3) obligations of Federal corporations and Federal Government-sponsored entities, the charter documents of which provide that the obligations of the entities are lawful investments for federally managed funds.

(d) CREDITS TO ACCOUNTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The interest on, and the proceeds from, the sale or redemption of, any obligations held in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund, the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Water Settlement Trust Fund shall be credited to and form a part of the applicable Trust Fund.

(2) USE OF TRUST FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated to and deposited in the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund, the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Water Settlement Trust Fund may be used as described in sections 5010, 5011, and 5012 and paragraph 12 of the Settlement Agreement.

(e) FLUCTUATION IN COSTS.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION FUND ACCOUNT.—The amounts appropriated and authorized to be appropriated under subsection (a) shall be—

(A) increased or decreased, as appropriate, by such amounts as may be justified by reason of ordinary fluctuations in costs occurring after January 1, 2024, as indicated by the Bureau Construction Cost Trends Index applicable to the types of construction involved; and

(B) adjusted to address construction cost changes necessary to account for unforeseen market volatility that may not otherwise be captured by engineering cost indices as determined by the Secretary, including repricing applicable to the types of construction and current industry standards involved.

(2) TRUST FUNDS.—The amounts appropriated and authorized to be appropriated under subsection (b) shall be—

(A) increased or decreased, as appropriate, by such amounts as may be justified by reason of ordinary fluctuations in costs occurring after January 1, 2024, as indicated by the Bureau Construction Cost Index—Composite Trend; and

(B) adjusted to address construction cost changes necessary to account for unforeseen market volatility that may not otherwise be captured by engineering cost indices as determined by the Secretary, including repricing applicable to the types of construction and current industry standards involved.

(3) REPETITION.—The adjustment process under paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be repeated for each subsequent amount appropriated until the amount appropriated and authorized to be appropriated, as applicable, under subsections (a) and (b), as adjusted, has been appropriated.

(4) PERIOD OF INDEXING.—

(A) IMPLEMENTATION FUND.—With respect to the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline Implementation Fund Account, the period of adjustment under paragraph (1) for any increment of funding shall be annually until the iiná bá – paa tuwaqat'si pipeline project is completed.

(B) TRUST FUNDS.—With respect to the Navajo Nation Water Settlement Trust Fund, the Hopi Tribe Water Settlement Trust Fund, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Water Settlement Trust Fund, the period of indexing adjustment under paragraph (2) for any increment of funding shall end on the date on which the funds are deposited into the Trust Funds.

SEC. 5014. WAIVERS, RELEASES, AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS.

(a) WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS FOR WATER RIGHTS, INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS, AND INJURY TO WATER BY THE NAVAJO NATION, ON BEHALF OF THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE MEMBERS OF THE NAVAJO NATION (BUT NOT MEMBERS IN THE CAPACITY OF THE MEMBERS AS NAVAJO ALLOTTEES), AND THE UNITED STATES, ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE MEMBERS OF THE NAVAJO NATION (BUT NOT MEMBERS IN THE CAPACITY OF THE MEMBERS AS NAVAJO ALLOTTEES) AGAINST THE STATE AND OTHERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Navajo Nation, on behalf of the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Navajo Allottees), and the United States, acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Navajo Allottees), as part of the performance of the respective obligations of the Navajo Nation and the United States under the Settlement Agreement and this division, are authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the State (or any agency or political subdivision of the State), the Hopi Tribe, the Hopi Allottees, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and any other individual, entity, corporation, or municipal corporation under Federal, State, or other law for all of the following:

(A) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, for Navajo Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(B) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the Navajo Nation, the predecessors of the Navajo Nation, the Members of the Navajo Nation, or predecessors of the Members of the Navajo Nation.

(C) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, for Navajo Land, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(D) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water for Navajo Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(E) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the Navajo Nation, the predecessors of the Navajo Nation, the Members of the Navajo Nation, or predecessors of the Members of the Navajo Nation.

(F) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date, for Navajo Land, resulting from the diversion or Use of water outside of Navajo Land in a manner not in violation of the Settlement Agreement or State law.

(G) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Settlement Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Settlement Agreement, or this division.

(2) FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form described in Exhibit 13.1 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) RETENTION OF CLAIMS.—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and Exhibit 13.1 to

the Settlement Agreement, the Navajo Nation, acting on behalf of the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Navajo Allottees), and the United States, acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Navajo Allottees), shall retain any right—

(A) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Navajo Nation under the Settlement Agreement, whether those rights are generally stated or specifically described, or this division, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction;

(B) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Navajo Nation under the LCR Decree and the Gila River Adjudication Decree;

(C) to assert claims for Water Rights, for land owned or acquired by the Navajo Nation in fee, or held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Navajo Nation, in the LCR Watershed pursuant to subparagraphs 4.11 and 4.12, of the Settlement Agreement, or in the Gila River Basin pursuant to subparagraphs 4.14 and 4.15 of the Settlement Agreement;

(D) to object to any claims for Water Rights by or for—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe, other than the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; and

(E) to assert past, present, or future claims for Injury to Water Rights—

(i) against any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe, other than the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe.

(b) **WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS FOR WATER RIGHTS, INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS, AND INJURY TO WATER BY THE UNITED STATES, ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE NAVAJO ALLOTTEES AGAINST THE STATE AND OTHERS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the United States, acting as trustee for the Navajo Allottees, as part of the performance of the obligations of the United States under the Settlement Agreement and this division, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the State (or any agency or political subdivision of the State), the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the Hopi Allottees, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and any other individual, entity, corporation, or municipal corporation under Federal, State, or other law, for all of the following:

(A) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, for Navajo Allotments, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(B) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the Navajo Allottees or predecessors of the Navajo Allottees.

(C) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, for Navajo Allotments, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(D) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water for Navajo Allotments, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(E) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by Navajo Allottees or predecessors of the Navajo Allottees.

(F) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date, for the Navajo Allotments, resulting from the diversion or Use of water outside of Navajo Allotments in a manner not in violation of the Settlement Agreement or State law.

(G) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Settlement Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Settlement Agreement, or this division.

(2) **FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The waiver and release of claims under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form described in Exhibit 13.2 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) **RETENTION OF CLAIMS.**—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1), the United States, acting as trustee for the Navajo Allottees, shall retain any right—

(A) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Navajo Allottees under the Settlement Agreement, whether those rights are generally stated or specifically described, or this division, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction;

(B) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Navajo Allottees under the LCR Decree;

(C) to object to any claims for Water Rights by or for—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; and

(D) to assert past, present, or future claims for Injury to Water Rights against—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe.

(c) **WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS FOR WATER RIGHTS, INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS, AND INJURY TO WATER BY THE NAVAJO NATION, ON BEHALF OF THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE MEMBERS OF THE NAVAJO NATION (BUT NOT MEMBERS IN THE CAPACITY OF THE MEMBERS AS NAVAJO ALLOTTEES), AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Navajo Nation, acting on behalf of the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Navajo Allottees), as part of the performance of the obligations of the Navajo Nation under the Settlement Agreement and this division, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the United States, including agencies, officials, and employees of the United States, under Federal, State, or other law for all of the following:

(A) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, for Navajo Land arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(B) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the

State by the Navajo Nation, the predecessors of the Navajo Nation, the Members of the Navajo Nation, or predecessors of the Members of the Navajo Nation.

(C) Claims for Water Rights within the State that the United States, acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation and Navajo Allottees, asserted or could have asserted in any proceeding, except to the extent that such rights are recognized as part of the Navajo Nation's Water Rights under this division.

(D) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, for Navajo Land, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(E) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water for Navajo Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(F) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the Navajo Nation, the predecessors of the Navajo Nation, the Members of the Navajo Nation, or predecessors of the Members of the Navajo Nation.

(G) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date for Navajo Land, resulting from the diversion or Use of water outside of Navajo Land in a manner not in violation of the Settlement Agreement or State law.

(H) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Settlement Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Settlement Agreement, or this division.

(I) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, United States Geological Survey monitoring and reporting activities described in paragraph 7.0 of the Settlement Agreement.

(J) Past, present, and future claims arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, relating in any manner to Injury to Water or Injury to Water Rights based on the provisions of paragraphs 8.0 and 9.0 of the Settlement Agreement.

(K) Past and present claims for foregone benefits from non-Navajo Use of water, on and off Navajo Land (including water from all sources and for all Uses), within the State arising before the Enforceability Date.

(L) Past and present claims for damage, loss, or injury to land or natural resources due to loss of water or Water Rights, including damages, losses, or injuries to hunting, fishing, gathering, or cultural rights due to loss of water or Water Rights, claims relating to interference with, diversion of, or taking of water, or claims relating to a failure to protect, acquire, replace, or develop water, Water Rights, or water infrastructure, within the State, arising before the Enforceability Date.

(M) Past and present claims arising before the Enforceability Date from a failure to provide for operation, maintenance, or deferred maintenance for any irrigation system or irrigation project on Navajo Land.

(N) Past and present claims arising before the Enforceability Date from a failure to establish or provide a municipal, rural, or industrial water delivery system on Navajo Land.

(O) Past and present claims for damage, loss, or injury to land or natural resources due to construction, operation, and management of irrigation projects on Navajo Land, including damages, losses, or injuries to fish habitat, wildlife, and wildlife habitat, within the State arising before the Enforceability Date.

(P) Past and present claims arising before the Enforceability Date from a failure to provide a dam safety improvement to a dam on Navajo Land within the State.

(2) FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form described in Exhibit 13.3 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) RETENTION OF CLAIMS.—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and Exhibit 13.3 to the Settlement Agreement, the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Allottees) shall retain any right—

(A) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Navajo Nation under the Settlement Agreement, whether those rights are generally stated or specifically described, or this division, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction;

(B) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Navajo Nation under the LCR Decree and the Gila River Adjudication Decree;

(C) to assert claims for Water Rights for land owned or acquired by the Navajo Nation in fee in the LCR Watershed pursuant to subparagraphs 4.11 and 4.12 of the Settlement Agreement, or in the Gila River Basin pursuant to subparagraphs 4.14 and 4.15 of the Settlement Agreement;

(D) to object to any claims for Water Rights by or for—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; and

(E) to assert past, present, or future claims for Injury to Water Rights against—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe.

(d) WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS BY THE UNITED STATES IN ALL CAPACITIES (EXCEPT AS TRUSTEE FOR AN INDIAN TRIBE OTHER THAN THE NAVAJO NATION, THE HOPI TRIBE, AND THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE) AGAINST THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE MEMBERS OF THE NAVAJO NATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the United States, in all capacities (except as trustee for an Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe), as part of the performance of the obligations of the United States under the Settlement Agreement and this division, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the Navajo Nation, the Members of the Navajo Nation, or any agency, official, or employee of the Navajo Nation, under Federal, State, or any other law for all of the following:

(A) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, resulting from the diversion or Use of water on Navajo Land, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(B) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date, resulting from the diversion or Use of water on Navajo Land in a manner that is not in violation of this Agreement or State law.

(C) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or related in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Settlement Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Settlement Agreement, or this division.

(2) FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waiver and release of claims under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form described in Exhibit 13.4 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) RETENTION OF CLAIMS.—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and Exhibit 13.4 to the Settlement Agreement, the United States shall retain any right to assert any claim not expressly waived in accordance with that paragraph and that Exhibit, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction.

(e) WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS FOR WATER RIGHTS, INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS, AND INJURY TO WATER BY THE HOPI TRIBE, ON BEHALF OF THE HOPI TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE HOPI TRIBE (BUT NOT MEMBERS IN THE CAPACITY OF THE MEMBERS AS HOPI ALLOTTEES), AND THE UNITED STATES, ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOPI TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE HOPI TRIBE (BUT NOT MEMBERS IN THE CAPACITY OF THE MEMBERS AS HOPI ALLOTTEES) AGAINST THE STATE AND OTHERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Hopi Tribe, on behalf of the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees), and the United States, acting as trustee for the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees), as part of the performance of the respective obligations of the Hopi Tribe and the United States under the Settlement Agreement and this division, are authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the State (or any agency or political subdivision of the State), the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Allottees, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and any other individual, entity, corporation, or municipal corporation under Federal, State, or other law for all of the following:

(A) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, for Hopi Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(B) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the Hopi Tribe, the predecessors of the Hopi Tribe, the Members of the Hopi Tribe, or predecessors of the Members of the Hopi Tribe.

(C) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, for Hopi Land, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(D) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water for Hopi Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(E) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the Hopi Tribe, the predecessors of the Hopi Tribe, the Members of the Hopi Tribe, or predecessors of the Members of the Hopi Tribe.

(F) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date, for Hopi Land, resulting from the diversion or Use of water outside of Hopi Land in a

manner not in violation of the Settlement Agreement or State law.

(G) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Settlement Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Settlement Agreement, or this division.

(2) FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form described in Exhibit 13.6 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) RETENTION OF CLAIMS.—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and Exhibit 13.6 to the Settlement Agreement, the Hopi Tribe, acting on behalf of the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees), and the United States, acting as trustee for the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees), shall retain any right—

(A) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Hopi Tribe under the Settlement Agreement, whether those rights are generally stated or specifically described, or this division, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction;

(B) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Hopi Tribe under the LCR Decree;

(C) to assert claims for Water Rights for land owned or acquired by the Hopi Tribe in fee, or held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Hopi Tribe, in the LCR Watershed pursuant to subparagraphs 5.10 and 5.11 of the Settlement Agreement;

(D) to object to any claims for Water Rights by or for—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe, other than the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; and

(E) to assert past, present, or future claims for Injury to Water Rights against—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe, other than the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe.

(f) WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS FOR WATER RIGHTS, INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS, AND INJURY TO WATER BY THE UNITED STATES, ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOPI ALLOTTEES AGAINST THE STATE AND OTHERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the United States, acting as trustee for the Hopi Allottees, as part of the performance of the obligations of the United States under the Settlement Agreement and this division, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the State (or any agency or political subdivision of the State), the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Allottees, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and any other individual, entity, corporation, or municipal corporation under Federal, State, or other law, for all of the following:

(A) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, for Hopi Allotments, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(B) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial

and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the Hopi Allottees or predecessors of the Hopi Allottees.

(C) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, for Hopi Allotments, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(D) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water for Hopi Allotments, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(E) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by Hopi Allottees or predecessors of the Hopi Allottees.

(F) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date, for the Hopi Allotments, resulting from the diversion or Use of water outside of the Hopi Allotments in a manner not in violation of the Settlement Agreement or State law.

(G) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Settlement Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Settlement Agreement, or this division.

(2) FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waiver and release of claims under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form described in Exhibit 13.7 of the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) RETENTION OF CLAIMS.—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and Exhibit 13.7 of the Settlement Agreement, the United States acting as trustee for the Hopi Allottees, shall retain any right—

(A) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Hopi Allottees under the Settlement Agreement, whether those rights are generally stated or specifically described, or this division, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction;

(B) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Hopi Allottees under the LCR Decree;

(C) to object to any claims for Water Rights by or for—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; and

(D) to assert past, present, or future claims for Injury to Water Rights against—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe.

(g) WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS FOR WATER RIGHTS, INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS, AND INJURY TO WATER BY THE HOPI TRIBE, ON BEHALF OF THE HOPI TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE HOPI TRIBE (BUT NOT MEMBERS IN THE CAPACITY OF THE MEMBERS AS HOPI ALLOTTEES), AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Hopi Tribe, acting on behalf of the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees), as part of the performance of the obligations of

the Hopi Tribe under the Settlement Agreement and this division, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the United States, including agencies, officials, and employees of the United States, under Federal, State, or other law for all of the following:

(A) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, for Hopi Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(B) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the Hopi Tribe, the predecessors of the Hopi Tribe, or predecessors of the Members of the Hopi Tribe.

(C) Claims for Water Rights within the State that the United States, acting a trustee for the Hopi Tribe and Hopi Allottees, asserted or could have asserted in any proceeding, except to the extent that such rights are recognized as part of the Hopi Tribe's Water Rights under this division.

(D) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, for Hopi Land, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(E) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water for Hopi Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(F) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the Hopi Tribe, the predecessors of the Hopi Tribe, the Members of the Hopi Tribe, or predecessors of the Members of the Hopi Tribe.

(G) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date for Hopi Land, resulting from the diversion or Use of water outside of Hopi Land in a manner not in violation of the Settlement Agreement or State law.

(H) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Settlement Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Settlement Agreement, or this division.

(I) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, United States Geological Survey monitoring and reporting activities described in paragraph 7.0 of the Settlement Agreement.

(J) Past, present, and future claims arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, relating in any manner to Injury to Water or Injury to Water Rights based on the provisions of paragraphs 8.0 and 9.0 of the Settlement Agreement.

(K) Past and present claims for foregone benefits from non-Hopi Use of water, on and off Hopi Land (including water from all sources and for all Uses), within the State arising before the Enforceability Date.

(L) Past and present claims for damage, loss, or injury to land, or natural resources due to loss of water or Water Rights, including damages, losses, or injuries to hunting, fishing, gathering, or cultural rights due to loss of water or Water Rights, claims relating to interference with, diversion of, or taking of water, or claims relating to a failure to protect, acquire, replace, or develop water, Water Rights, or water infrastructure, within the State, arising before the Enforceability Date.

(M) Past and present claims arising before the Enforceability Date from a failure to provide for operation, maintenance, or de-

ferred maintenance for any irrigation system or irrigation project on Hopi Land.

(N) Past and present claims arising before the Enforceability Date from a failure to establish or provide a municipal, rural, or industrial water delivery system on Hopi Land.

(O) Past and present claims for damage, loss, or injury to land or natural resources due to construction, operation, and management of irrigation projects on Hopi Land, including damages, losses, or injuries to fish habitat, wildlife, and wildlife habitat, within the State arising before the Enforceability Date.

(2) FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form described in Exhibit 13.8 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) RETENTION OF CLAIMS.—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and Exhibit 13.8 to the Settlement Agreement, the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees) shall retain any right—

(A) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Hopi Tribe under the Settlement Agreement, whether those rights are generally stated or specifically described, or this division, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction;

(B) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the Hopi Tribe under the LCR Decree;

(C) to assert claims for Water Rights for land owned or acquired by the Hopi Tribe in fee in the LCR Watershed pursuant to subparagraphs 5.10 and 5.11 of the Settlement Agreement;

(D) to object to any claims for Water Rights by or for—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; and

(E) to assert past, present, or future claims for Injury to Water Rights against—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe.

(h) WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS BY THE UNITED STATES IN ALL CAPACITIES (EXCEPT AS TRUSTEE FOR AN INDIAN TRIBE OTHER THAN THE NAVAJO NATION, THE HOPI TRIBE, AND THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE) AGAINST THE HOPI TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE HOPI TRIBE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the United States, in all capacities (except as trustee for an Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe), as part of the performance of the obligations of the United States under the Settlement Agreement and this division, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the Hopi Tribe, the Members of the Hopi Tribe, or any agency, official, or employee of the Hopi Tribe, under Federal, State, or any other law for all of the following:

(A) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, resulting from the diversion or Use of water on Hopi Land arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(B) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date, resulting from the diversion or Use of water on Hopi Land in a manner that is not in violation of the Settlement Agreement or State law.

(C) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Settlement Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Settlement Agreement, or this division.

(2) FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waiver and release of claims under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form described in Exhibit 13.9 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) RETENTION OF CLAIMS.—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and Exhibit 13.9 to the Settlement Agreement, the United States shall retain any right to assert any claim not expressly waived in accordance with that paragraph and that Exhibit, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction.

(1) WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS FOR WATER RIGHTS, INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS, AND INJURY TO WATER BY THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE, ON BEHALF OF THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE, AND THE UNITED STATES, ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE AGAINST THE STATE AND OTHERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, on behalf of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the United States, acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, as part of the performance of the respective obligations of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the United States under the Settlement Agreement and this division, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the State (or any agency or political subdivision of the State), the Hopi Tribe, the Hopi Allottees, the Navajo Nation, the Navajo Allottees, and any other individual, entity, corporation, or municipal corporation under Federal, State, or other law for all of the following:

(A) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, for San Juan Southern Paiute Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(B) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the predecessors of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, or predecessors of the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(C) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, for San Juan Southern Paiute Land, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(D) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water for San Juan Southern Paiute Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(E) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy

of land within the State by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the predecessors of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, or predecessors of the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(F) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date, for San Juan Southern Paiute Land, resulting from the diversion or Use of water outside of San Juan Southern Paiute Land in a manner not in violation of the Settlement Agreement or State law.

(G) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Settlement Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Settlement Agreement, or this division.

(2) FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form described in Exhibit 13.11 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) RETENTION OF CLAIMS.—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and Exhibit 13.11 to the Settlement Agreement, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, acting on behalf of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, and the United States, acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, shall retain any right—

(A) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe under the Settlement Agreement, whether those rights are generally stated or specifically described, or this division, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction;

(B) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe under the LCR Decree;

(C) to assert claims for Water Rights for land owned or acquired by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe in fee or held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe in the LCR Watershed pursuant to subparagraphs 6.4 and 6.5 of the Settlement Agreement;

(D) to object to any claims for Water Rights by or for—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe, other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the Zuni Tribe; and

(E) to assert past, present, or future claims for Injury to Water Rights against—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe, other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the Zuni Tribe.

(j) WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS FOR WATER RIGHTS, INJURY TO WATER RIGHTS, AND INJURY TO WATER BY THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE, ON BEHALF OF THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE, AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, acting on behalf of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, as part of the performance of the obligations of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe under the Settlement Agreement and this division, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of

all claims against the United States, including agencies, officials, and employees of the United States, under Federal, State, or other law for all of the following:

(A) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, for San Juan Southern Paiute Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(B) Past, present, and future claims for Water Rights, including rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the predecessors of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, or predecessors of the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(C) Claims for Water Rights within the State that the United States, acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, asserted or could have asserted in any proceeding, except to the extent that such rights are recognized as part of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe's Water Rights under this division.

(D) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, for San Juan Southern Paiute Land, arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(E) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water for San Juan Southern Paiute Land, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever.

(F) Past, present, and future claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, that are based on the aboriginal occupancy of land within the State by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the predecessors of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, or predecessors of the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(G) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date for San Juan Southern Paiute Land, resulting from the diversion or Use of water outside of San Juan Southern Paiute Land in a manner not in violation of this Agreement or State law.

(H) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of this Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating this Agreement, or this division.

(I) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or relating in any manner to, United States Geological Survey monitoring and reporting activities described in paragraph 7.0 of the Settlement Agreement.

(J) Past, present, and future claims arising from time immemorial and, thereafter, forever, relating in any manner to Injury to Water or Injury to Water Rights based on the provisions of paragraphs 8.0 and 9.0 of the Settlement Agreement.

(K) Past and present claims for foregone benefits from non-San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Use of water, on and off San Juan Southern Paiute Land (including water from all sources and for all Uses), within the State arising before the Enforceability Date.

(L) Past and present claims for damage, loss, or injury to land, or natural resources due to loss of water or Water Rights, including damages, losses, or injuries to hunting, fishing, gathering, or cultural rights due to loss of water or Water Rights, claims relating to interference with, diversion of, or taking of water, or claims relating to a failure to protect, acquire, replace, or develop

water, Water Rights, or water infrastructure, within the State, arising before the Enforceability Date.

(M) Past and present claims arising before the Enforceability Date from a failure to provide for operation, maintenance, or deferred maintenance for any irrigation system or irrigation project on San Juan Southern Paiute Land.

(N) Past and present claims arising before the Enforceability Date from a failure to establish or provide a municipal, rural, or industrial water delivery system on San Juan Southern Paiute Land.

(O) Past and present claims for damage, loss, or injury to land or natural resources due to construction, operation, and management of irrigation projects on San Juan Southern Paiute Land, including damages, losses, or injuries to fish habitat, wildlife, and wildlife habitat, within the State arising before the Enforceability Date.

(2) FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) shall be—

(A) in the form described in Exhibit 13.12 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) RETENTION OF CLAIMS.—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and Exhibit 13.12 to the Settlement Agreement, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, acting on behalf of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe shall retain any right—

(A) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe under the Settlement Agreement, whether those rights are generally stated or specifically described, or this division, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction;

(B) to assert claims for injuries to, and seek enforcement of, the rights of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe under the LCR Decree;

(C) to assert claims for Water Rights for land owned or acquired by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe in fee in the LCR Watershed pursuant to subparagraphs 6.4 and 6.5 of the Settlement Agreement;

(D) to object to any claims for Water Rights by or for—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe, other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the Zuni Tribe; and

(E) to assert past, present, or future claims for Injury to Water Rights against—

(i) any Indian Tribe other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the Zuni Tribe; or

(ii) the United States acting on behalf of any Indian Tribe, other than the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the Zuni Tribe.

(K) WAIVERS, RELEASES AND RETENTION OF CLAIMS BY THE UNITED STATES IN ALL CAPACITIES (EXCEPT AS TRUSTEE FOR AN INDIAN TRIBE OTHER THAN THE NAVAJO NATION, THE HOPI TRIBE, AND THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE) AGAINST THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the United States, in all capacities (except as trustee for an Indian Tribe other than the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe), as part of the performance of the obligations of the United States under the Settlement Agreement and this division, is authorized to execute a waiver and release of all claims against the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, or any agency, offi-

cial, or employee of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, under Federal, State, or any other law for all:

(A) Past and present claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, resulting from the diversion or Use of water on San Juan Southern Paiute Land arising from time immemorial through the Enforceability Date.

(B) Claims for Injury to Water Rights, including injury to rights to Colorado River Water, arising after the Enforceability Date, resulting from the diversion or Use of water on San Juan Southern Paiute Land in a manner that is not in violation of the Settlement Agreement or State law.

(C) Past, present, and future claims arising out of, or related in any manner to, the negotiation, execution, or adoption of the Settlement Agreement, any judgment or decree approving or incorporating the Settlement Agreement, or this division.

(2) FORM; EFFECTIVE DATE.—The waiver and release of claims under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be in the form described in Exhibit 13.13 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(B) take effect on the Enforceability Date.

(3) RETENTION OF CLAIMS.—Notwithstanding the waiver and release of claims described in paragraph (1) and Exhibit 13.13 to the Settlement Agreement, the United States shall retain any right to assert any claim not expressly waived in accordance with that paragraph and that Exhibit, in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 5015. SATISFACTION OF WATER RIGHTS AND OTHER BENEFITS.

(A) NAVAJO NATION AND THE MEMBERS OF THE NAVAJO NATION; NAVAJO ALLOTTEES AND THE UNITED STATES, ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE NAVAJO ALLOTTEES.—

(1) NAVAJO NATION AND THE MEMBERS OF THE NAVAJO NATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The benefits provided under the Settlement Agreement shall be in complete replacement of, complete substitution for, and full satisfaction of any claim of the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation against the Parties, including the United States, that is waived and released by the Navajo Nation acting on behalf of the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation under Exhibits 13.1 and 13.3 to the Settlement Agreement.

(B) SATISFACTION OF WATER RIGHTS.—Any entitlement to water of the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Navajo Allottees) or the United States acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Navajo Allottees), for Navajo Land shall be satisfied out of the water resources and other benefits granted, confirmed, quantified, or recognized by the Settlement Agreement and this division, to or for the Navajo Nation, the Members of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Navajo Allottees), and the United States, acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation and the Members of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Navajo Allottees).

(2) NAVAJO ALLOTTEES AND THE UNITED STATES, ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE NAVAJO ALLOTTEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The benefits realized by the Navajo Allottees under the Settlement Agreement and this division shall be in complete replacement of, complete substitution for, and full satisfaction of—

(i) all claims waived and released by the United States (acting as trustee for the Navajo Allottees) under Exhibit 13.2 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(ii) any claims of the Navajo Allottees against the United States similar to the claims described in Exhibit 13.2 to the Settlement Agreement that the Navajo Allottees asserted or could have asserted.

(B) SATISFACTION OF WATER RIGHTS.—Any entitlement to water of the Navajo Allottees or the United States acting as trustee for the Navajo Allottees, for Navajo Allotments shall be satisfied out of the water resources and other benefits granted, confirmed, or recognized by the Settlement Agreement and this division, to or for the Navajo Allottees and the United States, acting as trustee for the Navajo Allottees.

(3) NO RIGHT ESTABLISHED.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), nothing in the Settlement Agreement or this division recognizes or establishes any right of a Member of the Navajo Nation (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Navajo Allottees) to water on Navajo Land.

(b) HOPI TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE HOPI TRIBE; HOPI ALLOTTEES AND THE UNITED STATES, ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOPI ALLOTTEES.—

(1) HOPI TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE HOPI TRIBE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The benefits provided under the Settlement Agreement shall be in complete replacement of, complete substitution for, and full satisfaction of any claim of the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe against the Parties, including the United States, that is waived and released by the Hopi Tribe acting on behalf of the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe under Exhibits 13.6 and 13.8 to the Settlement Agreement.

(B) SATISFACTION OF WATER RIGHTS.—Any entitlement to water of the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees) or the United States acting as trustee for the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees), for Hopi Land shall be satisfied out of the water resources and other benefits granted, confirmed, quantified, or recognized by the Settlement Agreement and this division, to or for the Hopi Tribe, the Members of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees), and the United States, acting as trustee for the Hopi Tribe and the Members of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees).

(2) HOPI ALLOTTEES AND THE UNITED STATES, ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOPI ALLOTTEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The benefits realized by the Hopi Allottees under the Settlement Agreement shall be in complete replacement of, complete substitution for, and full satisfaction of—

(i) all claims waived and released by the United States (acting as trustee for the Hopi Allottees) under Exhibit 13.7 to the Settlement Agreement; and

(ii) any claims of the Hopi Allottees against the United States similar to the claims described in Exhibit 13.7 to the Settlement Agreement that the Hopi Allottees asserted or could have asserted.

(B) SATISFACTION OF WATER RIGHTS.—Any entitlement to water of the Hopi Allottees or the United States acting trustee for the Hopi Allottees, for Hopi Allotments shall be satisfied out of the water resources and other benefits granted, confirmed, or recognized by the Settlement Agreement and this division, to or for the Hopi Allottees and the United States, acting as trustee for the Hopi Allottees.

(3) NO RIGHT ESTABLISHED.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), nothing in the Settlement Agreement or this division

recognizes or establishes any right of a Member of the Hopi Tribe (but not Members in the capacity of the Members as Hopi Allottees) to water on Hopi Land.

(C) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The benefits provided under the Settlement Agreement shall be in complete replacement of, complete substitution for, and full satisfaction of any claim of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe against the Parties, including the United States, that is waived and released by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe acting on behalf of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe under Exhibits 13.11 and 13.12 to the Settlement Agreement.

(2) SATISFACTION OF WATER RIGHTS.—Any entitlement to water of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe or the United States, acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, for San Juan Southern Paiute Land shall be satisfied out of the water resources and other benefits granted, confirmed, quantified, or recognized by the Settlement Agreement and this division, to or for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the United States, acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Members of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(3) NO RIGHT ESTABLISHED.—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), nothing in the Settlement Agreement or this division recognizes or establishes any right of a Member of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe to water on the San Juan Southern Paiute Southern Area.

SEC. 5016. ENFORCEABILITY DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Settlement Agreement, including the waivers and releases of claims described in paragraph 13 of the Settlement Agreement and section 5014, shall take effect and be fully enforceable on the date on which the Secretary publishes in the Federal Register a statement of findings in accordance with the following:

(1) The Settlement Agreement has been revised, through an amendment and restatement—

(A) to eliminate any conflict between the Settlement Agreement and this division; and

(B) to include the executed Water Delivery Contracts required by section 6(c) and subparagraphs 10.1.1, 10.1.2, 10.1.3, 11.1.1, and 11.1.2 as Exhibits to the Settlement Agreement.

(2) The Settlement Agreement, as revised through an amendment and restatement pursuant to paragraph (1), has been signed by not fewer than 30 of the Parties who executed the Settlement Agreement, making the Settlement Agreement effective, including—

(A) the United States, acting through the Secretary;

(B) the Navajo Nation;

(C) the Hopi Tribe;

(D) the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe;

(E) the State;

(F) the Arizona State Land Department;

(G) the Central Arizona Water Conservation District;

(H) the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District; and

(I) the Salt River Valley Water Users' Association.

(3) Any Exhibit to the Settlement Agreement requiring execution by any Party has been executed by the required Party.

(4) The waivers and releases of claims described in paragraph 13 of the Settlement

Agreement and section 5014 have been executed by the United States, Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe, San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the State, and the other Parties.

(5) \$5,000,000,000 has been authorized, appropriated, and deposited in the designated accounts pursuant to section 5013.

(6) The LCR Decree has been approved by the LCR Adjudication Court substantially in the form of the judgment and decree attached as Exhibit 3.1.82 to the Settlement Agreement, as amended to ensure consistency with this division.

(7) The Gila River Adjudication Decree has been approved by the Gila River Adjudication Court substantially in the form of the judgment and decree attached as Exhibit 3.1.47 to the Settlement Agreement, as amended to ensure consistency with this division.

(8) The San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority have executed a water services agreement to deliver municipal water to the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and its members.

(9) Each of the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe have executed the tribal resolution described in subsections (a)(2), (b)(2), and (c)(2) of section 5018, respectively, consenting to the limited waiver of sovereign immunity from suit in the circumstances described in that section.

(b) FAILURE TO SATISFY CONDITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), if the Secretary fails to publish in the Federal Register a statement of findings under subsection (a) by June 30, 2035, or such alternative later date as may be agreed to by the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Secretary, and the State—

(A) this division is repealed;

(B) any action taken by the Secretary and any contract or agreement entered into pursuant to this division shall be void;

(C) the United States shall be entitled to offset any Federal amounts made available under section 5013(a)(2)(B) that were used under that section against any claims asserted by the Tribes against the United States; and

(D) any amounts appropriated under section 5013, together with any investment earnings on those amounts, less any amounts expended under section 5009, shall revert immediately to the general fund of the Treasury.

(2) CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE RESERVATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 5019 becomes effective on the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) CONTINUED EFFECTIVENESS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if the Secretary fails to publish in the Federal Register a statement of findings under that paragraph by June 30, 2035, or such alternative later date as may be agreed to by the Tribes, the Secretary and the State, section 5019 shall remain in effect.

SEC. 5017. COLORADO RIVER ACCOUNTING.

(a) ACCOUNTING FOR THE TYPE OF WATER DELIVERED.—

(1) NAVAJO NATION CIBOLA WATER; NAVAJO NATION FOURTH PRIORITY WATER.—All deliveries of Navajo Nation Cibola Water and Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water effected by the diversion of water from the San Juan River or from the Colorado River above Lee Ferry shall be accounted for as deliveries of Arizona Lower Basin Colorado River Water.

(2) HOPI TRIBE CIBOLA WATER.—All deliveries of Hopi Tribe Cibola Water effected by the diversion of water from the Colorado River above Lee Ferry shall be accounted for as deliveries of Arizona Lower Basin Colorado River Water.

(3) NAVAJO NATION UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—All deliveries of Navajo Nation Upper Basin Colorado River Water effected by diversion of water from the Upper Basin in the State, New Mexico, or Utah shall be accounted for as deliveries of Arizona Upper Basin Colorado River Water.

(4) HOPI TRIBE UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—All deliveries of Hopi Tribe Upper Basin Colorado River Water effected by diversion of water from the Upper Basin in the State shall be accounted for as deliveries of Arizona Upper Basin Colorado River Water.

(5) UPPER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—All deliveries of Upper Basin Colorado River Water leased by either the Navajo Nation or the Hopi Tribe, whether effected by a diversion of water from the Upper Basin or the Lower Basin, shall be accounted for as deliveries of Arizona Upper Basin Colorado River Water.

(6) LOWER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER.—All deliveries of Lower Basin Colorado River Water leased by the Navajo Nation or the Hopi Tribe, whether effected by a diversion of water from the Upper Basin or the Lower Basin, shall be accounted for as deliveries of Arizona Lower Basin Colorado River Water.

(b) SPECIAL ACCOUNTING RULES FOR LOWER BASIN COLORADO RIVER WATER AS LOWER BASIN USE IN ARIZONA, REGARDLESS OF POINT OF DIVERSION OR PLACE OF USE.—Notwithstanding section 10603(c)(2)(A) of the Northwestern New Mexico Rural Water Projects Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1384), all Navajo Nation Cibola Water, Navajo Nation Fourth Priority Water, and Hopi Tribe Cibola Water delivered to and consumptively used by the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, or their lessees pursuant to the Settlement Agreement shall be—

(1) accounted for as if such Use had occurred in the Lower Basin, regardless of the point of diversion or place of Use;

(2) credited as water reaching Lee Ferry pursuant to articles III(c) and III(d) of the Colorado River Compact;

(3) charged against the consumptive use apportionment made to the Lower Basin by article III(a) of the Colorado River Compact; and

(4) accounted for as part of and charged against the 2,800,000 acre-feet of Colorado River Water apportioned to the State in article II(B)(1) of the Decree.

(c) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), no water diverted by the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project shall be accounted for as provided in those subsections until such time as the Secretary has developed and, as necessary and appropriate, modified, in consultation with the State, the Upper Basin Colorado River Commission, and the Governors' representatives on Colorado River Operations from each State signatory to the Colorado River Compact, all operational and decisional criteria, policies, contracts, guidelines, or other documents that control the operations of the Colorado River System reservoirs and diversion works, so as to adjust, account for, and offset the diversion of water apportioned to the State, pursuant to the Boulder Canyon Project Act (43 U.S.C. 617 et seq.), from a point of diversion on the San Juan River in New Mexico, subject to the conditions that—

(1) all modifications shall be consistent with section 10603(c) of the Northwestern New Mexico Rural Water Projects Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1384), as modified by this subsection; and

(2) the modifications made pursuant to this subsection shall only be applicable for the duration of any such diversions pursuant to section 10603(c)(2)(B) of the Northwestern New Mexico Rural Water Projects Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1385) and this division.

SEC. 5018. LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.

(a) LIMITED WAIVER BY THE NAVAJO NATION AND THE UNITED STATES ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE NAVAJO NATION AND NAVAJO ALLOTTEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Navajo Nation, and the United States acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation and Navajo Allottees, may be joined in any action brought in any circumstance described in paragraph (3), and any claim by the Navajo Nation and the United States to sovereign immunity from any such action is waived.

(2) NAVAJO NATION CONSENT.—By resolution No. CMY-26-24 and dated May 24, 2024, the Navajo Nation Council has affirmatively consented to the limited waiver of sovereign immunity from suit in any circumstance described in paragraph (3), notwithstanding any provision of the Navajo Nation Code or any other Navajo Nation law.

(3) CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED.—A circumstance referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) is any of the following:

(A) Any party to the Settlement Agreement—

(i) brings an action in any court of competent jurisdiction relating only and directly to the interpretation or enforcement of—

(I) this division; or

(II) the Settlement Agreement;

(ii) names the Navajo Nation, or the United States acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation or Navajo Allottees, as a party in that action; and

(iii) does not include any request for award against the Navajo Nation, or the United States acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation or Navajo Allottees, for money damages, court costs, or attorney fees.

(B) Any landowner or water user in the LCR Watershed or the Gila River Watershed—

(i) brings an action in any court of competent jurisdiction relating only and directly to the interpretation or enforcement of—

(I) paragraph 13 of the Settlement Agreement;

(II) the LCR Decree or the Gila River adjudication Decree; or

(III) section 5014;

(ii) names the Navajo Nation, or the United States acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation or Navajo Allottees, as a party in that action; and

(iii) does not include any request for award against the Navajo Nation, or the United States acting as trustee for the Navajo Nation or Navajo Allottees, for money damages, court costs or attorney fees.

(b) LIMITED WAIVER BY THE HOPI TRIBE AND THE UNITED STATES ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOPI TRIBE AND HOPI ALLOTTEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Hopi Tribe, and the United States acting as trustee for the Hopi Tribe and Hopi Allottees, may be joined in any action brought in any circumstance described in paragraph (3), and any claim by the Hopi Tribe and the United States to sovereign immunity from any such action is waived.

(2) HOPI TRIBE CONSENT.—By resolution No. H-035-2024 and dated May 20, 2024, the Hopi Tribal Council has affirmatively consented to the limited waiver of sovereign immunity from suit in any circumstance described in paragraph (3), notwithstanding any provision of the Hopi Tribal Code or any other Hopi Tribe law.

(3) CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED.—A circumstance referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) is any of the following:

(A) Any party to the Settlement Agreement—

(i) brings an action in any court of competent jurisdiction relating only and directly to the interpretation or enforcement of—

(I) this division; or

(II) the Settlement Agreement;

(ii) names the Hopi Tribe or the United States, acting as trustee for the Hopi Tribe or Hopi Allottees, as a party in that action; and

(iii) does not include any request for award against the Hopi Tribe, or the United States acting as trustee for the Hopi Tribe or Hopi Allottees, for money damages, court costs, or attorney fees.

(B) Any landowner or water user in the LCR Watershed—

(i) brings an action in any court of competent jurisdiction relating only and directly to the interpretation or enforcement of—

(I) paragraph 13 of the Settlement Agreement;

(II) the LCR Decree; or

(III) section 5014;

(ii) names the Hopi Tribe, or the United States acting as trustee for the Hopi Tribe or Hopi Allottees, as a party in that action; and

(iii) does not include any request for award against the Hopi Tribe, or the United States acting as trustee for the Hopi Tribe or Hopi Allottees, for money damages, court costs, or attorney fees.

(c) LIMITED WAIVER BY THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE AND THE UNITED STATES ACTING AS TRUSTEE FOR THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the United States acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe may be joined in any action brought in any circumstance described in paragraph (3), and any claim by the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe and the United States to sovereign immunity from any such action is waived.

(2) SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE CONSENT.—By resolution No. 2024-040, dated May 23, 2024, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribal Council has affirmatively consented to the limited waiver of sovereign immunity from suit in any circumstance described in paragraph (3), notwithstanding any provision of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribal Code or any other San Juan Southern Paiute Tribal law.

(3) CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED.—A circumstance referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) is any of the following:

(A) Any party to the Settlement Agreement—

(i) brings an action in any court of competent jurisdiction relating only and directly to the interpretation or enforcement of—

(I) this division; or

(II) the Settlement Agreement;

(ii) names the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe or the United States acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe as a party in that action; and

(iii) does not include any request for award against the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, or the United States acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, for money damages, court costs, or attorney fees.

(B) Any landowner or water user in the LCR Watershed—

(i) brings an action in any court of competent jurisdiction relating only and directly to the interpretation or enforcement of—

(I) paragraph 13 of the Settlement Agreement;

(II) the LCR Decree; or

(III) section 5014;

(ii) names the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe or the United States acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe as a party in that action; and

(iii) does not include any request for award against the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, or the United States acting as trustee for the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, for money damages, court costs, or attorney fees.

SEC. 5019. RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY AND CREATION OF THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE RESERVATION.

(a) RATIFICATION AND APPROVAL OF THE TREATY.—The Treaty and the Treaty Addendum are hereby approved, ratified, and confirmed.

(b) APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized and directed—

(A) to approve and execute the Treaty and the Treaty Addendum, except that the specific findings stated under the heading “APPROVAL” shall not be binding on the Secretary; and

(B) to take all steps necessary to implement the Treaty and this division.

(2) APPROVAL AND EXECUTION OF AMENDMENTS.—The Secretary is delegated the authority, without a further Act of Congress, to approve and execute amendments to the Treaty agreed to by the Navajo Nation and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

(c) LANDS PROCLAIMED A RESERVATION FOR THE SAN JUAN SOUTHERN PAIUTE TRIBE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—All right, title, and interest, including Water Rights, to the approximately 5,400 acres of land within the Navajo Indian Reservation that are described in the Treaty as the San Juan Paiute Northern Area and the San Juan Paiute Southern Paiute Area are hereby proclaimed as the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation and such land shall be held by the United States in trust as a reservation for the exclusive benefit of the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, subject to the rights of access under subsection (d).

(2) NO APPRAISAL OR VALUATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision law, no appraisal or other valuation shall be required to carry out this subsection.

(d) RIGHTS OF ACCESS AND EASEMENTS.—The Navajo Reservation and the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation shall be subject to the rights of access and easements as identified in the Treaty.

(e) SURVEYING AND FENCING OF LAND.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall—

(A) as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, complete a survey and legal description of the boundary lines to establish the boundaries of the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation;

(B) officially file the survey plat in the appropriate office of the Department of the Interior;

(C) mark and fence the lands as described in article V of the Treaty, where feasible; and

(D) study the feasibility of an access road to the San Juan Paiute Southern Area from U.S. Route 89, as described in article XI of the Treaty.

(2) LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The legal descriptions published in accordance with subparagraph (B) shall—

(i) be considered the official legal description of the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation; and

(ii) have the same force and effect as if included in this division.

(B) PUBLICATION.—On completion of the surveys under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a legal description of the land comprising the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation.

(C) CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary may make minor corrections to correct technical and clerical errors in the legal descriptions.

(f) REPEAL OF PAIUTE ALLOTMENT PROCEDURES.—Section 9 of Public Law 93-531 (88 Stat. 1716) is repealed.

(g) PUBLICATION; JURISDICTION.—

(1) PUBLICATION.—In accordance with article VI of the Treaty, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register separate notices of completion or boundary marking of—

(A) the San Juan Paiute Northern Area; and

(B) the San Juan Paiute Southern Area.

(2) JURISDICTION.—On publication in the Federal Register under subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1)—

(A) the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe shall have full jurisdiction over all matters within that area of the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation to the fullest extent permitted by Federal law; and

(B) the Navajo Nation shall not have jurisdiction over matters occurring within that area of the San Juan Southern Paiute Reservation except as agreed to by the Navajo Nation and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

SEC. 5020. ANTIDEFICIENCY; SAVINGS PROVISIONS; EFFECT.

(a) NO QUANTIFICATION OR EFFECT ON RIGHTS OF OTHER INDIAN TRIBES OR THE UNITED STATES ON THEIR BEHALF.—Except as provided in paragraph 8.3 of the Settlement Agreement, nothing in this division—

(1) quantifies or otherwise affects the Water Rights, or claims or entitlements to water or to Upper Basin Colorado River Water or Lower Basin Colorado River Water, of any Indian Tribe, band, or community, other than the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, or the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe; or

(2) affects the ability of the United States to take action on behalf of any Indian Tribe, nation, band, community, or allottee, other than the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, their members, Navajo Allottees, Hopi Allottees, and Public Domain Allottees.

(b) NO QUANTIFICATION OF WATER RIGHTS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN ALLOTTEES.—Nothing in this division—

(1) quantifies or adjudicates any Water Right or any claim or entitlement to water of a Public Domain Allottee, or precludes the United States, acting as trustee for Public Domain Allottees, from making claims for Water Rights in the State that are consistent with the claims described in Exhibit 3.1.132B to the Settlement Agreement; or

(2) except as provided in subparagraphs 8.2.3, 8.4.7, and 15.2.3.4 of the Settlement Agreement, affects the ability of the United States to take action on behalf of Public Domain Allottees.

(c) ANTIDEFICIENCY.—Notwithstanding any authorization of appropriations to carry out this division, the United States shall not be liable for any failure of the United States to carry out any obligation or activity authorized by this division, including all agreements or exhibits ratified or confirmed by this division, if adequate appropriations are not provided expressly by Congress to carry out the purposes of this division.

(d) NO MODIFICATION OR PREEMPTION OF OTHER LAWS.—Unless expressly provided in this division, nothing in this division modifies, conflicts with, preempts, or otherwise affects—

(1) the Boulder Canyon Project Act (43 U.S.C. 617 et seq.);

(2) the Boulder Canyon Project Adjustment Act (54 Stat. 774, chapter 643);

(3) the Act of April 11, 1956 (commonly known as the “Colorado River Storage Project Act”) (43 U.S.C. 620 et seq.);

(4) the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.);

(5) the Treaty between the United States of America and Mexico, done at Washington February 3, 1944 (59 Stat. 1219);

(6) the Colorado River Compact;

(7) the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact of 1948;

(8) the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123 Stat. 991); or

(9) case law relating to Water Rights in the Colorado River System other than any case to enforce the Settlement Agreement or this division.

(e) NO PRECEDENT.—Nothing in this division establishes a precedent for any type of transfer of Colorado River System water between the Upper Basin and the Lower Basin.

(f) UNIQUE SITUATION.—Diversions through the iinā bā – paa tuwaqat’si pipeline and the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project facilities consistent with this division address critical Tribal and non-Indian water supply needs under unique circumstances, which include, among other things—

(1) the intent to benefit a number of Indian Tribes;

(2) the Navajo Nation’s location in the Upper Basin and the Lower Basin;

(3) the intent to address critical Indian and non-Indian water needs in the State;

(4) the lack of other reasonable alternatives available for developing a firm, sustainable supply of municipal water for the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe in the State; and

(5) the limited volume of water to be diverted by the iinā bā – paa tuwaqat’si pipeline and Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project to supply municipal Uses in the State.

(g) EFFICIENT USE.—The diversions and Uses authorized for the iinā bā – paa tuwaqat’si pipeline under this division represent unique and efficient Uses of Colorado River apportionments in a manner that Congress has determined would be consistent with the obligations of the United States to the Navajo Nation and the Hopi Tribe.

(h) NO EFFECT ON ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS.—Nothing in this division precludes the United States from enforcing the requirements of—

(1) the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) (including claims for damages to natural resources);

(2) the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.);

(3) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.);

(4) the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.) (commonly known as the “Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976”); or

(5) the implementing regulations of those Acts.

SA 3288. Ms. HASSAN (for Mr. PETERS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1871, to create intergovernmental coordination between State, local, Tribal, and territorial jurisdictions, and the Federal Government to combat United States reliance on the People’s Republic of China and other covered countries for critical minerals and rare earth metals, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Intergovernmental Critical Minerals Task Force Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) current supply chains of critical minerals pose a great risk to the national security of the United States;

(2) critical minerals are necessary for transportation, technology, renewable energy, military equipment and machinery, and other relevant sectors crucial for the homeland and national security of the United States;

(3) in 2022, the United States was 100 percent import reliant for 12 out of 50 critical

minerals and more than 50 percent import reliant for an additional 31 critical mineral commodities classified as “critical” by the United States Geological Survey, and the People’s Republic of China was the top producing nation for 30 of those 50 critical minerals;

(4) as of July 2023, companies based in the People’s Republic of China that extract critical minerals around the world have received hundreds of charges of human rights violations; and

(5) on August 29, 2014, the World Trade Organization Dispute Settlement Body adopted findings that the export restraints by the People’s Republic of China on rare earth metals, which harmed manufacturers and workers in the United States, violated obligations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 and China’s Protocol of Accession to the World Trade Organization.

SEC. 3. INTERGOVERNMENTAL CRITICAL MINERALS TASK FORCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5 of the National Materials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act of 1980 (30 U.S.C. 1604) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) INTERGOVERNMENTAL CRITICAL MINERALS TASK FORCE.—

“(1) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the task force established under paragraph (3)(B) are—

“(A) to assess the reliance of the United States on the People’s Republic of China, and other covered countries, for critical minerals, and the resulting national security risks associated with that reliance;

“(B) to make recommendations to the President for the implementation of this Act with regard to critical minerals, including—

“(i) the congressional declarations of policies in section 3; and

“(ii) revisions to the program plan of the President and the initiatives required under this section;

“(C) to make recommendations to secure United States supply chains for critical minerals;

“(D) to make recommendations to reduce the reliance of the United States, and partners and allies of the United States, on critical mineral supply chains involving covered countries; and

“(E) consistent with ongoing efforts of other Federal departments, agencies, and other entities, to facilitate cooperation, coordination, and mutual accountability among each level of the Federal Government, Indian Tribes, and State, local, and territorial governments, on a holistic response to the dependence on covered countries for critical minerals across the United States.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(i) the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Energy and Natural Resources, Armed Services, Environment and Public Works, Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Finance, and Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

“(ii) the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, Natural Resources, Armed Services, Ways and Means, Foreign Affairs, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

“(B) CHAIRPERSON; CO-CHAIRPERSON.—The terms ‘Chairperson’ and ‘Co-Chairperson’, respectively, mean the Chairperson or Co-Chairperson of the task force designated by the President pursuant to paragraph (3)(A).

“(C) COVERED COUNTRY.—The term ‘covered country’ means—

“(i) a covered nation (as defined in section 4872(d) of title 10, United States Code); and

“(ii) any other country determined by the task force to be a geostrategic competitor or adversary of the United States with respect to critical minerals.

“(D) CRITICAL MINERAL.—The term ‘critical mineral’ has the meaning given the term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

“(E) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’ has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

“(F) TASK FORCE.—The term ‘task force’ means the task force established under paragraph (3)(B).

“(3) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the President shall—

“(A) designate a Chairperson, or 2 individuals as Co-Chairpersons, for the task force, who shall be—

“(i) the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs;

“(ii) the Assistant to the President for Economic Policy; or

“(iii) another relevant member of the Executive Office of the President; and

“(B) acting through the Executive Office of the President, establish a task force.

“(4) COMPOSITION; MEETINGS.—

“(A) APPOINTMENT.—The Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons, in consultation with key intergovernmental, private, and public sector stakeholders, shall appoint to the task force representatives with expertise in critical mineral supply chains from Federal agencies, including not less than 1 representative from each of—

“(i) the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

“(ii) the Bureau of Land Management;

“(iii) the Critical Minerals Subcommittee of the National Science and Technology Council;

“(iv) the Department of Agriculture;

“(v) the Department of Commerce;

“(vi) the Department of Defense;

“(vii) the Department of Energy;

“(viii) the Department of Homeland Security;

“(ix) the Department of the Interior;

“(x) the Department of Labor;

“(xi) the Department of State;

“(xii) the Department of Transportation;

“(xiii) the Environmental Protection Agency;

“(xiv) the Export-Import Bank of the United States;

“(xv) the Forest Service;

“(xvi) the General Services Administration;

“(xvii) the National Economic Council;

“(xviii) the National Science Foundation;

“(xix) the National Security Council;

“(xx) the Office of Management and Budget;

“(xxi) the Office of the United States Trade Representative;

“(xxii) the United States International Development Finance Corporation;

“(xxiii) the United States Geological Survey; and

“(xxiv) any other relevant Federal entity, as determined by the Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons.

“(B) CONSULTATION.—The task force shall consult individuals with expertise in critical mineral supply chains, individuals from States whose communities, businesses, and industries are involved in aspects of critical mineral supply chains, including mining and processing operations, and individuals from a diverse and balanced cross-section of—

“(i) intergovernmental consultees, including—

“(I) State governments;

“(II) local governments;

“(III) territorial governments; and

“(IV) Indian Tribes; and

“(ii) other stakeholders, including—

“(I) academic research institutions;

“(II) corporations;

“(III) nonprofit organizations;

“(IV) private sector stakeholders;

“(V) trade associations;

“(VI) mining industry stakeholders; and

“(VII) labor representatives.

“(C) MEETINGS.—

“(i) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which all representatives of the task force have been appointed, the task force shall hold the first meeting of the task force.

“(ii) FREQUENCY.—The task force shall meet not less than once every 90 days.

“(5) DUTIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The duties of the task force shall include—

“(i) facilitating cooperation, coordination, and mutual accountability for the Federal Government, Indian Tribes, and State, local, and territorial governments to enhance data sharing and transparency to build more robust and secure domestic supply chains for critical minerals in support of the purposes described in paragraph (1);

“(ii) providing recommendations with respect to—

“(I) increasing capacities for mining, processing, refinement, reuse, and recycling of critical minerals in the United States to facilitate the environmentally responsible production of domestic resources to meet national critical mineral needs, in consultation with Tribal and local communities;

“(II) identifying how statutes, regulations, and policies related to the critical mineral supply chain, such as stockpiling and development finance, could be modified to accelerate environmentally responsible domestic and international production of critical minerals, in consultation with Indian Tribes and local communities;

“(III) strengthening the domestic workforce to support growing critical mineral supply chains with good-paying, safe jobs in the United States;

“(IV) identifying alternative domestic sources to critical minerals that the United States currently relies on the People's Republic of China or other covered countries for mining, processing, refining, and recycling, including the availability, capacity, cost, and quality of those domestic alternatives;

“(V) identifying critical minerals and critical mineral supply chains that the United States can onshore, in whole or in part, at a competitive value and quality, for those minerals and supply chains that the United States relies on the People's Republic of China or other covered countries to provide;

“(VI) opportunities for the Federal Government, Indian Tribes, and State, local, and territorial governments to mitigate risks to the national security of the United States with respect to supply chains for critical minerals that the United States currently relies on the People's Republic of China or other covered countries for mining, processing, refining, and recycling; and

“(VII) evaluating and integrating the recommendations of the Critical Minerals Subcommittee of the National Science and Technology Council into the recommendations of the task force;

“(iii) prioritizing the recommendations in clause (ii), taking into consideration economic costs and focusing on the critical mineral supply chains with vulnerabilities posing the most significant risks to the national security of the United States;

“(iv) recommending specific strategies, to be carried out in coordination with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Commerce, to strengthen international partner-

ships in furtherance of critical minerals supply chain security with international allies and partners, including a strategy to collaborate with governments of the allies and partners described in subparagraph (B) to develop advanced mining, refining, separation and processing technologies; and

“(v) other duties, as determined by the Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons.

“(B) ALLIES AND PARTNERS.—The allies and partners referred to in subparagraph (A) include—

“(i) countries participating in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue;

“(ii) countries that are—

“(I) signatories to the Abraham Accords; or

“(II) participants in the Negev Forum; and

“(iii) countries that are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

“(C) REPORT.—The Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons shall—

“(i) not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, and every 60 days thereafter until the requirements under subsection (a) are satisfied, brief the appropriate committees of Congress on the status of the compliance of the President with completing the requirements under that subsection;

“(ii) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report, which shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex, that describes any findings, guidelines, and recommendations created in performing the duties under subparagraph (A);

“(iii) not later than 120 days after the date on which the Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons submits the report under clause (ii), publish that report in the Federal Register, except that the Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons shall redact information from the report that the Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons determines could pose a risk to the national security of the United States by being publicly available; and

“(iv) brief the appropriate committees of Congress twice per year.

“(6) DUPLICATION OF EFFORT.—The Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons, to the maximum extent practicable, shall carry out the task force in a manner that does not duplicate the efforts of other Federal departments, agencies, or other entities.

“(7) SUNSET.—The task force shall terminate on the date that is 90 days after the date on which the task force completes the requirements under paragraph (5)(C).

“(8) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this subsection.”

(b) GAO STUDY.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study examining the Federal and State regulatory landscape related to improving domestic supply chains for critical minerals in the United States.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that describes the results of the study under paragraph (1).

(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(i) the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Energy and Natural Resources, Armed Services, Environment and Public Works, Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Finance, and Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, Natural Resources, Armed Services, Ways and Means, Foreign Affairs, and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(B) **CRITICAL MINERAL.**—The term “critical mineral” has the meaning given the term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY, intend to object to proceeding to S. 306, a bill to approve the settlement of the water rights claims of the Tule River Tribe, and for other purposes, dated September 18, 2024.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO MEET

Ms. HASSAN, Madam President, I have nine 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 AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 2 p.m., to conduct a subcommittee hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 18, 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 Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs is authorized to meet during the ses-

sion of the Senate on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct an open hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY

The Subcommittee on Economic Policy of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. BRITT, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Jackson Floyd Lovvorn, an intern in my office, be granted floor privileges until September 19, 2024.

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

NATIONAL HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY

Ms. HASSAN, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 829, which is at the desk.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 829) designating October 8, 2024, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”.

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

Ms. HASSAN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 829) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

INTERGOVERNMENTAL CRITICAL MINERALS TASK FORCE ACT

Ms. HASSAN, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 196, S. 1871.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1871) to create intergovernmental coordination between State, local, Tribal, and territorial jurisdictions, and the Federal Government to combat United States reliance on the People’s Republic of China and other covered countries for critical minerals

and rare earth metals, and for other purposes.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Intergovernmental Critical Minerals Task Force Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Energy and Natural Resources, Armed Services, Environment and Public Works, Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, Natural Resources, Armed Services, and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) **COVERED COUNTRY.**—The term “covered country” means—

(A) a covered nation (as defined in section 4872(d) of title 10, United States Code); and

(B) any other country determined by the task force to be a geostrategic competitor or adversary of the United States with respect to critical minerals.

(3) **CRITICAL MINERAL.**—The term “critical mineral” has the meaning given the term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

(4) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(5) **TASK FORCE.**—The term “task force” means the task force established under section 4(b).

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) current supply chains of critical minerals pose a great risk to the homeland and national security of the United States;

(2) critical minerals contribute to transportation, technology, renewable energy, military equipment and machinery, and other relevant entities crucial for the homeland and national security of the United States;

(3) in 2022, the United States was 100 percent import reliant for 12 out of 50 critical minerals and more than 50 percent import reliant for an additional 31 critical mineral commodities classified as “critical” by the United States Geological Survey, and the People’s Republic of China was the top producing nation for 30 of those 50 critical minerals;

(4) companies based in the People’s Republic of China that extract rare earth minerals around the world have received hundreds of charges of human rights violations; and

(5) on March 26, 2014, the World Trade Organization ruled that the export restraints by the People’s Republic of China on rare earth metals violated obligations under the protocol of accession to the World Trade Organization, which harmed manufacturers and workers in the United States.

SEC. 4. INTERGOVERNMENTAL CRITICAL MINERALS TASK FORCE.

(a) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of the task force are—

(1) to assess the reliance of the United States on the People’s Republic of China, and other covered countries, for critical minerals, and the resulting homeland and national security risks associated with that reliance, at each level of the Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments;

(2) to make recommendations to onshore and improve the domestic supply chain for critical minerals; and

(3) to reduce the reliance of the United States, and partners and allies of the United States, on critical mineral supply chains involving covered countries.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall establish a task force to facilitate cooperation, coordination, and mutual accountability among each level of the Federal Government and State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments on a holistic response to the dependence on covered countries for critical minerals across the United States.

(c) **COMPOSITION; MEETINGS.**—

(1) **APPOINTMENT.**—The Director, in consultation with key intergovernmental, private, and public sector stakeholders, shall appoint to the task force representatives with expertise in critical mineral supply chains from Federal agencies, State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments, including not less than 1 representative from each of—

- (A) the Bureau of Indian Affairs;
- (B) the Bureau of Land Management;
- (C) the Department of Agriculture;
- (D) the Department of Commerce;
- (E) the Department of Defense;
- (F) the Department of Energy;
- (G) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (H) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;

- (I) the Department of the Interior;
- (J) the Department of Labor;
- (K) the Department of State;
- (L) the Department of Transportation;
- (M) the Environmental Protection Agency;
- (N) the General Services Administration;
- (O) the National Science Foundation;
- (P) the United States International Development Finance Corporation;
- (Q) the United States Geological Survey; and
- (R) any other relevant Federal entity, as determined by the Director.

(2) **CONSULTATION.**—The task force shall consult individuals with expertise in critical mineral supply chains, individuals from States whose communities, businesses, and industries are involved in aspects of the critical mineral supply chain, including mining and processing operations, and individuals from a diverse and balanced cross-section of—

- (A) intergovernmental consultees, including—
 - (i) State governments;
 - (ii) local governments;
 - (iii) Tribal governments; and
 - (iv) territorial governments; and
- (B) other stakeholders, including—
 - (i) academic research institutions;
 - (ii) corporations;
 - (iii) nonprofit organizations;
 - (iv) private sector stakeholders;
 - (v) trade associations;
 - (vi) mining industry stakeholders; and
 - (vii) labor representatives.

(3) **CHAIR.**—The Director may serve as chair of the task force, or designate a representative of the task force to serve as chair.

(4) **MEETINGS.**—

(A) **INITIAL MEETING.**—Not later than 90 days after the date on which all representatives of the task force have been appointed, the task force shall hold the first meeting of the task force.

(B) **FREQUENCY.**—The task force shall meet not less than once every 90 days.

(d) **DUTIES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The duties of the task force shall include—

(A) facilitating cooperation, coordination, and mutual accountability for the Federal Government and State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments to enhance data sharing and transparency in the supply chains for critical minerals in support of the purposes described in subsection (a);

(B) providing recommendations with respect to—

(i) research and development into emerging technologies used to expand existing critical

mineral supply chains in the United States and to establish secure and reliable critical mineral supply chains to the United States;

(ii) increasing capacities for mining, processing, refinement, reuse, and recycling of critical minerals in the United States to facilitate the environmentally responsible production of domestic resources to meet national critical mineral needs, in consultation with Tribal and local communities;

(iii) identifying how statutes, regulations, and policies related to the critical mineral supply chain could be modified to accelerate environmentally responsible domestic production of critical minerals, in consultation with Tribal and local communities;

(iv) strengthening the domestic workforce to support growing critical mineral supply chains with good-paying, safe jobs in the United States;

(v) identifying alternative domestic sources to critical minerals that the United States currently relies on the People's Republic of China or other covered countries for mining, processing, refining, and recycling, including the availability, cost, and quality of those domestic alternatives;

(vi) identifying critical minerals and critical mineral supply chains that the United States can onshore, at a competitive availability, cost, and quality, for those minerals and supply chains that the United States relies on the People's Republic of China or other covered countries to provide; and

(vii) opportunities for the Federal Government and State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments to mitigate risks to the homeland and national security of the United States with respect to supply chains for critical minerals that the United States currently relies on the People's Republic of China or other covered countries for mining, processing, refining, and recycling;

(C) prioritizing the recommendations in subparagraph (B), taking into consideration economic costs and focusing on the critical mineral supply chains with vulnerabilities posing the most significant risks to the homeland and national security of the United States;

(D) establishing specific strategies, to be carried out in coordination with the Secretary of State, to strengthen international partnerships in furtherance of critical minerals supply chain security with international allies and partners, including—

- (i) countries with which the United States has a free trade agreement;
- (ii) countries participating in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity;
- (iii) countries participating in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue;
- (iv) countries that are signatories to the Abraham Accords;
- (v) countries designated as eligible sub-Saharan Africa countries under section 104 of the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.); and

(vi) other countries or multilateral partnerships the Task Force determines to be appropriate; and

(E) other duties, as determined by the Director.

(2) **REPORT.**—The Director shall—

(A) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report, which shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex, that describes any findings, guidelines, and recommendations created in performing the duties under paragraph (1);

(B) not later than 120 days after the date on which the Director submits the report under subparagraph (A), publish that report in the Federal Register and on the website of the Office of Management and Budget, except that the Director shall redact information from the report that the Director determines could pose a risk to the homeland and national security of the United States by being publicly available; and

(C) brief the appropriate committees of Congress twice per year.

(e) **SUNSET.**—The task force shall terminate on the date that is 90 days after the date on which the task force completes the requirements under subsection (d)(2).

(f) **GAO STUDY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study examining the Federal and State regulatory landscape related to improving domestic supply chains for critical minerals in the United States.

(2) **REPORT.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that describes the results of the study under paragraph (1).

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I further ask that the committee-reported substitute amendment be withdrawn; that the Peters substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

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

The amendment (No. 3288), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The bill (S. 1871), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 5613

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for a second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5613) to require a review of whether individuals or entities subject to the imposition of certain sanctions through inclusion on certain sanctions lists should also be subject to the imposition of other sanctions and included on other sanctions lists.

Ms. HASSAN. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Thursday, September 19; 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 Jenkins nomination; further, that the cloture motion with respect to the Jenkins nomination ripen at 1:45 p.m.; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Thursday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:22 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

ALISON LEE BEACH
GRAHAM H. BERNSTEIN
SOPHIA B. CARRILLO
EVAN ALLEN EPSTEIN
JASON E. GAMMONS
DUSTIN L. GRANT
ELGIN D. HORNE
DAPHNE LASALLE JACKSON
SHAD RAYMOND KIDD
ISRAEL DAVID KING
MARC PHILLIP MALLONE
NATHAN H. MAYENSCHIEIN
ELIZABETH ANNA MCDANIEL
SAMUEL THOMAS MILLER
MATTHEW JOSHUA NEIL
SALEEM SYED RAZVI
AARON PAUL ROBERTS
DUSTIN MARCELLUS TIPLING
NICHOLE MARIE TORRES
BRANT FREDERICK WHIPPLE
SARAH ELIZABETH WILLIAMS
AARON ALLEN WILSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

JASON R. BARKER
KARL N. BLANCAFLOR
ROBERT DALE BOHNSACK
DANIEL S. CALL
RANDY A. CROFT
JOEL D. KORNEGAY
JONATHAN T. RUNNELS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

LAKISHA N. ALBERTIE
ELENA E. ARUSHANYAN
BECKY M. BAUTCH
LORI D. CARVER
WENDY H. COOK
TANYA IVONNE DIAZ
SAMANTHA L. FIL
CUBBY L. GARDNER
STANLEY W. GRODRIAN
CLINTON J. HARTMAN
MICHELLE M. HUPSTETTLER
SHANTI F. JONES
SCOTT A. LEBLANC
MARCIE A. LEWIS
KEVIN D. MONAGHAN
KIMBERLY M. MONTI
DANIEL D. MOORE, JR.
LISA R. MURCHISON
NELSON PACHECO
ALEACHA C. PHILSON

DINO C. QUIJANO
ANDRIA D. SHARP
DARLENE J. STILLING
YVONNE L. STOREY
KAREN L. WILLIAMS
ZOE T. WOOLSTON
KERI L. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

GABRIEL R. DINOFRIO
JUSTIN J. EDER
RYAN M. GASSMAN
CODY JOHN HESS
JENNIFER LEE IDELL
EZEKIEL S. MALONE
JOSHUA LEE MILLER
THEODOSIA FLORIA MONTGOMERY
EDWARD J. MORRIS
JOSEPH DANYLE POPHAM, JR.
MARC A. RITTBERG
JACK VILARDI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

JOHN C. BATKA
KAREN J. BUIKEMA
BELINDA F. COLE
WARREN G. CONROW
JAMIE D. CORNETT
ELISA AMANTIAD HAMMER
ADAM B. KLEMENS
TIMOTHY R. LANDIS
KEYE S. LATIMER
MIKEL M. MERRITT
JEFFREY A. NEWSOM
CHRISTOPHER M. PUTNAM
JOHN E. STUBBS
CHARLES B. TOTH
DANIEL J. WATSON
RICHARD Y. K. YOO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

WESLEY R. ADAMS
MICHAEL ROBERT ANDERSON
LORRAINE A. APOLIS ABELON
JUSTIN A. BERNARD
NICOLE D. BESSETTE
CHERYL L. BLAKE
BRYAN P. BOWYER
COURTNEY J. BURGESS
CHELSIE J. CAMDEN
CASEY S. CATON
CONLEY D. CHANEY
ALICIA D. CLEMENTS
ANTHONY J. COOPER
STEWANNA J. DASARI
MIGUEL EDUARDO S. DEL MUNDO
DANIELLA S. DSOUZA
MORGAN M. GALUSHA
SPENCER J. GARN
ASHLEY N. GEORGE
JOSEPH N. GILHAM
JORDAN L. GRANDE
LYNN E. GUERY
NICHOLAS J. HALL
LUKE A. HARLE
JEANLUC HEBERT
BRIENT C. HOBBS
KARA L. ISKENDERIAN
DARIUS IZAD
PRENELLA D. KENNEDY
CHRISTOPHER H. J. KIM
NATHAN R. KINCHORN
EMMA M. KINSTEDT
ERICK C. KOBRES II
KATE E. LEE
JOVAN S. LEGISTER
ALLEN T. LOVE
ANDREW F. LOYNAZ
KERRY A. MAWN
WILLIAM S. MAY
LAURA A. MORTON
THOMAS R. NEUMAN
ARIEL N. NOFFKE
KARINA OSGOOD
TIMOTHY D. PETTMAN
WESLEY R. PILON
ROGER M. POWELL
ALEXA D. PRITCHETT
SARAH C. RACATAHAN FRICK
ROBERT FREDRICK RITCHIE
AARON D. SANDERS
SPENCER A. SARE
RYAN E. SCHROD
KEVIN J. SCHROD
GEORGE A. SOUTH
JONATHAN S. SPIRO
HEATHER N. STAHLINGS
ANNA K. STURGES
PATRICK C. TIPTON
TREVOR N. WARD
KOLTON ROBERT WARREN
TYLER LOGAN WASHBURN
WESLEY N. WATTS
BENJAMIN M. WEBSTER
JONATHON B. WELSH
NATHAN M. WIEBENGA

DIAMOND D. ZEPHIR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

J.B. ACHESON
EUGENE Y. ANSAH
CHRISTOPHER A. BLACK
CHARLES FORTUNATE BLIZZARD
ROBBIE DEKA
JASON R. GILLELAND
TIMMIE D. HENSON
JORDAN D. HUGGINS
EDWARD E. JORDAN, JR.
GUY MSAFIRI KAGERE
SERGIO ALTESOR RAMOS
JENNIFER MAE RAY
JOHN B. SKELTON II
JUSTIN ADAMS THOMAS
PORTMANN K. WERNER
STEVEN T. WICHERN
LAVONIA Y. WINFORD
MARA LIZBETH WLADYKA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

BRANDI RAE AIKEN
BEAU J. ALBANESE
SHAYNA JAYDE P. ALISASIS
ARMANDO J. ALVAREZ
ORLANDO S. AMARO
ALEX R. ANDERSON
MELISSA G. ANDERSON
YVETTE R. ANSUMANA
MACKENZIE G. ANTLEY
DAVINA L. ARMSTRONG
KATIE L. ARMSTRONG
MISTY DAWN BAILEY
SABRENA A. BEDWELL
HEATHER ANN BERRINGER
ASHTON N. BIERBRAUER
ANNA M. BIONDI
JACOB A. BOHANAN
JOSHUA A. BOSWELL
KATLYN J. BOUSKA
SAVANNA DAWN BOWERS
LAUREN BRODIE
JULIUS L. BROWN
TELESHEIA NICOLE BROWN
HEATHER J. BRYANT
TEQUILA M. BULOW
LEIGHA E. CANNON
NATASHA N. CARDINAL
NANCY CARRIN WOODY
DANIEL B. CARTER
IRIS A. CATALA COTTO
LEA I. CHEN
HENRY R. CHOUNARD
AMANDA D. COETZEE
JEREMY M. COOPER
JHOANNA LUZ T. CUTARAN
KRZYSZTOF DANCZUK
TAYLOR P. DEPOL
KELLY K. DERING
JOSIE E. DUFF
TINA M. DUNLAP
COURTNEY P. EBELING
TIFFANY ANNE EBUENG
MORGAN E. ENOS
JOEL LAZARA ESPINOSA
FERN K. FIELDS
TAMMI LEILANI FISH
LAURA D. FLETCHER
CINDI SJ FREEBORN
WINNEBELLE D. GAMOR
BRANYAN D. GARCIA
AMBER N. GIBBONS
MIKEL R. GILES
JANAYE S. GREENE
MARY I. GUZMANMURO
MICHELLE A. HAUCK
ROY L. HERRIN, JR.
HARMONY M. HIGHLEY
EMILY R. HILL
COURTNEY R. HORAN
NINA C. HOSKINS
KYAW HTET
DOMINIQUE ANN HUNSBERGER
JOHN T. INNIS
JASON B. JAKIMJUK
LINDSAY KAYE JEFFERIES
JASON M. JEFFERS
PAMELA JIRSA
MANMINDER S. JOHAL
VIGNETTE A. KALTSAS
RAYMOND E. KELLY
LARRY EARL KENNEY
ANGELA MIESHA KNIGHT
MORGAN R. KOVACHEVICH
KRISTIE M. KOVALENKO
FRANCES ANNE L. KRISS
MIKHAIL A. KUZMIN
MARI D. LABIT
BRIANNA Y. LARSON
SHANNON K. LARSON
OCTAVIA YVETTE LATULAS
AMANDA C. LAWRENCE
DANIELLE N. LEOPARD
JOELYNN R. LEOPARD
KATIE E. LITTLE
CRISTINA M. LOUGHERY
JERON MARKKEITH LOWERY

BRANDILYNN K. LUCAS
SARA L. MACKEY
MICHAEL PATRICK MANNING
MOLLY A. MAY
NATALIE G. MCDUGLE
STEPHANIE RAE MCKINLEY
DAVEANA LEE MEAUX
CARLOS E. S. MENDOZA
KERRY S. MERKEL
LAWRENCE D. MERKET
ERIC DOUGLAS MERRILL
LEANDRA D. MILTON
KELLY LYNN MITTAL
VIRGINIA S. MONTEIRO WALKER
ANDREA R. MORGAN
KATHERINE J. NEWBOLD
DAVID GENE NICHOLSON, JR.
SHANNON NUNNERY
SEAN D. OHOLLEARN
MADALYN L. OVERMOHLE
ELIZABETH PATTERSON
ALYSSA MARIE PEREZ
ANGELICA M. PEREZ
EMIKO PERKINS
AARON B. PORTER
JANET M. RAMOS
JESSICA M. RANGOONWALA
ROSEMOND D. REIMMER
RICHARD RAPHAEL IGNACIO REYES
JONI ROBERTS
JARED A. ROGGE
WILFREDO D. ROMANOTERO
LYNN MARIE ROSCHI
SAMANTHA L. ROSE
NATHAN T. ROSENBERY
JOSHUA L. SALLEY
JARED CHARLES SANGIORGI
PATRICIA A. SAPP
SHARISA MARIA SCALES
CRAIG ALAN SCHADEWALD
KAILEY R. SCHMIDT
JENNIFER R. K. SCHNEIDER
JORDAN L. SERCK
BONNIE LYNNE SGROI
SHAINA M. SMELAS
KAYLA TAMARA SMITH
JESSICA W. SPRUNGER
REBECCA JEAN STACEY
DURNAY STACY
JEREMY D. STEWART
PATRICK ANDREW STOCKTON
BRENDEN M. STOKES
DREW S. STRADER
ASHLEE M. STRIPLING
DAVID LEONARD STUPPY, JR.
JENNIFER L. SWANBERG
MILAN A. A. TANDOC
BRENDAN C. TARLETON
HOSSANA D. C. TERRADO
TIFFANY N. THOMAS
SUZANNA E. THOMSEN
SABRINA TORRES
AUDREY M. TRAN
SHERRY A. TRUSKOLASKI
JULISSA VALENTINE
JONATHAN PATRICK VANETTEN
THOMAS E. VIETEN
LISHA A. VORTOLOMEI
JOHN C. WALKER
AUTUMN H. WHARMBY
EDNA M. WHORTON
DAVID E. WILCOX
JOSHUA CRAIG WILSON
CAMILLE R. WOLFERSBERGER
RACHEL E. WOODLEE
HEATHER D. WUNSCHL
ERICA M. ZUNIGA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR
FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JORDAN JOHN ARCTURUS
RUCHELLE TISSINI AUSTIN
KIESHA ROCHELLE BEAVERS
BRITTNEY M. BERNAL
DALILA M. BROADY
VERONICA R. COLLINS
JOSHUA CHARLES CRAIG
JEREMY TRAVIS DEEP
PATRICK KEVIN DELATOUR
MARIBY CHERISE DILKS
NICHOLAS PETER DOE
KIMBERLY ANNE DOTSON
DEONTA MARQUECE ELLIS
DANIEL J. FERNANDEZ
JOSEPH MICHAEL FRANZE
ALLISON M. GAHAFAER
MICHA A. GOLDEN
JENISE A. HARRIS
LANCE DARNELL HAYES
MARQUES L. HERS
WATSON HIL AIRE
ELIZABETH MCDONALD HILL
JAIME L. HOLLINGSWORTH
DANIEL R. HUNT
TAYLOR R. JACOBSON
SCARLETT L. JAIME ASTACIO
BRANDY A. JAYNE
BENJIMAN P. JENNINGS
VICTOR JOHNSON, JR.
BREANA L. KEMP
MATTHEW J. KLOOSTER
BIN MA
SARAH F. MANHERTZ
JESSICA ROSE MARKS

DANIELLE M. MCSHEFFREY
THOMAS ANDREW MOORE
DAVID S. S. OH
RODRIGO M. PAES
BRIANNE NICOLE PEDRERO
JORDAN KELEN PICKELL
JOHN P. REASONER III
KEANA L. REED
JENNIFER M. RIVERA USHER
ALEXANDRE MICHEL ROGAN
ADRIAN A. SAIZ
STEFANIE DESIREE SIMON
CAMERON SCOTT SMITH
MICHELLE MARIE SMITH
LAURA MARIE TROMBLEY
JASON BRIAN WALKER
JOSHUA I. WHEELER
ANDERSON R. WIKSELL
TYRONE DARIUS WILLIAMS
VICTORIA S. WILLIAMS
ALEXANDER WILLIAM WOLF

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR
FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JONATHAN D. ALE
PATRICK GLENN MICU AREVALO
KAYSIE R. ARMES
CALEB BABER ARRINGTON
BRENDA KARINA AYALA
ARISTIDE N. BADJE
JAMES PATTERSON BARBOSA
HALEIGH A. BARNES
MARK GERARD DASALLA BAUTISTA
MARIA BERNADETTE BIBILONI
MATTHEW F. BLOOM
CHEVEN BRIANNA BONNELL
LATOYA N. BROWN
NATHANIEL GEORGE S. BROWN
JENNIFER R. CADWELL
KELLY M. CAPONIGRO
DAVID R. CARSON
SHERRY DENISE CARTER
AMBER DANIELLE CLAYTON
KATHERINE B. CLER
DEBRA V. CROWDER
DESIRAE R. DALTON
KRISTOFER J. DARROW
PETER M. DAVEY, JR.
LOGAN J. DAVIS
ALYSE MARIE DENITTIS
FERNANDA P. DEOLIVEIRA
PAULO R. DEPAULA
AIMEE DICKSON
JAMES JOSEPH DOUGHERTY
JOSEPH M. FEHRMAN
JULIAN GABRIEL FIORINA
JOHN K. FLYNN
TERYNN ARDELL FREEMAN
ANDREW R. GARCIA
NATALIE K. GARRETT
TRISHA ELIZABETH GIBBONS
STEPHEN MARTIN GILBERT
ANDREW J. GLIDEWELL
ZACHARY F. GRAVGAARD
EVAN SPENCER HANSEN
VERONICA W. HART
MARK E. HILLSTROM
MIKI CHRISTINE HINCHEY
MATTHEW J. HOGAN
CHRISTINE I. HONG
CHRISTINA CORPUZGRANT HOUGH
JENNIFER M. HUDSON
ERIC SHAWN HUFF
BENJAMIN ROBERT HUTTO
JESSICA KIM THU HUYNH TOOR
THOMAS CHARLES J. INGERSOLL
HALEY E. JAMES
KEITH STEPHEN JANDA
DENNIS BROOKS JOHNS
LATOYA DANIELLE JOHNSON
LAUREN BRITTANY JOHNSON
PATRICK DAVID JONES
PRECIOUS R. JONES
ERIK J. KALKBRENNER
MICAH T. KEANEY
JOSEPH M. KICKLIGHTER
SHILANA SARAH KOWACK
JACOB G. KRIEGBAUM
DEEPAK KUMAR
BRIDGET J. LASHBAUGHBARNEY
MATTHEW ANTHONY LAWRENCE
BRITNEY LATOYA LEONARD
STEPHEN PAUL LESAGE
JONATHAN J. LESTER
WILLIAM LEU
JENNIFER RENEE LEWIS
KRISTINA M. LINDEN
ELAINE NICOLE LOUDERMILK
BROOKE A. LOVE
CAREN L. MARTAGON
MATTHEW J. MAZICK
GILLIAN M. MCGEORGE
MANDY LYNN MCCLUCKIE
TIMOTHY J. MCMANUS
SKYLAR S. MCMANUS
RICHARD H. MELLO III
JUAN F. MERCADO GUZMAN
DOMINIQUE BLANCETT MERCADO
SUNGHEE MIN
SHAWN HAMILTON MIRANDA
CODY RONALD MORCOM
JAMIE OLDS MORRISON
SAUMYA M. NAGAR
ALEXANDER E. NEYLON

ERIC Z. OLSON
STEPHANIE A. OLSON
JENNIFER MARY OROZCO
STEPHANIE A. OWENS
MICHAEL DAVID PALMER
WESLEY ARTHUR PARKER
MYCHELLE PHAN
NANCY I. PINEDA
NICHOLAS F. POLK
JAVIER PORRAS
MATTHEW R. PRICE
ELLIE M. PRINSTER
ANTONETTE D. REEVES
MONTANA RENEE RICEY
JENNIFER J. ROSENBERG
MARIE NICOLE ROTHSTEIN
DAVID MICHAEL SAGER
ANGELA SAKELLARIOU
DANA MARIE SAMS
AMANDA GRACE SANDRY
ANTHONY J. SANGER
NICOLE A. SAULOVICH ROGAN
MICHAEL AUGUSTINE SAUNDERS
BENJAMIN T. SCHMITT
JOHN A. SEIMETZ III
MIGUEL ANGEL SERRANO
JUSTINE ELIZABETH SEYMOUR
GABRIEL JOHN SHARP
KAITLYN M. SHAUGHNESSY
JULIA MICHELLE SLIFKO
SYDNEY L. SLOAN
NICOLE LISA SPARKS
JOSHUA SAMUEL STALLARD
ANDREW P. STATKEVICH
ERIC ROBERT STRATOTI
BRIAN ADAM THOMPSON
JENNIFER P. W. TOMLINSON
ANTONIA KATE TRAVISANO
ELONA PANTELEMONOVNA UNGER
MELISSA K. VANARTSDALEN
KY V. VUONG
MELISSA E. WOODS
BRITTNEY T. YUN
JIAN ZHANG
MASON ZHANG

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF
THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JASON S. HAWKSWORTH
RICHARD Y. YOON

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE
CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

ALEXANDER N. ABATE
JOSHUA J. ABRAHAM
JOEL T. AHERN
ROBERT F. AHERN
ETHAN R. AKERBERG
EZRA W. AKIN
JOSEPH F. ALBANO, JR.
ERIC D. ALBIN
ALEX J. ALBRECHT
DAVID F. ALLGER
SARA E. ALLDREDGE
JACOB D. ALLEN
ZACHARY S. ALLEN
SCOTT A. ANDERSEN
BRIAN M. ANDERSON
CARL G. ANDERSON
FRANK K. ANDERSON III
HUGH E. ANDERSON
JUSTIN R. ANDERSON
ERIK S. ANDRES
EMANUEL ARAICA
ROBERT ARELLANO
MICHAEL A. ARGUELLO
RICHARD E. ARONSON
EDWARD E. ARRINGTON
JOHN M. BAILEY
JOHN T. BAKER
LOUIS B. BALLARD
ANTHONY P. BANKS, JR.
JOSHUA W. BANKS
CHRISTOPHER A. BARTOS
ROBERT F. BEAGH
MICHAEL A. BEBOW
RAFAEL E. BENITEZRUIZ
BRYAN C. BERGMAN
MARK R. BERTOLONE
ROBERT M. BEST
MICHAEL P. BILLINGS
NATHAN J. BLACKWELL
ALAN J. BOCK
VICTOR E. BOCKMAN, JR.
CHRISTOPHER J. BOCKOVEN
STEPHAN A. BOHANAN
NICHOLAS R. BOIVIN
CARL F. BONCI
KYLE A. BOOKHOULT
JONATHAN E. BOUSKA
BENJAMIN L. BREWSTER
STEPHEN K. BROWER, JR.
MICHAEL E. BRUCE
EVERTON A. BRYAN
JAROD S. BRYANT
DYLAN R. BUCK
CHELSEA A. BUCKHOLTZ

ANDREW J. BUDZIEN
KETRIC D. BUFFIN
ALEX J. BURGGRAAF
SHAWN M. BURKHART
ANTHONY S. BURROW
MEGAN L. BUSTIN
TYREL L. CAMPBELL
ZANDER H. CARBAJAL
CLIFF S. CARDWELL
BENJAMIN J. CARLTON
JORGE J. CARO
LOUIS J. CARRANO III
BRENDAN T. CARROLL
JOHN J. CARTER
NICHOLAS C. CASTLE
EUGENE R. CAZEDESSUS IV
JOSHUA J. CHAMBERS
RICHARD W. CHAPMAN
SEAN M. CHARVET
TIMOTHY S. CHUN
DALE L. CHUNG
DEVIN M. CLARK
NATHAN M. CLARK
ROBERT C. CLIFFORD
ANDREW P. CODY
BRIAN D. COLEMAN
FRANKLYN A. COLORADO
JASON M. CONSTANCE
SEAN B. CONWAY
DAVID A. COOPER, JR.
CASEY COSGROVE
TRAVIS J. COVEY
CHRISTOPHER J. CRACCHIOLO
JACOB A. CRAMER
CHARLES M. CRANDELL III
MYCHAL A. CREEDEN
SEAN P. CRILLEY
RYAN D. CRYMES
JOSHUA D. CULVER
DAVID J. CYBULSKI
ADRIANA DAROCACOSULICH
AARON L. DAVIDSON
JOSEPH J. DAVIN
GRETCHEN R. DAY
SETH T. DEATON
ADAM T. DEITRICH
ERIN K. DEMCHKO
JUSTIN A. DENTEL
VINCENT J. DEPINTO
SEAN F. DOHERTY
RANDY F. DONALDSON
COLE A. DOSSETTO
CHRISTOPHER M. DOYLE
KEVIN C. DRUFFELRODRIGUEZ
THOMAS R. DUDRO
JASON E. DUEHRING
WESLEY S. DYSON
DANIEL A. EALY
JORDAN A. EDDINGTON
JOSHUA P. ELLIOTT
COLIN A. ELSASSER
THOMAS M. ENDICOTT
MATTHEW R. ERLIN
CHAD M. ERNST
BRANDON L. ERWIN
DANIEL J. FALVEY
DANIEL J. FAWCETT
DAVID P. FEMEA
JOSEPH W. FISCHER
JEREMY A. FISHER
ERIC J. FLEEGLE
CHRISTOPHER K. FLETCHER
LEWIS C. FLINN
TYLER B. FOLAN
DAVID P. FOLEY
THOMAS R. FRICTON
SEAN M. FUHRMANN
ADAM J. FULLER
JONATHAN J. GALINSKI
DANIEL S. GETCHELL
KELSEY W. GIBSON
NICHOLAS W. GIBSON
LOGAN A. GICER
ALEXANDER S. GODBEY
CHRISTIAN O. GOMEZ
JEREMY A. GRAHAM
GABRIEL C. GRANADO
DAVID M. GRANT
DENNIS A. GRAZIOSI
ROBERT A. GREEN, JR.
MATTHEW J. GRILL
MICHAEL S. GRINER
SHANNON L. GROSS
THOMAS F. GRUBER
PAUL M. GUCWA
NICHOLAS J. HALSMER
BRIAN C. HAMPTON
THOMAS A. HANSEN
JOSEPH W. HARDIN
CLAYTON D. HARRIS
JEFFRY P. HART
TALYA C. HAVICE
RICHARD A. HAYEK
LUCAS A. HELMS
JACOB R. HEMPEN
WILLIAM M. HENDRICKSON
MICHAEL G. HERENDEEN
JORGE A. HERNANDEZ
GRANT D. HERTZOG
DAVID J. HEUWETTER III
RYAN J. HIGGINS
YUWYNN E. HO
SCOTT A. HOLBERT
NORMAN B. HOLCOMBE
RYAN P. HOLLAND
SETH A. HOLLAND
TRAVIS A. HOLLAND

TRAVIS A. HOLLOWAY
STEPHEN C. HORN
TRAVIS E. HORNER
JASON R. HOTALEN
ERIC S. HOVEY
BRIAN D. HUBERT
CHRISTOPHER A. HUFF
CHANCE A. HUGHES
LUCAS R. HUISENGA
STEPHANIE V. IACOBUCCI
ALEXANDER A. ISMAIL
WILLIAM J. JACOB
MICHAEL R. JACOBELLIS
KATHERINE L. JAMES
ALICIA M. JOBE
KENNETH G. JOHNSON
MICHAEL R. JOHNSON
BILLY J. JONES
CHRISTOPHER M. JONES
CORY T. JONES
MICHAEL R. JONES
TREVOR A. JONES
BRENT E. JURMU
KEVIN I. KAPUSCINSKI
STEVEN D. KASDAN
EVAN F. KEEL
MICHAEL S. KELLY
STEPHEN D. KENT
KATHERINE A. KERCHEVAL
JOSHUA T. KETTENTON
BRIAN C. KIMMINS
KEEGAN R. KINKADE
TIMOTHY D. KIRKPATRICK
MICHAEL T. KOPA, JR.
JACOB J. KREBS
YUK W. KWAN
WILLIAM M. LAMBUTH, JR.
DANIEL A. LANE
DAVID J. LANE
ALEX M. LANG
COLIE W. LAPIERRE
RICHARD B. LARGER, JR.
CHARLYNE D. LAWRENCE
JAMES J. LAY
SAMORA A. LEACOCK
ZACHARY R. LEVEE
TIMOTHY D. LINDSHIELD
EDWARD C. LINDSITZ III
BRANDON P. LOKEY
WILLIAM D. LONG
CORY J. LONGWELL
ORYAN J. LOPES
CRISTINA LOPEZ
JOSEPH R. LOUSCHE
ANDREW T. MACON
MICHAEL F. MADIA
KENNETH F. MAGEE
WILLIAM MAHONEY VI
RICHARD C. MARSHALL
NICOLAS R. MARTINO
ROBERTO A. MARTINS, JR.
MATTHEW J. MARTINSON
STEPHANIE J. MAXWELL
ASHLEY R. MCCABE
BEN E. MCCAULEY III
BRIAN R. MCCARTHY
JOHN D. MCCORMACK, JR.
TERRY A. MCCOY
JAMES D. MCGOWAN
MARGARET K. MCGUIRE
JACOB A. MCILWAIN
THOMAS P. MCKAVITT III
SEAN R. MCMAHON
GILMER L. MCMILLAN
CHRISTOPHER R. MCQUADE
JEFFREY J. MEDEIROS
ALFONSO D. MEIDUS
CHAD J. MENACHER
TYSON S. METLEN
ROBERT G. MEYER
CALEB C. MILLER
JORDAN D. MILLER
ROY F. MILLER IV
SARAH E. MILLER
PETER N. MISYAK
NICHOLAS S. MITCHELL
BRIAN T. MOELLER
DYLAN T. MONTAMBO
CHRISTINA MONTOYA
DAVID J. MOON
DANIEL A. MOORE
SAMUEL E. MOORE
SEAN E. MOORE
ALEXANDER MORA
PAUL F. MOREAU
CHRISTOPHER A. MORTON
JASON C. MURPHY
TIMOTHY P. MURPHY
TRISTAN J. MURRAY
STEPHEN P. NAGEL
DARYL C. NEILL
NATHAN B. NELMS
JUSTIN P. NELSON
BRIAN C. NERI
DUSTIN J. NICHOLSON
ERIC K. NILSSON
EVAN S. NORDSTROM
CHRISTOPHER W. OBRIEN
JESUS A. OCHOA
JOSHUA L. OCKERT
CHRISTOPHER S. ODOM
WILLIAM L. OLIVER
LIAM P. OLONE
KEVIN C. OMAALLEY
ROBERT J. ONEIL
STEPHEN E. OTIS
PATRICK J. OWENS

CHUN H. PARK
DANIEL J. PATON
CALVIN B. PATTON
HANNAH M. PAXTON
MITCHELL R. PEDERSON
NICHOLAS D. PETERS
CLARK J. PETERSEN
BRYAN S. PETERSON
ZACHARY A. PHELPS
DANIEL D. PHILLIPS
SHANE M. PHILLIPS
BEAU L. PILLOT
LINDSAY M. PIREK
MATTHEW S. PISTON
IAN J. PLUMMER
BERTRAND A. POURTEAU
JOSHUA J. PRETTI
DOUGLAS L. PRICE
JONATHAN F. PROBOL
KEES J. PUNTER
MICHAEL J. PUTNAM
JON E. PYNDUSS
NICK G. PYPER
CHARLES C. RANDOLPH
BENJAMIN K. REEKES
JOHN E. REHBERG
JORDAN M. REID
PATRICK S. REILLY
JOHNPAUL R. REYES
JEFFREY R. ROBBINS
DAVID W. ROBERTS
JOSE J. RODRIGUEZ
BRADLEY T. ROENSCH
EDMUND M. ROMAGNOLI
CHRISTOPHER P. RORK
TED A. ROSE
DIANN M. ROSENFELD
JEREMY D. ROSS
KEVIN J. ROSS
JHAN A. RUIZCANO
JESSICA L. RYAN
BARNABAS J. SABIN
JOHN J. SABOL III
RICHARD J. SALCHOW
MELANIE M. SALINAS
ERIK B. SALZMAN
CRAIG F. SAMPSEL
DESIREE K. SANCHEZ
MATTHEW S. SAVARESE
RYAN S. SAWYER
AARON P. SAYERS
CHRISTOPHER M. SCHAUB
PHILIP R. SCHMITZ
DUSTIN S. SCOTT
THOMAS G. SCOVEL
DAVID A. SERRANO
LAUREN F. SERRANO
JONATHAN SHIH
JOHN SHIN
DONALD T. SHREWSBURY
MATTHEW J. SIMARD
LYDIA A. SIMONS
SHAWNA L. SINNOTT
CHARLES T. SMITH
CHRISTOPHER L. SMITH
JOHN M. SNYDER
CHRISTOFFE H. SORESENSEN
KURT R. SORENSEN
CLINTON W. SOVIE
MELVIN C. SPIESE III
COREY S. SQUIRES
RYAN W. STEENBERGE
CONOR W. STEWART
MATTHEW E. STILLSON
ROBERT T. STOCKMAN III
ANTHONY D. SUH
ARON D. SULLIVAN
TARA A. SUTCLIFFE
JARED R. SWANCER
SCOTT F. TAGGART
PHILIP M. TATE
ANDREW L. TAULBEE
STEPHEN C. THOMAS
CRAIG A. TOWLES
GEOFFREY J. TROY
MICHAEL J. TUCKER
MATTHEW D. TWEEDY
CHRISTOPHER R. VARRIALE
ELVIN VASQUEZ
MATTHEW A. VAUGHN
ROBERT W. VIEHMEYER
MATTHEW F. VOLLMER
AARON J. WATKINS
CHESTER J. WATTS
MICHAEL D. WATTS
RAYMOND C. WEBB II
HAROLD D. WEEKS, JR.
SCOTT J. WEIBLINS
DANIEL S. WEINSTEIN
RYAN K. WELSH
KEVIN M. WHEELER
CANDACE G. WHITE
JOSHUA L. WHITE
STEFAN J. WHITEWAY
MATTHEW J. WICKS
BRANDON A. WIEDOWER
LARRY W. WIGINGTON
PAUL R. WILLARD II
CHRISTOPHER M. WILLIAMS
ISAC S. WILLIAMS
JUSTIN D. WILLIAMS
KEVIN J. WILLIAMS
SCOTT D. WILLIAMSON
KELLY L. WILSON
KYLE T. WILSON
JOSHUA D. WINTERS
MICHAEL J. WISH

TIMOTHY D. WRENN, JR.
BRIAN K. WRIGHT
KURTIS B. WRINKLE
JAMES J. WUESTMAN
EDWARD L. YOO
JENNER M. YUHAS
KYLE M. ZENOR
JOSEPH A. ZUKOWSKI, JR.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

LEE J. CHASCO

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO BE A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, A CONSULAR OFFICER, AND A SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

GEORGINA RITA BENJAMIN, OF VIRGINIA
LINDSEY T. BIRD, OF VIRGINIA
PATRICK FRANCIS BREEN, OF CALIFORNIA
ADAM M. BROCK, OF WASHINGTON
EMMA M. BROWNING, OF SOUTH DAKOTA
JEREMY ALLEN BULGRIEN, OF PENNSYLVANIA
ANTHONY R. BYRD, OF GEORGIA
MICHAEL G. CALABRESE, OF LOUISIANA
RAFAEL JOSE CERAME GUILLEN, OF VIRGINIA
APRIL N. CHAPPELLE, OF MARYLAND
MANUEL A. CHAVEZ AYALA, OF VIRGINIA
JASON MICHAEL CHIN, OF VIRGINIA
SEHEE CHUNG, OF FLORIDA
CAROLINE ELIZABETH CORCORAN, OF TEXAS
KRISTINE D'ALESSANDRO, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CASSIDY F. DAUBY, OF VIRGINIA
MICHELLE D. DAVIS, OF VIRGINIA
JACOB E. DIETRICH, OF KENTUCKY
NICHOLAS JAMES DRAMBY, OF VIRGINIA
DANA KRISTEN DRECKSEL, OF UTAH
EMILY C. ELLER, OF MAINE
STEPHEN S. ELLSESSER, OF TEXAS
BRIAN EDWARD ENGEL, OF VIRGINIA
GREGORY J. EVERETT, OF TENNESSEE
ERIC A. FRANQUI, OF ARIZONA
GO FUNAI, OF VIRGINIA
BRADLEY E. GEER, OF VIRGINIA
ELIZABETH GESSON, OF CALIFORNIA
GIAN MICHAEL PALMA GOZUM, OF TENNESSEE
KRISTEN C. GRAY, OF MAINE
CONNOR JOSEPH HAGAN, OF GEORGIA
REBECCA BREANNA HAGGARD, OF FLORIDA

PAULETTE L. HARDIN, OF VIRGINIA
SAMUEL JAMES HORSTMEIER, OF VIRGINIA
ANNA S. HORVATH, OF VIRGINIA
BENJAMIN S. HULEFELD, OF MASSACHUSETTS
KAJJA JEAN HURLBURT, OF WASHINGTON
ANDERS STENSURUD IMBODEN, OF MINNESOTA
MELISSA A. JONES, OF VIRGINIA
ANNA W. JOZWIK, OF VIRGINIA
BENJAMIN D. KRUEGER, OF MINNESOTA
ZACHARY MICHAEL LAUDI, OF VIRGINIA
QUINN ASTI LORENZ, OF NORTH CAROLINA
SARA ASHLEY LUEKING, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CHARLIE T. LUONG, OF VIRGINIA
KIMBERLY JOSEPHINE MACFARLANE, OF VIRGINIA
JUSTIN MICHAEL MALLARD, OF VIRGINIA
ADAM R. MARTIN, OF VIRGINIA
MELISSA SUE MCCAULEY, OF ARIZONA
PHILIP J. MENZNER, OF WISCONSIN
JOHN LESLIE STEVEN MILICEVICH, JR., OF VIRGINIA
CHRISTOPHER A. MIRABELLO, OF VIRGINIA
KHADIJA H. MOHAMUD, OF MARYLAND
DAVID NICHOLAS MORGAN, OF TEXAS
ERIKA LYNN NUTTING, OF VIRGINIA
MAURA O'BRIEN-ALL, OF VIRGINIA
JORDAN MARK O'REILLY, OF VIRGINIA
DANIELLA MANERA ONEILL, OF VIRGINIA
FLORY Y. ORE, OF UTAH
MAURICIO PARRA, OF TEXAS
MANUEL I. PERALTA, OF VIRGINIA
CARLY J. PUZNIAK, OF MICHIGAN
JUSTIN MICHAEL RIVERA, OF TENNESSEE
WILLIAM FITLER ROBERTSON, OF CALIFORNIA
DAVID G. ROGGE, OF MARYLAND
JASMINE KATHERINA ROHWEDDER, OF VIRGINIA
KENNETH D. ROONEY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BENJAMIN LEIF ROWLES, OF PENNSYLVANIA
JESSICA RENEE SCHRIMP, OF MINNESOTA
MICHELLE P. SCHUETTE, OF WISCONSIN
MICHAEL LLOP SCOTT, OF VIRGINIA
NADIA SHEIKH, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JULIE M. SHERBILL, OF MARYLAND
TIAN SONG, OF VIRGINIA
SANDRA LYN SPADONI, OF WASHINGTON
NATHAN B. STACKPOOLE, OF WASHINGTON
BERNADETTE A. STADLER, OF MAINE
ANDREW J. STEELE, OF VIRGINIA
JOHN STEELE, OF VIRGINIA
ALEXANDER LESLIE STRAUS, OF MONTANA
SARAH ELIZABETH LUCILLE STRICKER, OF OREGON
NICOLE A. SUMMERLIN, OF COLORADO
SEAN D. SUMNER, OF OHIO
ERIN E. SUTHERLAND, OF OHIO
CAMILLE Z. SWINSON, OF MASSACHUSETTS
KEVIN C. TODD, OF UTAH
ALEXANDER JOSIAH TROUP, OF VIRGINIA
ANDREW MORRIS TUCKER, OF MARYLAND
CHELSEA BRINT TUCKER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ANASTASIA E. TUROSKY, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DOMINIC ANDREW VENA, OF VIRGINIA
HOLLY K. VINEYARD, OF VIRGINIA
KELLY ELIZABETH WALDEN, OF TEXAS
GLENDA MONIQUE WALLACE, OF FLORIDA
CLINTON T. WALLS, OF FLORIDA
KARISA LEIGH WERNER, OF SOUTH CAROLINA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE FOR PROMOTION INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, EFFECTIVE JULY 7, 2020:

JENNIFER L. DAVIS, OF VIRGINIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR:

VALERIE BROWN, OF MARYLAND
CYNTHIA GUVEN, OF VIRGINIA
MORGAN PERKINS, OF MARYLAND

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE FOR PROMOTION INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

LISA ANDERSON, OF VIRGINIA
OLIVER FLAKE, OF MARYLAND
FREDERICK GILES, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ANITA KATIAL, OF FLORIDA
RACHEL NELSON, OF WASHINGTON
KELLY STANGE, OF MISSOURI

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER:
ROBERT HANSON, OF WISCONSIN

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 18, 2024:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MARGARET L. TAYLOR, OF MARYLAND, TO BE LEGAL ADVISER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

THE JUDICIARY

MICHELLE WILLIAMS COURT, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNRWA FUNDING EMERGENCY RESTORATION ACT OF 2024

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I am both pleased and saddened to introduce a bill that helps relieve the ongoing humanitarian crisis unfolding in Palestine. I thank my colleagues Representatives JAYAPAL and SCHAKOWSKY for joining me as co-leads, with 65 original co-sponsors and over 100 national organization endorsements. This important bill will: (1) Repeal the funding prohibitions on UNRWA included in the FY24 Appropriations bill and the Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2024; (2) Express a Sense of Congress that it supports appropriating critical funds to UNRWA for FY25; (3) Urge the Secretary of State, as soon as practicable, to rescind the temporary pause in funding for UNRWA and resume funding to UNRWA under current authorities of the Department of State; and (4) Require the Secretary of State to report to Congress on a quarterly basis on the steps UNRWA is taking to implement the recommendations contained in the independent outside review of the Agency's neutrality mechanisms and procedures.

House-passed bills prohibiting UNRWA funding significantly erodes the United States' ability to provide life-saving assistance and basic services to Gaza's 2.2 million people. To date, over 40,000 Palestinians have been killed and about 100,000 more have been seriously injured without access to functioning hospitals. Among the victims of this catastrophe are women and children. According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), over 150,000 pregnant women and new mothers are struggling to survive and access basic health care. Women in Gaza today are birthing children and having cesarean sections with no anesthesia. In addition, an estimated 700,000 women and girls in Gaza who require menstrual hygiene supplies are unable to manage their menstrual cycle in dignity, with some reports of contraceptive pills being taken to avoid the unhygienic menstrual conditions. Today, the fear of polio in children spreads across Gaza through fecal matter, limited clean drinking water, and destroyed infrastructure. Additionally, since October 7, thousands of Palestinian children have had one or both arms or legs amputated—without anesthesia. I want to reiterate—without anesthesia.

We must prioritize addressing the humanitarian crisis and catastrophe in Gaza. UNRWA serves nearly six million Palestinian refugees across the West Bank, East Jerusalem, Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon and is the primary humanitarian aid organization operating in Gaza. The U.S. has historically been one of the largest financial supporters of UNRWA but paused funding following allegations by the Government of Israel that 12 Agency employees had

direct involvement in the October 7 terrorist attack.

Following these allegations, the United Nations (UN) and UNRWA acted swiftly and decisively, immediately terminating the employees allegedly involved, ordering an independent outside review of the Agency's neutrality practices, and directing a review of the allegations by the UN's highest investigative body, the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS).

The outside review of UNRWA neutrality, led by former French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna, concluded UNRWA has robust, well-developed internal mechanisms and that it possesses a more developed approach to neutrality than other similar UN or NGO entities. The review also identified steps the Agency can take to further ensure its commitment to neutrality. UNRWA welcomed the report and stated it is "fully committed" to implementing its recommendations. An American, UNRWA Deputy Commissioner-General Antonia De Meo, is leading the implementation effort.

Just last month a donor review of UNRWA operations, funded in part by the U.S., concluded, "The Agency's ability to deliver education, health, and social services at scale to one of the world's most vulnerable populations is unparalleled."

Following the UN's investigation and proactive commitments made by UNRWA toward complete accountability and reform, nearly all countries have resumed UNRWA funding including the European Union, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Finland, Germany, Japan, and Sweden. Only the U.S. has failed to restore this essential funding.

International humanitarian NGOs and the major United Nations humanitarian organizations have made it clear that given UNRWA's role as the backbone of the humanitarian response, it is imperative that funding be restored and maintained to the Agency. These statements are especially relevant considering several of these humanitarian organizations would be required to drastically scale up their efforts at an impossible speed and scope to attempt to fill the humanitarian void that would be created should UNRWA cease to operate.

Additionally, the U.S. joined 118 UN Member States in signing the Joint Commitments Initiative to Support UNRWA which stated that "UNRWA is the backbone of all humanitarian response in Gaza and recognizing that no organization can replace or substitute UNRWA's capacity."

If we fail to act now, this escalating humanitarian crisis will only grow worse in Gaza, and further exacerbate tensions across the Middle East. It is in the strategic interest of both the U.S. and our allies, including Israel and Jordan, to resume and maintain full funding to UNRWA to stabilize the region and alleviate the humanitarian catastrophe that no other organization or agency will be able to effectively address.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important bill to save lives and provide desperately needed humanitarian aid.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT JUDY THOMPSON

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judy Thompson of Cooper, Texas, and present her with the Congressional Patriot Award. Judy has dedicated herself to faithfully serving our community.

Born in Paris, Texas, Judy graduated from the Cooper Schools in 1967, before graduating from East Texas State University with a double degree in French and English in 1970. She felt a calling for teaching and went back to school to earn a master's degree in education in 1980. Judy spent 41 years as a schoolteacher in the Cooper ISD, where she taught English, French, journalism, speech, drama, math, music, art, and physical education throughout every grade level. She also spent 38 years driving the school bus for students of the Cooper ISD. She received the Best-all-around student award in 1967 and is proud to have directed the State Championship winning Cooper High School One Act Play UIL in 1987.

Judy's commitment to public service and desire to leave a lasting positive impact in her community drives her to stay involved today. Currently, she serves as the Secretary and Treasurer of the Jim Chapman Lake Steering Committee and is encouraged by the vast potential of the lake. Judy is very active in the church, playing the piano for worship music since she was 16, and serving as the Minister of Music and Choir Director for 22 years. Today, she is a proud member of the worship team at New Hope Church in Cooper. I commend Judy for her dedicated service to the people of our community and wish her continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Judy with the Patriot Award for her exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING MEDICAL RESEARCH WEEK

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September 16–20, 2024, as Medical Research Week.

It is by no accident that America leads the world in medical innovation. America's free enterprise system alongside strong federal support of medical research has led to new cures, treatments, and hope for tomorrow that more therapies are on the horizon. I am proud that Pennsylvania institutions and companies play leading roles in developing these new technologies.

• 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.

In 2023, over \$2 billion in funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) was made available to researchers in Pennsylvania. This funding supported nearly 22,000 jobs and resulted in over \$5 billion in total economic activity across the commonwealth.

Pennsylvania is also home to a vibrant and growing biopharmaceutical industry, which employs over 56,000 individuals through direct employment creating billions of dollars economic impact.

In Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District, Franklin and Marshall College as well as Millersville University, are recipients of grant funding from NIH.

As we recognize Medical Research Week, may we all give thanks for the medical breakthroughs that have improved our lives and the individuals whose dogged determination and pursuit of progress made them possible.

HONORING RAYMOND "RAY"
HOLDWICK AS VETERAN OF THE
MONTH FOR MICHIGAN'S 9TH
DISTRICT

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ray Holdwick, the Veteran of the Month for September from Michigan's 9th Congressional District. I am honored to highlight the exemplary service and dedication of this true American hero, whose courage and commitment has left a lasting mark on our nation's history.

Ray was born and raised in Sterling Heights, Michigan, graduating from Sterling Heights High School in 1981. Demonstrating an early commitment to service, he enlisted in the U.S. Army that same year. From there, he joined the 170th Military Police Company. Ray was stationed at the Presidio in San Francisco from 1981 to 1983, where he was charged with maintaining law and order and ensuring the safety of his fellow service members. His military service extended into the reserves from 1983 to 1987, where he continued to exemplify the virtues of discipline and dedication.

Beyond his military service, Ray's commitment to community support and law enforcement has been unwavering. In 2006, he and his wife embarked on a venture to establish a donation-based support program for K-9 units through the Macomb County Police Department. This initiative reflects Ray's ongoing dedication to supporting our law enforcement community in a meaningful and impactful way.

Ray and his wife also founded Rocko's Pet Shop in Macomb Township, a business that not only serves the community but also champions charitable causes for law enforcement. Their active involvement in local charities has made a lasting difference, enhancing the resources available to K-9 units and strengthening the bond between law enforcement and the community they protect.

Mr. Speaker, Ray Holdwick's life story is one of service, sacrifice, and unwavering dedication to our country and his community. It is with immense pride that I honor him today as the Veteran of the Month for September, a fitting tribute for a distinguished veteran who truly embodies the spirit of American valor and resilience.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude for Roy Holdwick. His life of service serves as a powerful reminder of the sacrifice of our service members and their families.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PA-
TRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT JIM
CHAPMAN

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jim Chapman of Horseshoe Bay, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Jim has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

Growing up in Sulphur Springs, Jim graduated from Sulphur Springs High School in 1963. He then went on to obtain his bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Texas and earned his Juris Doctor degree from Southern Methodist University's Law School. Jim started his career as an attorney for six years, before being elected District Attorney for the 8th Judicial District of Texas in 1976, where he served 2 terms. He was then elected to Congress in 1985 through a special election, representing Texas' 1st congressional district for 6 terms. Throughout his time in Congress, he received the National Defense Achievement Award every year he served, and was recognized and endorsed by every teacher group, law enforcement group, the NRA, and many more. After retiring from Congress in 1997, Jim joined Bracewell & Patterson LLP and worked 15 years in the firm's D.C. and Austin office, co-chairing the Government Relations Group.

Jim's dedication to public service expands more than just public office. He served as Outside General Counsel for the Board of Hopkins County Memorial Hospital District, President of local United Way, and as Board Chairman and General Counsel for Peoples National Bank of Sulphur Springs. He's a proud member of 1st United Methodist Church, where he serves as chairman of the administrative board and as a Sunday school teacher for adult couples. I commend Jim for his dedicated service to the people of our community and wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Jim with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING AIRWAY TRANSPOR-
TATION SYSTEM SPECIALIST
MYLES OCONNER MAULDIN

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Myles OConner Mauldin and his service in ensuring the safety of his fellow Americans as a Transportation System Specialist for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Together we mourn the loss of a community member, gone too soon.

Myles worked with the FAA at the Ontario Airport in my district for 13 months, where he was responsible for maintaining a wide range of radar equipment for the National Air Space System. This entailed modifying and certifying radar, automation, and voice switches. As a safe-keeper of the systems that ensure air travel is safe, Myles helped support the backbone of our national airspace system.

Sadly, our community is now in mourning. On June 24, 2024, Myles passed away in a tragic accident while on his way to FAA training in Oklahoma. He is survived by his wife and their son. I offer my deepest condolences on their loss.

For his outstanding accomplishment, it is my honor to recognize Airway Transportation System Specialist Myles OConner Mauldin. His commitment to civic service and to the safety of the American people are worthy of the highest commendation. He will be missed.

RECOGNIZING LINDA BUSAM

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize Linda Busam of Peoria, Arizona.

Linda is a dedicated public servant, serving as a West-MEC Governing Board Member and in various leadership positions throughout the community. She is also a strong advocate for conservative principles and works diligently to educate and train citizens on civic engagement.

Her support for elected officials, candidates, and the Republican Party has been instrumental to their success. I am thankful for Linda's leadership and dedication to conservative principles. I sincerely appreciate her service to Congressional District 8 and the State of Arizona.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF COLONEL DOUG HOUSTON

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to take this opportunity today to honor and congratulate a distinguished member of our military on his well-deserved retirement.

Colonel Doug Houston, a native of Fort Dodge, Iowa, and an alumnus of Fort Dodge High School and Iowa State University, began his professional career as a Police Officer with the Cedar Rapids Police Department—serving from 1992 through 2002. He enlisted in the Iowa Army National Guard's Headquarters & Headquarters Company 224th Engineer Battalion in 1997 at the age of 27. Upon completion of Initial Entry Training, Doug enrolled in the Iowa Military Academy's Officer Candidate School, commissioning in August 1999, and branching Engineer. Doug led Soldiers as a Platoon Leader, served as a Company Executive Officer, Detachment Commander, and then as a Company Commander of Company

C 224th Engineer Battalion, which had armories in Mount Pleasant and Keokuk.

In October 2004, then-Captain Houston mobilized with his 111 Soldier Company in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, spent 10 weeks at Fort Sill, Oklahoma preparing for deployment, and then deploying to Camp New York in Udayir, Kuwait, and on to Camp Habbaniyah, Al-Anbar Province, Iraq in January 2005. Important to note that the Al-Anbar Province was known as the most dangerous place in the world throughout 2005 Doug's company performed a relief in place of Company C 153rd Engineer Battalion, and began conducting route clearance operations in support of the I Marine Expeditionary Force and its Ground Support Element, the 1st Marine Division, from January through March 2005, and then for the II Marine Expeditionary Force and its Ground Support Element, the 2nd Marine Division, from April to December 2005, throughout Multi-National Forces-West—known at the time as area of operation Topoka.

Colonel Houston regards his 2004–2005 deployment as the Commander of Company C 224th Engineer Battalion as a space in time which held the most impact in his career. Doug was responsible for the 111 Soldiers assigned to his company in addition to the explosive ordnance disposal and joint tactical air control teams attached to him during route clearance operations Doug's unit supported all combat units in Multi-National Forces-West during their 12 months in-theater In addition to both the 1st & 2nd Marine Divisions, Company C supported Marine Regimental Combat Teams I, 2, 7, 8, the 11th & 13th Marine Expeditionary Units, the 2nd Brigade Combat Team 2nd Infantry Division and their subordinate battalions, including the 1st Battalion 506th Infantry in Habbaniyah, the 155th Brigade Combat Team "Mississippi Rifles", and the 2nd Brigade Combat Team 28th Infantry Division, as they sought to destroy the insurgency in Al-Anbar Province. Doug's unit was engaged in combat operations throughout the Al-Anbar Province, including the cities of Anah, Baghdadi, Fallujah, Habbaniyah, Hadithah, Haqliniyah, Hit, Husaybah, Karmah, Khalidiyah, Kubaysah, Al-Qaim, Ramadi, Rawah, Rutbah, Trebel, and Waleed. In addition, Captain Houston was responsible for maintaining open lines of communication with his rear detachment Soldiers and Family Support Groups in Mount Pleasant and Keokuk.

On January 30, 2005, the Iraqi people participated in a historic event—their first free election in that Nation's history. Then-Captain Houston and a reinforced platoon of Company C engineers conducted route clearance operations on this historic date near the City of Hit, which straddles the Euphrates River, and has a population of more than 50,000. Marines from Regimental Combat Team 2 were tasked with ensuring security at polling station in Hit, and it was the mission of Doug's unit to ensure freedom of movement throughout the city by clearing the area of roadside bombs. On election day, as Doug's engineers approached the South side of Hit along the main highway, they discovered a series of roadside bombs and began investigating them with the Buffalo mine clearing vehicle's hydraulic arm. While investigating these improvised explosive devices, Doug's unit came under small arms fire from multiple locations inside the City of Hit. Several vehicles in the element were struck by

insurgent's rounds. Doug and his Soldiers located the enemy firing positions, returned engaged with small arms and crew served weapons systems, and suppressed the enemy. Within minutes, the enemy began firing 60-millimeter mortars on the convoy of vehicles which was stopped on the road as the engineers investigated the IEDs. After approximately a dozen mortars were fired with increasing accuracy, the engineer element broke contact and moved North approximately two kilometers on the highway, leaving the excavated IEDs on the roadside. Prior to leaving the Buffalo arm operator was able to secure the remote trigger for the IEDs which rendered them inoperable and essentially unexploded ordnance. Captain Houston sent two squads to go back to area and overwatch the IEDs that were left to ensure insurgents were not able to regain control of them. Over the next half hour, the engineers received additional rounds of inaccurate mortar fire. After a short period of no mortar or small arms fire, Captain Houston directed the two squads to go secure the ordnance and return to the unit's new position. The combat engineers secured four South African 155-millimeter artillery rounds which were later destroyed using C4 explosives north of Hit and away from any structures or Iraqi citizens.

This mission was a crucible moment for many in the element, as it was the first time they had received direct and indirect fire from insurgents with the express intent of killing them. They responded with precision in the most disciplined and military manner, positively identifying where the enemy was located before returning fire. The Soldiers not engaged in returning fire calmly focused on their individual responsibilities from the Buffalo arm operator to the radio operators, to the vehicle drivers scanning other sectors and prepared to take evasive action if necessary. Events of this day, and many similar moments during the deployment for Company C 224th Engineer Battalion, became the glue for a bond across this company that still endures today—nearly 20 years later. Doug maintained the leadership lessons of this deployment throughout the remainder of his career. Lessons on mission accomplishment, teamwork, motivating others, critical thinking, integrity, personal courage and many others formed the foundation for an officer who sought out difficult jobs and made a difference within the Iowa Army National Guard and the Soldiers with whom he served. Doug's legacy will continue through the many officers and enlisted he mentored throughout his career.

Captain Houston was nominated by the 224th Engineer Battalion, the 67th Troop Command, and The Adjutant General of Iowa as Iowa's nominee for the 2005 General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award. On May 17, 2006, then-Captain Houston and his family traveled to Washington, DC where Army Chief of Staff General Peter Schoomaker recognized him and seven other company grade officers from across the United States Army National Guard, and 28 total U.S. Army warrant officers, lieutenants, and captains with the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership award during a ceremony in the courtyard at the Pentagon. Recipients of the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership award demonstrate MacArthur's ideals of "Duty, Honor, Country", and have a proven record of extraordinary performance, leader-

ship and achievement Doug Houston epitomizes those ideals.

Following company command in 2007 Doug transitioned to the Iowa Army National Guard Recruiting & Retention Battalion where he served as an Operations and Training Officer—leading Non-Commissioned Officers and working the vital mission of enlisting the next generation of Soldiers. He was promoted to Major while in this position. In January 2010, Doug began a tour as the Training Officer of the 671st Troop Command. In 2012 he was assigned as the Executive Officer for The Adjutant General of Iowa and served in this capacity for 19 months. In June 2013 Doug returned to Recruiting and Retention as the Battalion Commander and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. He completed this tour in August 2015. Doug was then assigned as the Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) Manager and Human Resource/Equal Opportunity Officer for the Iowa National Guard where he was responsible for managing this part of the full-time support force of the Iowa Army and Air National Guard. In January 2018 he was reassigned as the Iowa Army National Guard Deputy Director of Personnel (G1), serving in that capacity until March of 2021 when he was selected as the Director of Personnel and promoted to Colonel. In December 2022, he was appointed as the Chief of Staff, Iowa Army National Guard as his final assignment, retiring in August 2024 with over 27 years of service.

Colonel Houston earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Iowa State University, a Master of Education from Graceland University, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. Doug's military schools include Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Arms Service and Staff School, Intermediate Level Education (ILE)-Common Core (resident), ILE-Advanced Operations Course, the Recruiting and Retention Force Leadership Course, and the U.S. Army War College. Doug and his lovely wife of 30 years, Angela, have three children, Sydney—28, Jack—26 and Evan—23. They reside in Johnston, Iowa.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and my colleagues to join me in applauding Colonel Doug Houston. Let's all extend our thanks and best wishes as he steps into his well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT
MELBA JEFFUS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Melba Jeffus of Paris, Texas, and present her with the Congressional Patriot Award. Melba has dedicated herself to faithfully serving our community.

Growing up in the Paris, Texas, Melba graduated from Paris High School in 1962 and went on to study at Paris Jr. College after graduation. Melba started her professional career as a title clerk for the Lamar County Tax Assessor in 1963. Melba then worked for Rowland Edwards Signs in Dallas and the Boy Scouts of America while her husband enlisted in the military. Upon the birth of her daughter

Jennifer, she's served as the head room mother and PTA President. Melba then went on to work at Eastfield College, from the Financial Aid department to marketing, and ended as the IT Director. Her commitment to serving the public was recognized when she was awarded the TFRW Tribute to Women Award in 2016, the Rockwall County GOP Chairman's Award in 2017, and the RCRW Woman of Influence Award in 2019.

Melba's love for her community led her to serve the public in several capacities. She's a member of the Rockwall County Republican Women's Club, where she's held several leadership roles including Hospitality Chair, Vice President, and President. She also sat on the Rockwall Architectural Review Board and the Rockwall County Tax Appraisal Board. Melba considers her faith to be very important and was heavily involved with First Presbyterian in Mesquite for over 20 years, serving on the Board of Deacons, the Board of Elders, the Fellowship Committee, the Search Committee for Minister of Music, and as Secretary for Sunday School. Today, she is a member of First Baptist of Rockwall. I commend Melba for her dedicated service to the people of our community and wish her continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Melba with the Patriot Award for her exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I was regretably unable to vote on Roll Call No. 418. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted "nay" on Roll Call No. 418.

IN MEMORY OF JACI WINSHIP

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jaci Winship.

My team and I are absolutely devastated that Jaci Winship, our Senior Community Liaison, passed away this week. Over the past decade, Jaci has faithfully served the people of Missouri's 2nd District with compassion and dedication. She has been a core part of the team from the very beginning, and her passion for her work shined through in all she did.

Jaci's commitment to helping the most vulnerable truly made our community better each and every day. She was a leader in our fight against human trafficking and in helping victims of domestic violence. Local advocates and community leaders knew they could count on her when they needed help at all hours of the day.

She had an innate desire to help others and foster a stronger, more creative, and more hardworking next generation of students. She worked with high school students and art teachers as the head of our Congressional Art Competition, she championed emerging lead-

ers in the tech space during the Congressional App Challenge, and she was a tireless advocate for students serving our Nation in United States Service Academies. The future is bright in Missouri thanks to Jaci's work pushing students to work even harder and break out of their comfort zones.

Jaci served in numerous positions throughout the Missouri Republican Party. Whether she was working on a campaign for office or leading an issue-related organization, her passion inspired others to excellence. Called by her unwavering faith to Jesus Christ, Jaci was a staunch defender of the unborn and an activist in the pro-life community. She was a champion of Israel and the Jewish community here in St. Louis where she made numerous friends and touched countless lives through her advocacy.

Jaci was a fighter for those in need, a deeply caring coworker, and a loving mother. My heart breaks knowing she is no longer with us. She made us all better people and we will be forever grateful to have known her.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MICHAEL AUGUSTINE GUTIERREZ

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Michael Augustine Gutierrez, who passed away surrounded by his loved ones at age 86.

Michael was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, family member, and friend. Born in 1938 and hailing from Brea, California, he proudly served as a private first class in the U.S. Army from 1961 to 1963. He often recalled this period of his life with humor and affection, and loved to share stories of his service.

After leaving the military, Michael spent his career working for the City of Anaheim. A gifted artist at heart, Michael loved to spend his free time painting, drawing, building models, and doing woodworking.

He also built a beautiful family alongside Virginia Gutierrez, his beloved wife with whom he shared 59 wonderful years of marriage. Michael was a loving father to his daughter, Sharon Siegel, and son, David Gutierrez, as well as a proud father-in-law to Randy Siegel. He especially cherished his role as a grandfather to his granddaughter, Anna Siegel, who brought immense joy to his life.

Michael's love for storytelling, his lively wit, and his generous spirit will be deeply missed by all who knew him. He leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and creativity that will continue to inspire those who were fortunate enough to have known him.

Please join me in celebrating the life of Michael Augustine Gutierrez, a patriot and loving father who brought love, joy, and laughter to his family and our Anaheim community.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT ANNA CAMPBELL

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Anna Campbell of Rockwall, Texas and present her with the Congressional Patriot Award. Anna has dedicated herself to faithfully serving our community.

Anna Campbell was born in the Panama Canal Zone to an American soldier and a Panamanian teacher, where she was raised until the signing of the Panama Canal Treaty. She then moved to the United States, growing up in the Florida Keys before moving to the great state of Texas in 1990. Anna is a proud graduate of Texas A&M Commerce, where she earned a double degree in English and Spanish. Now entering her 25th year as a teacher, she continues to proudly fulfill her passion for sharing her love of the Spanish language and culture, while helping students achieve their college degrees. In June 2020, Anna was appointed to, and then elected to the Rockwall City Council for 3 terms. She has also served as Council Liaison of several City Boards and continues to serve the wonderful citizens of Rockwall with honor. Her dedication to public service was recognized when she was awarded Williams Middle School Teacher of the Year, the Hawk Award-Most Influential Teacher of the Year twice, Region 10 Secondary Teacher of the year, the Multi-Cultural Secondary Teacher of the Year, and many others.

Anna's love for North Texas has motivated her to serve the public in several capacities, sitting on several boards of non-profit organizations that focus on raising money for college scholarships for the youth in our community. She's also served as a board member of the Rockwall County Republican Women's Club and has held additional leadership roles with the Boys and Girls Club. As the founding member and former President of the Rockwall County Hispanic Republican Club she actively reached out to the Spanish-speaking community in Rockwall with several forms of outreach. I commend Anna for her dedicated service to the people of our community and wish her continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Anna with the Patriot Award for her exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING FRANK RIZZO

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize Frank Rizzo of Surprise, Arizona.

Frank is a hardworking and dedicated leader with an outstanding track record of supporting the community and serving in Republican Party leadership roles. Frank is a strong advocate for conservative principles and works diligently to educate and train citizens on civic engagement.

His support for elected officials, candidates, and the Republican Party has been instrumental to their success.

I am thankful for Frank's leadership and dedication to conservative principles. I sincerely appreciate his service to Congressional District 8 and the State of Arizona.

CONGRATULATING BOB HOUSER
ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give thanks and to congratulate Bob Houser on his well-earned retirement.

2024 marks the 60th and final year that Mr. Houser is adding something sweet to the community through his Bob's Sno Balls business. The 76-year-old York County resident has been running Bob's Sno Balls since he was just 16. In his six decades running the business, Mr. Houser has become a staple in the York County community. His classic white truck and ringing bell have attracted patrons from all over the York area during the summer months.

While the summers are spent selling snow cones, Mr. Houser spends the rest of the year as an accountant. Mr. Houser remarked "I've got two professions . . . People aren't usually smiling when they come to the tax office. Sno ball truck's a whole different operation. People are happy. Kids are happy."

It has been the smiles and happiness that has brought Mr. Houser back for the past six decades. He stated that being able to make people, especially the children, happy has been his biggest joy in all his years of business.

Mr. Houser's six decades of business in York County have made a lasting impact on the communities and individuals that he has served. Generations of people have been fortunate enough to have someone like Mr. Houser in their community, not only as a business owner but as a friendly face.

It is with great pride that I congratulate Mr. Houser on his 60th year in business, and I wish him continued success and joy in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL TRUCK
DRIVING AWARD WINNER FROM
MISSISSIPPI JACKIE REED

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize fellow Mississippian Jackie Reed for his extraordinary accomplishment of winning the National Truck Driving Championships last month in Indianapolis. Jackie, from Collinsville, Mississippi, was named the Bendix Grand Champion at the 2024 Truck Driving and Step Van Championships. As we celebrate National Truck Driver Appreciation Week this week, I am honored to have the chance to recognize Jackie Reed.

Jackie has over 30 years of professional truck driving experience for FedEx and has

driven more than 3 million miles without an accident. For the third time, Jackie qualified for the National Truck Driving Championships by winning the state title at the Mississippi Truck Driving Championships.

I am proud of Jackie Reed's much-deserved recognition as the 2024 Grand Champion of the 87th National Truck Driving Championships. Jackie's record proves that he has had a career of excellence, and I am grateful for his expertise in this vital profession.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PA-
TRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT
CORBETT HOWARD

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Corbett Howard of Celina, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Corbett has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

Corbett was born in Roswell, New Mexico. He received his Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from Southern Nazarene University and graduated from Engineer Officer Candidate School in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. After graduation, Corbett commissioned in the United States Army and served with the Military Assistant Command, Vietnam (MACV) as an advisor for the South Vietnamese Army. For his meritorious service, he was awarded the Bronze Star, Air Medal, and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

Corbett was first elected to the Celina City Council in 1999. In 2002, he was elected to serve as the Mayor of Celina and was re-elected twice. Under Corbett's leadership, Celina transformed economically through increased job growth and critical business investments. As a result of his advocacy for Celina residents, he was recognized as a top influential leader in Collin County. After his tenure as mayor, Corbett served as the Executive Director of the Celina Economic Development Corporation for ten years. He also served on the Board of the Upper Trinity Regional Water District and the McKinney Urban Transit District. He is the past President of the Preston Trail Rotary Club and the current Chairman of Government Affairs for the Celina Chamber of Commerce. Corbett currently serves as the Market President of Lamar National Bank and is a board member of the Military Warriors Support Foundation, which donates homes and cars to wounded veterans. A devoted man of faith, he attends the Stonebriar Community Church in Frisco, where he has led Bible study classes for over 33 years. I am proud of the work Corbett has accomplished, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Corbett with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNION
STATION REDEVELOPMENT COR-
PORATION FUNDING ELIGIBILITY
ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to make the Union Station Redevelopment Corporation (USRC), a nonprofit, eligible for funding under the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (FSP) Program, the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program, the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Program and the National Infrastructure Project Assistance Program, also known as the Mega Program. Funding under these transportation programs is essential to implement the planned expansion and modernization of Union Station in the District of Columbia, known as the Washington Union Station Expansion Project (USEP). I am pleased Senator CHRIS VAN HOLLEN has introduced this bill in the Senate.

Union Station is owned by the federal government, and USRC manages and operates the station under a lease with the federal government. The members of USRC's board of directors are the Federal Railroad Administration, Amtrak, Federal City Council, the District of Columbia and the USRC President and CEO. USRC is the only entity exclusively dedicated to the management and operations of Union Station and therefore should be eligible for funding under the FSP Program, the CRISI Program, the RAISE Program and the Mega Program.

Union Station is a vital local, regional and national intermodal transportation hub that, pre-pandemic, welcomed more than 100,000 travelers and visitors each day—more than either Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport or Washington Dulles International Airport. Located five blocks from the U.S. Capitol, Union Station serves as a gateway to the Nation's capital, as well as the backbone that connects East Coast rail lines to the north and south. People rely on Union Station every day to get to work and to visit the Nation's capital.

Despite the vital role Union Station plays in the Nation's capital, it has not undergone major renovation since the 1980s. The USEP represents a historic transportation and economic development opportunity for the Nation's capital and the national capital region, but billions of dollars are needed to carry it out. This bill would give USRC access to critical funding.

RECOGNIZING THE GRASSROOTS
GRANDMAS

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize two special individuals in the Phoenix West Valley, Barbara Wylie and Corky Haynes, otherwise known as the "Grassroots Grandmas." Both Barbara and

Corky educate constituents on the civic engagement process and are a strong force for conservative causes across Arizona. They have been instrumental in the success of elected officials, candidates, and others in the Republican Party. During my tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives, I have been thankful for their leadership and dedication to conservative principles. I sincerely appreciate their efforts and service to Congressional District 8 and the State of Arizona.

CONGRATULATING KYLE
HOSTETTLER

HON. JERRY L. CARL
OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kyle Hostettler, a first responder and recent winner of The Atmore Advance Readers' Choice Awards. The residents honored Kyle by selecting him as their favorite first responder in the area. The award is chosen annually by the individuals residing within a 60-mile radius of Atmore, Alabama. The ceremony was held on September 10, 2024, to honor Kyle and the recent winners of these awards. Prior to attending his graduation from the Alabama Fire College in 2021, Kyle attended Coastal Alabama Community College's Brewton campus. As a first responder, Kyle bravely goes above and beyond to ensure the safety of Atmore's residents. I am honored to have such a courageous individual residing in and serving the people of the First District of Alabama. I am proud to congratulate Kyle on receiving this outstanding award.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PA-
TRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT JUDGE
TRAVIS RANSOM

HON. PAT FALLON
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge Travis Ransom of Atlanta, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Judge Ransom has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

A distinguished alumnus of Atlanta High School, Judge Ransom attended Texarkana College and earned his Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science at Texas A&M University at Texarkana. He began his career as a legislative aide in the Texas State Senate, a position he held for eleven years. Since May of 2022, Judge Ransom has served as Cass County Judge and was previously the Mayor of Atlanta, Texas, for five years. As Mayor, Judge Ransom lowered tax rates for Atlanta residents and fought for the creation of new jobs, improved public infrastructure, and increased economic development. He concurrently works as a Commercial Insurance Agent for Offenhauser Insurance and is a 27-year veteran of the United States Army Reserves. In the Army, Judge Ransom served as the Brigade Command Sergeant Major for the 505th Military Intelligence Brigade at Fort Sam Hous-

ton and deployed several times in support of peacekeeping and contingency operations around the world. When he returned from Afghanistan in July 2021, Judge Ransom was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his meritorious service.

On top of his professional career, Judge Ransom is an active leader in our community and has served in a variety of volunteer positions. He is a current member of the Executive Board for the ARK-TEX Council of Governments and is the past president of the Texarkana Regional Arts and Humanities Council and the Atlanta Lions Club. As an Eagle Scout himself and the father of a proud Eagle Scout, Judge Ransom serves on the advisory board for the Caddo Area Council Boy Scouts of America. He is a devoted man of faith and attends First Baptist Church in Atlanta with his wife, Emily, and their three children. I'm proud of the work Judge Ransom has accomplished, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Judge Ransom with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to our Nation and the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR RAYMOND
ROBERTS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Major Raymond Roberts of Denton, Texas, who passed away on August 29, 2024. With his celebration of life ceremony being held this week, I would like to share about his tremendous life of service to his country and our great state of Texas.

Since he could first walk, Ray always wanted to be a pilot, which prompted him to join the U.S. military at the young age of 14. Initially joining the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and then transitioning to the Army Air Corps, Ray spent 22 years serving in our Nation's military.

Ray's storied military career included assignments as an airman, mechanic, and flight engineer during the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War. In 1948, Ray was also one of the few pilots to fly nonstop as part of the greatest humanitarian airlift in history to carry supplies to the encircled people of West Berlin. Despite the great risks and challenges that came with supplying the necessities of food and fuel for thousands of people, he remained dedicated and committed to providing the resources necessary to sustain the men, women, and children in dire need on the ground. Ray played a pivotal role in history and the success of our military.

After leaving military service, Ray did not stop serving his community. Developing a career as an entrepreneur, corporate manager, car salesman, aviation administrator, and private pilot, he ensured our state continued to grow economically. Ray loved his country and numerous times put his life on the line for the future generations of Americans. I am glad to call him a constituent of mine and was honored to nominate his son, Brandon, for the Air Force Academy back in 2012 and see him successfully follow his father in service to his country.

May his extraordinary life be remembered by many in the 26th District of Texas and across the United States. Sending my prayers and love to his family and friends, as they celebrate his life.

HONORING THE CAREER OF TAD
WEBER

HON. JIM COSTA
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tad Weber, an esteemed journalist, and Opinion Page Editor at The Fresno Bee, on his retirement.

Mr. Weber has dedicated more than 50 years of his life to a career in journalism, of which over a decade was carried out here in Fresno at The Fresno Bee newspaper. Before coming to The Fresno Bee in 2013, Mr. Weber worked at newspapers in Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo, California. His journey eventually led him to Fresno, where he served as Metro Editor of the Fresno Bee, directing news coverage of the Central San Joaquin Valley. In 2018, Tad was promoted to the Opinion Page Editor, a position which granted him the responsibility of writing editorials shaping opinion on key issues impacts the Valley. He is known for his dedication, fairness, and well-thought-out commentaries.

Over his lengthy career, Tad earned many awards and leaves a legacy of fair and accurate news coverage. The Executive Editor of the San Luis Obispo Tribune, Sandra Duerr, describes Tad as "a key player in strengthening news coverage countywide, producing terrific journalism that has made a difference to readers and won many state and national awards." Most recently, Mr. Weber was awarded Best Editorial in Large Digital/Print for the 2024 George F. Gruner Awards for San Joaquin Valley news outlets.

Tad will enjoy his retirement in Clovis, California, with his wife Donna and adult children, Katie and John, and their family dog, Ginger.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the phenomenal career of Tad Weber. May we never forget his contributions and commitment to journalism throughout his life. We hope his legacy of excellence inspires future generations of journalists.

RECOGNIZING LOU SNIDERMAN

HON. DEBBIE LESKO
OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize Lou Sniderman of Sun City, Arizona. Lou is a hardworking and dedicated leader with an outstanding track record of supporting his community.

Lou is a strong advocate for conservative principles and works diligently to educate and train citizens on civic engagement. His support for elected officials, candidates, and the Republican Party has been instrumental to their success. I am thankful for Lou's leadership and dedication to conservative principles. I

sincerely appreciate his service to Congressional District 8 and the State of Arizona.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT
SHAWN TEAMANN

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shawn Teamann of Sherman, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Shawn has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

Growing up in the Texoma area, Shawn graduated from Anna High School in 2000. He then went on to earn his bachelor's degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University while playing football, on an academic and athletic scholarship. As a high school student, Shawn started a residential/commercial landscaping business. He took this business into college, until he acquired ownership in Nautilus Family Fitness, a local fitness center. Since that time, Shawn has expanded regionally, opening 7 locations all across North Texas. His political career was launched in 2016 when he was elected to the City Council in Sherman, Texas, where he served for 8 years. Today, he continues to serve the public as the Deputy Mayor of Sherman. His decorative career in public service features being awarded Community Leader of the Year in 2018, and the Ambassador of the Month award in March 2019 and February 2022 by the Sherman Chamber of Commerce. He was also named to the Herald Democrat's Texoma 40 under 40.

Shawn's dedication to public service includes serving as the secretary and treasurer of the Texoma Behavioral Health Leadership Team, a board member of the Sherman Kiwanis Club, an ex-officio board member of the Sherman Economic Development Corporations, a board member of the Sherman Chamber of Commerce, and a board member of the Lamar County Coalition of Business and Industry. Shawn is a proud member of Western Heights Church of Christ, where he serves on the Christians in Action team. I commend Shawn for his dedicated service to the people of our community and wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Shawn with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATION FOR THE TOWN OF HOBSON CITY, ALABAMA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Hobson City's 125th Founders' Day Celebration.

The Town of Hobson City was first known as Mooree Quarters, a Black settlement dating back to 1868 in a section of Oxford, Alabama.

In 1890, a Black man ran for Justice of the Peace in Oxford and the white mayoral candidate vowed if the Black man won, he would go to the State Capitol and have the boundary lines redrawn excluding Mooree Quarters. The Black man won the election, and in 1896 Mooree Quarters Settlement was removed from the Oxford Town limits.

According to the 1899 Alabama Constitution, to be eligible to vote, a resident had to have lived in the county of his residence for 12 months, be a male at least 21 years old, able to read and understand the Constitution, have a steady job for 12 months, own at least 40 acres of land and pay taxes among other requirements. Some Black property owners were allowed to vote in city and county elections. Twenty men responsible for the incorporation of the town qualified to vote under those terms.

For almost three years, Mooree Quarters settlement sat alone in the county. Taking matters into their own hands, a committee of citizens took their concerns to attorney Ross Black in Anniston, Alabama. Black attorneys were not allowed to practice law in Alabama during this time. The attorney advised them to incorporate the territory into their own municipality. On July 20, 1899, approximately 125 Blacks living in Mooree Quarters filed a petition with Calhoun County Probate Judge E.F. Cook to become a separate and distinct municipality. After proper legal proceedings, the town became incorporated on August 16, 1899, making it the first city in Alabama established exclusively for and by Black people. S.L. Davis was elected the first Mayor of Hobson City. Hobson City was named for Richard P. Hobson, a white Naval hero in the Spanish American War and a representative of the Alabama Legislature. Today Hobson City is under the leadership of Mayor Alberta McCrory.

This year's honorees include Dr. David Satcher, 16th Surgeon General of the United States and Alabama State Representative, Dr. Barbara Bigsby Boyd.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Hobson City's 125th Founder's Day Celebration.

HONORING PETER CARNES

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Peter Carnes.

With a passion for public service from a young age, Peter first began his extensive career in law enforcement in 1973 as a patrolman with the Wenham Police Department after receiving his associate's degree in law enforcement. Over the next two decades, Peter rose through the ranks, being promoted to sergeant in 1981 and Chief of Police in 1984. Peter continued to serve his home community as Wenham Police Chief for the next 11 years.

In 1995, Peter took on the role of Chief of Police of the Yarmouth Police Department. Throughout his 13-year tenure as Yarmouth Police Chief, Peter helped to implement greater community policing initiatives and grow the department into a technologically advanced public safety organization. After retiring from

the Yarmouth Police Department in 2008, Peter continued his career as Chief of Police and Director of Campus Safety at Stonehill College.

Seeing the challenges that many police departments on Cape Cod faced when having to send recruits to distant academies, Peter took the steps to petition the Municipal Police Training Committee to establish a police academy on the Cape and was appointed Director of the Cape Cod Regional Municipal Police Academy at Joint Base Cape Cod in 2019. The academy was a great success and was eventually replaced by a state-funded police training academy in Falmouth, MA, which Peter played a key role in developing to meet the region's need for law enforcement training.

With a commitment to expanding his knowledge on law enforcement and public safety, Peter continuously sought opportunities to further his education. Peter received his bachelor's degree from Northeastern University and master's degree from Anna Maria College in law enforcement. Additionally, Peter completed programs at Babson College's Command Training Institute, Boston University's Law Enforcement Trainers Institute, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Law Enforcement Executive Development Program.

Throughout his career, Peter was a mentor to many and a leader in the law enforcement community. Over the years, he served as President of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, Municipal Police Institute, Essex County Chiefs of Police Association, Massachusetts Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, and Cape Cod Chiefs Council. Further, Peter was active in the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Rotary Club International, as well as the Service Academy Nomination Committee for Southeastern Massachusetts.

Sadly, we lost Peter too soon on September 4, 2024, at the age of 71. Above all, Peter was a devoted husband to his wife, Karen, and father to his son, Brendan. From his decades of service in law enforcement to his unwavering dedication to supporting and advocating for the safety and well-being of his fellow officers, Peter's efforts to better the lives of those around him serves as an example to all.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Peter Carnes and ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his lifelong commitment to public safety and serving his community.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT RAY HUFFINES

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Samuel "Ray" Huffines of Plano, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Ray has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

Ray was born and raised in Texas, graduating from the Schreiner Institute in 1970. He earned a Business Management degree from Texas A&M in 1974 and was a member of the National Champion Freshman Military Drill

Team. Upon graduation, he worked at his family's car dealership until 1979. Ray felt a calling for public service and launched his political career as a fieldman for Ronald Reagan's Presidential Campaign from 1979 to 1980. After helping President Reagan win his election, Ray served as a personal assistant for Governor Bill Clements for four years, before going back to his family's Chevrolet dealership in 1984. He is proud to have played a part in expanding Huffines Auto Dealerships to ten dealerships across North Texas today.

Ray's exceptional work was recognized when he was awarded Business Executive of the Year in 2008 and Corporate Citizen of the Year in 2013 by the Plano Chamber of Commerce and was awarded Texas A&M University's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2019.

Ray's commitment to service continued through his roles with the Plano Rotary Club, Chamber and Economic Development Board. Additionally, his involvement includes board membership at Dallas Baptist University, Trinity Christian Academy, and the 12th Man Foundation for Texas A&M, to name a few. Ray is a man of faith and attends Bent Tree Bible Fellowship Church. I commend Ray for his dedicated service to the people of our community and wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Ray with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of our Nation and the people of North Texas.

COMMEMORATING THE ONE-YEAR
ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTACK
ON ARTSAKH

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the one-year anniversary of Azerbaijan's military assault on the Republic of Artsakh, which began on September 19, 2023, following its long-term blockade of the Lachin Corridor. Their unjustified use of military force resulted in the surrender of the Artsakh government and the unprecedented expulsion of over 100,000 residents from their ancestral homes.

Despite promises and assurances that there would be no such attack, Azerbaijan used the language of "anti-terrorist operations" to justify its military assault on the peaceful inhabitants of Artsakh. Yet, Azerbaijan's blockade of the region since December 12, 2022 provided a clear warning of what was to come. When Azerbaijan's military forces closed the Lachin Corridor, the narrow strip of traversable land between Artsakh and Armenia, the United Nations and U.S. officials called on the Azerbaijani government to lift the blockade, which had caused a massive region-wide humanitarian crisis. Azerbaijan refused and the blockade remained in place until September 2023 when Azerbaijan's military commenced its assault. By then, the blockade had already crippled Artsakh due to the lack of essential goods and services, including food and fuel. The blockade was so devastating in its isolation of Artsakh that its inhabitants suffered from severe malnutrition, including a fourfold increase in the number of recorded miscarriages compared to the previous year. The

blockade created such a humanitarian crisis that the International Association of Genocide Scholars warned of the risk of genocide against the Armenian population in the region.

Then came the military assault. After more than nine months of the blockade, Azerbaijan launched a military offensive on September 19, 2023. The following day, the government of Artsakh was forced to surrender to the invading force. Azerbaijan took many of the senior political leadership of the government of Artsakh as prisoners and continues to hold eight high-ranking officials of the former Republic of Artsakh, as well as several other officials and civilians. In November 2023, I introduced House Resolution 861, which calls on Azerbaijan to immediately comply with international commitments regarding the release and treatment of prisoners of war, hostages, and other detained persons. Yet, one year after its military assault, Azerbaijan continues to illegally hold the officials and civilians from Artsakh.

Additionally, since Azerbaijan's occupation of Artsakh, the risk of the intentional destruction of Armenian cultural heritage has only grown. There are nearly 500 Armenian cultural heritage sites in Artsakh and the surrounding region that have significant value to not only the global Armenian community, but also to the entire world. Yet, Azerbaijan has now embarked on a campaign to destroy these sites and erase Armenian heritage. To prevent the further destruction of these Armenian cultural heritage sites, I wrote a letter, co-signed by a bipartisan group of 47 fellow Members of the House of Representatives, to urge Secretary of State Antony Blinken to prioritize this issue in bilateral meetings with officials from the government of Azerbaijan.

However, the inescapable tragedy in this sad story is one of human suffering. The tragedy of Azerbaijan's actions one year ago can be measured in the lives that were inexplicably disrupted—over 100,000 residents who were forcibly displaced from their homes only to become refugees in neighboring Armenia. These displaced persons had homes, jobs, farms, businesses—full lives—in Artsakh. They had the ability to generate a revenue and to live with dignity in their ancestral homeland. Through no fault of their own, the Azerbaijani attack disrupted their lives, forcing them to flee to Armenia and seek shelter as refugees.

The government of Armenia has compassionately and courageously provided assistance to the refugees from Artsakh from a sense of moral duty and obligation to international norms. However, the responsibility to shoulder the costs incurred from the displacement of nearly every resident of Artsakh should fall on the government of Azerbaijan. This liability must include payments for the lost revenue that the residents of Artsakh would have generated had the attack and the subsequent displacement not occurred. To address this tragic situation, I introduced the Artsakh Revenue Recovery Act, a bill that not only places the liability for lost revenue on the government of Azerbaijan, but also establishes a mechanism by which those who lost the ability to generate revenue could receive compensation, even if the government of Azerbaijan refuses to do so. This mechanism involves the seizure of Azerbaijan's sovereign assets in the United States, and then transferring those assets to the Artsakh Revenue Recovery Fund.

The Fund will compensate the lost revenue of those who were displaced from Artsakh until Azerbaijan decides to accept the responsibility for paying compensation to these victims. The compensation is for the lost revenue from jobs and property in Artsakh and does not impact the ownership status of any property. The original property owners will continue to have the right to return to their property.

Azerbaijan must accept responsibility for the enormous humanitarian crisis that its blockade and military assault on Artsakh created. It must release the hostages and prisoners and commit to the preservation of Armenian cultural heritage. It must assure those who have property in Artsakh the ability to return to their ancestral home and to rebuild their lives and ease the suffering of refugees now. Azerbaijan must accept the responsibility to compensate lost revenue of those who left Artsakh. This compensation cannot fully address the disruption to lives. But, it is an important start to address the current suffering of those who lost so much.

On the one-year anniversary of Azerbaijan's assault on Artsakh, we remember the broken promises, the human suffering, and the continued tragedy that has fallen on those who were displaced from Artsakh. We stand with those who were forcibly displaced from Artsakh. We stand for justice.

RECOGNIZING VANCE LELLI

HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vance Lelli, who retired earlier this month from his positions as a committed longshoreman and as head of the Pierce County Central Labor Council. He also served over two decades on the Washington State Labor Council Central Committee.

The Lelli family are known for their instrumental role in attracting new businesses and economic opportunities to the Port of Tacoma and transitioning it into one of the principal ports of entry on the Pacific Coast. Vance Lelli has built upon this legacy in his own way, profoundly impacting our local longshoremen and women and the broader labor community in Washington State.

Throughout his career, Vance has been a tireless advocate for working people, championing their rights and welfare with dedication. His efforts have strengthened working conditions and are supporting working families and retirees across the state. On behalf of the thousands of union households in the South Sound, I thank Vance for his decades of service and leadership. His contributions have made a lasting difference. I wish him all the best as he begins this new chapter of his life.

Congratulations to Vance.

RECOGNIZING THE PRESIDENTIAL
SERVICE BADGE FOUNDATION

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the work of the Presidential Service Badge

Foundation, a new organization seeking to raise awareness about the importance of public service by empowering servicemembers and their families.

Through philanthropic efforts, including a newly launched scholarship fund, the Foundation seeks to raise awareness of the connection between family and our military. Additionally, the Foundation seeks to showcase the honored men and women who earn the Presidential Service Badge through non-partisan support to the Office of the President.

As the Dean of the Massachusetts and New England Delegations, I would like to join Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey in recognizing this organization and commending them for their support of those who have served our democracy. I am proud of the fact that New England is home to more Presidential Service Badge recipients than any other region in the country, with over 2,000 in Massachusetts alone. I thank them for their hard work, and I wish them many more years of success and prosperity.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT SAM PACK

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Sam Pack of Dallas, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Sam has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

Sam was born in Stephenville, Texas, and attended Tarleton State College to study business. As a young man, he worked at his family's gas station and convenience store, as well as Piggly Wiggly and Safeway. Sam began working for the Ford Motor Credit Company in 1962 and rose up the ranks to become a Branch Manager. As a result of his expertise in the automobile industry, he decided to pursue a career as a full time dealer. In February of 1980, Sam purchased Lee Jarmon Ford, now known as the Sam Pack Auto Group. For over 40 years, the Sam Pack Auto Group has continued to provide North Texas residents with excellent auto and customer care through a focus on employee success, personal growth, and community outreach.

For his outstanding entrepreneurship, Sam has received countless awards, including Business of the Year, Retailer of the Year, and the Lou Sartor Heart for the Community award. Sam Pack Auto Group won Time Magazine's Quality Dealer of the Year in 1998 and was inducted into the Ford Motor Company's Hall of Fame. In 2023, Sam earned an honorary doctorate's degree from Tarleton State University, and it has established the Dr. Sam Pack College of Business in his honor.

In addition to his professional career, Sam is involved with the Holy Angels nonprofit organization in Shreveport, Louisiana, to assist individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For over 67 years, he has been married to his wonderful wife Carol. They have two sons, Tony and Todd, and two grandchildren, Carly and Macy. A devoted man of faith, Sam attends the Good Shepherd Epis-

copal Church in Dallas. I am proud of the work Sam has accomplished, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Sam with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

IN MEMORY OF DR. SHELIA ROSS

HON. JERRY L. CARL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember a dear friend, Dr. Shelia Ross who passed away on September 13 after a hard-fought battle of cancer. As the Director of The University of South Alabama Health Stroke Program, Dr. Ross was focused on working with other health officials and community members on advocating for brain health and stroke care. She used every opportunity to educate the residents of Mobile about the functions of the brain, in specific relation to strokes. I am honored to have had such a courageous individual and friend residing in and helping the people of the First District of Alabama, and we will miss her greatly.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, due to an unforeseen matter, I was not present for one vote on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 and one vote on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 403, and YEA on Roll Call No. 419.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF NICK F. KASTRANTAS DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to recognize the honorable life of Sergeant Nicholas F. Kastrantas, a distinguished veteran, father, and artist. Mr. Kastrantas, in his military service, creative endeavors, and personal life displayed intelligence, dedication, and a commitment to fighting on behalf of the greater good.

Mr. Kastrantas was born in Pennsylvania and grew up in Greece, where he joined the Greek army and mastered the art of cartography. He returned to the U.S. in 1939 and immediately enlisted to serve his country. He was personally selected by Lieutenant Colonel James Gavin to contribute his artistic and linguistic abilities to the 505th Parachute Infantry. Mr. Kastrantas was a skilled mapmaker and spoke five languages fluently, allowing him to be an incredible asset to the 82nd Airborne Division during World War II.

Affectionately nicknamed "The Greek," he used his skills to map drop points at Nor-

mandy and completed four combat jumps in Normandy, Sicily, Salerno, and Holland as a paratrooper. His intelligence and abilities were invaluable, enabling him to create a 3-dimensional sand table map for his unit's mission on D-Day. Nick also fought in the Battle of the Bulge and earned six bronze stars, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Parachutist Badge through his heroic service.

Mr. Kastrantas settled down in Detroit, MI after the war and made a name for himself as a commercial artist. He lived a long life and left us on August 31, 2011. His legacy lives on through his daughter, Ann, and in his murals that can be found in restaurants around Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to recognize the life and service of Private Nicholas F. Kastrantas—a man who used his creativity and dedication to serve his country in its hour of need. Please join me in celebrating his wondrous life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call votes 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, and 417 on September 9, 2024, September 10, 2024, September 11, 2024, and September 12, 2024 due to illness. Had I been present, my votes would have been as follows: NAY on Roll Call No. 401; NAY on Roll Call No. 402; NAY on Roll Call No. 403; NAY on Roll Call No. 404; Yea on Roll Call No. 405; NAY on Roll Call No. 406; Yea on Roll Call No. 407; NAY on Roll Call No. 408; Yea on Roll Call No. 409; Yea on Roll Call No. 410; NAY on Roll Call No. 411; Yea on Roll Call No. 412; NAY on Roll Call No. 413; Yea on Roll Call No. 414; NAY on Roll Call No. 415; Yea on Roll Call No. 416; and NAY on Roll Call No. 417.

RECOGNIZING THE BILBY FAMILY

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bilby Family of Franklin County who has received the 2024 Angels in Adoption Award from the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute.

Each year, CCAI selects individuals across the country who are committed to improving the lives of children in need of loving homes.

The Bilby Family started their journey in 2017 and immediately recognized the need for foster parents in Kentucky. In 2019, 2-year-old James came into the family's life. Since adopting James, the Bilby Family has grown closer, and James has become an integral part of their family. Their story can serve as a blueprint for others who seek to open their homes and hearts to children in need of a forever family.

The entire 1st Congressional District of Kentucky should be proud of the Bilby Family.

Their advocacy is inspiring and will have a lasting impact in Franklin County and beyond. I thank the Bilby family for supporting and advocating for Kentucky families.

HONORING SENATOR WENDELL H. FORD

HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the great leaders in the history of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, former Governor and United States Senator Wendell H. Ford. September 8, 2024, would have been Senator Ford's 100th birthday, and the day brought back many special memories for me, my family, and countless others whose lives were improved by his lifetime of service.

Born September 8, 1924, he is the first and only Kentuckian to ever serve as a state senator, lieutenant governor, governor, and United States senator. His career started in 1965 as a state senator from his hometown of Owensboro, later saw him serve as the Commonwealth's 49th governor from 1971 to 1974, and concluded with his retirement in January 1999 after four consecutive terms in the United States Senate.

First elected to the Senate in December 1974, he served as Democratic whip from 1991 until his retirement. In the Senate, he played a key role in shaping many key pieces of legislation, including the National Voter Registration Act, the Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act of 1994, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the National Energy Security Act of 1992, the Aviation Safety and Capacity Act of 1990, the Airport and Airways Capacity Expansion Act of 1987, the Age Discrimination Act in Employment Act Amendments of 1986, the Tobacco Reform Act of 1985, and the Energy Security Act of 1977. As chairman of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, he led the Joint Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies for the inaugurations of President George H.W. Bush in 1989 and President William Jefferson Clinton in 1993 and 1997.

In reflecting on Senator Ford's long and accomplished career—and what it might mean for us today—three thoughts stand out:

First, he believed with all his heart that the sole purpose of government was to serve people, and he lived that philosophy every day in every office he held.

Second, he thought that politics was an honorable calling and that government at any level could not succeed unless individuals from all walks of life took time to become involved and engaged.

Third, coming from the state that produced Henry Clay, he recognized democracy could not work without compromise involving give and take from all sides. He was fond of saying that there are no victories in Washington, only varying degrees of defeat.

Senator Ford continued his life of service after his Senate career ended, teaching at the University of Kentucky, working with young people at the Wendell H. Ford Education Cen-

ter in Owensboro, and serving as a mentor to countless young leaders across the Commonwealth. He passed away on January 22, 2015, at the age of 90. His wife Jean celebrated her 100th birthday on March 1 of this year and still lives in the family home in Owensboro. She and Senator Ford were married 71 years before his passing.

On a personal note, I would add that one of those young people receiving Senator Ford's wise counsel was me. He was a tremendous role model for me, a close friend of my family, and someone who demonstrated the true meaning of public service. Let his lifetime commitment of service be an example for us all as we remember him on the occasion of his 100th birthday.

ANGELS IN ADOPTION—JONI CARRICO

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Joni Carrico of Graves County on being chosen as the 2024 Angel to Adoption by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute. Ms. Carrico has worked tirelessly with Hope That Binds, a nonprofit organization based out of Western Kentucky that aims to provide financial assistance for foster and adoptive families. Through Hope That Binds, a network of loving families is growing and expanding. To date, over 100 families have been assisted through the organization's fundraisers and grant program.

Throughout her time at Hope That Binds, Ms. Carrico has been a voice of advocacy in her church and community. Her service has provided much encouragement to the 1st Congressional District of Kentucky and our constituents. She remains an important voice for hopeful parents seeking to grow their home.

Ms. Carrico is an outstanding leader in Western Kentucky and her work impacts our communities daily. I thank Ms. Carrico for supporting, connecting and advocating for Kentucky families.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT GARY THOMPSON

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gary Thompson of Cooper, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Gary has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

Growing up in Lake Creek, Texas, Gary studied at the Delmar Schools and graduated from Cooper High School in 1967. He then attended East Texas State University and earned a degree in History and P.E. in 1983. Gary joined the US Navy in 1971 and served our country for over 20 years before retiring in

1995 as an E6 Petty Officer Crew Chief on a DC-9. Throughout his time in the Navy, Gary was stationed at NAS Memphis, where he was trained for 3 months, stationed at NAS Miramar in Vietnam for three and a half years and stationed at NAS Dallas during Desert Storm for three months. He continued his public service in law enforcement, serving as a Delta County Constable and Sheriff's office Investigator, and Lamar County Investigator. Today, Gary spends most of his time running his ranch.

Gary's commitment to public service continued as Commander of the American Legion, Red Henderson Post 483, where he helped initiate a local scholarship program and placed flags in local cemeteries to honor our veterans. He stays involved with his community today, sitting on the Delta County Museum Board, the Camp Shed and Mt. Joy Cemetery Board, the Red River Valley Veterans Memorial Board and the Red River Valley Tractor Club. Gary is a proud member of New Hope Church in Cooper, where he sings in the Lighthouse Gospel Quartet, and serves as the treasurer. I commend Gary for his dedicated service to the people of our community and wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Gary with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of our Nation and the people of North Texas.

APPRECIATION FOR BEA HOLDING

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to recognize former staff member Beatrice Holding for her service to the citizens of the District of South Carolina.

Beatrice was a valued team member, and both her contributions and presence will be missed. Upon graduating from the University of North Carolina, she took on staff assistant duties in the Washington Office and immediately became a welcomed, energetic face.

As the daughter of former Congressman George Holding from North Carolina, Beatrice was already familiar with the work of Congress and was able to jump directly into policy work, eventually earning her the title of Legislative Aide.

Beatrice brought a unique background to the office being a dual U.S.-U.K. citizen, always helping the staff and myself to use proper English. I offer her the best of luck as she continues her career in politics working on the campaign of North Carolina U.S. Congressional Candidate Brad Knott.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the Global War On Terrorism moves from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. We do not need new border laws. We need to enforce the existing border laws. HARRIS shamefully opens borders for dictators as more 9/11 attacks across America are imminent, as repeatedly warned by the FBI.

RECOGNIZING MR. SCOTT ORR

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a loving husband, dedicated father, seasoned legislative affairs executive, and dear friend of longstanding, Mr. Scott Orr for his nearly 42 years working at Georgia Power. Scott will be retiring after 42 years of working with the company and a reception will be held in his honor on September 18, 2024, at the Southern Company DC Office.

Scott Orr began working with Georgia Power in 1982 as an Industrial Marketing Engineer. His work touched the areas of marketing, engineering, district sales, region sales, district operations, and customer service. For the past 22 years, Scott has worked as Manager of Federal Legislative Affairs. Throughout his work at Georgia Power, Scott has worked with over 40 members of the Georgia Congressional Delegation and their staffs over multiple Congresses, advising them on a myriad of issues relative to clean, safe, reliable, and affordable energy.

Scott has made a tremendous impact in the lives of millions of Georgians. His work on the Energy Policy Act of 2005, led to the expansion of Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4—America's first new nuclear unit in 30 years. He has truly been a friend and fierce advocate for Georgia Power's 2.7 million customers. Moreover, during storms and natural disasters, Scott has been a valued source of real time information for congressional offices and our constituents. He also has been a valued resource in dealing with and navigating countless constituent service issues in mine and other Congressional offices.

It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Scott has paid his rent, and he has paid it well. His service to numerous social and civic organizations includes serving as Vice Chair of the Georgia Youth Challenge Academy Foundation's Board of Directors, the Athens Chamber of Commerce and the Classic City Kiwanis Club. Moreover, Scott has served on the boards of Southern Polytechnic State University Foundation; New Hope Enterprises; United Way of Northeast Georgia; the Athens YWCO, Athens Regional Medical Center Foundation, and the Foundation for Excellence in Public Education.

Scott has accomplished so much throughout his life and career, but none of it would have been possible without the Grace of God and the love and support of his wife, Benita; their three daughters, Whitney, Jessica, and Ansley and their families, including his five grandchildren.

Sir Winston Churchill often said: "You make your living by what you get; you make your life by what you give." Throughout his career, Mr. Scott Orr has made a concerted effort to serve as a mentor and give a helping hand to new employees at Georgia Power. His legacy of uplifting others will be felt by all those whose lives he touched in the state of Georgia, in Washington, DC, and across this great Nation.

On a personal note, I am blessed to call Scott my friend. It has been a pleasure working with Scott during my time in elective office.

He has become a close and trusted friend. Scott never told me only what I wanted to hear; he always told me what he felt I needed to hear. I will always cherish the fidelity of his friendship and the timbre of his character.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian; and me, along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in recognizing Mr. Scott Orr's over four decades of service to Georgia Power, the citizens of Georgia, and our great Nation. May God continue to bless him and his family as he moves to the next chapter of his remarkable life.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 19, 2024 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 24

10 a.m.

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine women's health care.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy
To hold hearings to examine cyberspace under threat in the era of rising authoritarianism and global competition.

SD-419

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine Novo Nordisk's high prices for Ozempic and Wegovy for patients with diabetes and obesity.

SD-562

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine conflicts of interest in Federal contracting to protect America's future, focusing on safeguarding the homeland.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Supreme Court's immunity decision.

SD-106

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Russia's shadow war on NATO.

210-CHOB

SEPTEMBER 25

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 4667, to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish the Life Sciences Research Security Board, S. 4900, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to incentivize certain preparedness measures, S. 131, to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, S. 2924, to amend title 31, United States Code, to improve the management of improper payments, S. 5067, to improve individual assistance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, S. 4898, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to include extreme heat in the definition of a major disaster, S. 3926, to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to ensure that other transaction agreements are reported to USAspending.gov, S. 4679, to amend title XLI of the FAST Act to improve the Federal permitting process, S. 3181, to designate the Air and Marine Operations Marine Unit of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection located at 101 Km 18.5 in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, as the "Michel O. Maceda Marine Unit", S. 4404, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 840 Front Street in Casselton, North Dakota, as the "Commander Delbert Austin Olson Post Office", S. 4803, 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", S. 4634, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 154 First Avenue East in Jerome, Idaho, as the "Representative Maxine Bell Post Office", H.R. 5799, to designate the checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 90 West in Uvalde County, Texas, as the "James R. Dominguez Border Patrol Checkpoint", H.R. 1823, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 East Fort Dade Avenue in Brooksville, Florida, as the "Specialist Justin Dean Coleman Memorial Post Office Building", H.R. 3354, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 North Hatcher Avenue in Purcellville, Virginia, as the "Secretary of State Madeline Albright Post Office Building", H.R. 6810, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 518 North Ridgewood Drive in Sebring, Florida, as the "U.S. Army Air Corps Major Thomas B. McGuire Post Office Building", H.R. 6983, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15 South Valdosta Road in Lakeland, Georgia, as the "Nell Patten Roquemore Post Office", H.R. 7180, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 80 1st Street in Kingsland, Arkansas, as the "Kingsland 'Johnny Cash' Post Office", H.R. 7385, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 29 Franklin Street in Petersburg, Virginia, as the

"John Mercer Langston Post Office Building", H.R. 7417, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 135 West Spring Street in Titusville, Pennsylvania, as the "Edwin L. Drake Post Office Building", H.R. 7606, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1087 Route 47 South in Rio Grande, New Jersey, as the "Carlton H. Hand Post Office Building", H.R. 7607, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at Block 1025, Lots 18 & 19, Northeast Corner of US Route 9 South and Main Street in the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, New Jersey, as the "George Henry White Post Office Building", H.R. 7893, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 306 Pickens Street in Marion, Alabama, as the "Albert Turner, Sr. Post Office Building", an original bill entitled, "Taxpayer Resources Used in Emergencies Accountability Act", an original bill entitled, "Federal Advisory Committee Database Act", an original bill entitled, "Improving Senate Confirmation and Vacancy Oversight Act", an original bill entitled, "Modernizing Data Practices to Improve Government Act", an original bill entitled, "Eliminate Congressional Records Advisory Committee Act", an original bill entitled, "Northern Border Security Enhancement and Review Act", an original bill entitled, "Plum Island Preservation Act", and an original bill entitled, "Cross-Border Tunnel Report Act".

SD-342

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Marcus D. Graham, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, and Julie Brinn Siegel, of the District of Columbia, to be a Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

SR-328A

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SD-538

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine economic risks from housing unaffordability, focusing on the costs of inaction.

SD-608

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Carl Whitney Bentzel, of Maryland, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, Thomas B. Chapman, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, and Lanhee J. Chen, of California, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors.

SR-253

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 4425, to support democracy and the rule of law in Georgia, H.R. 8282, to impose sanctions with respect to the International Criminal Court engaged in any effort to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute any protected person of the United States and its allies, and the nominations of Vivek Hallegere Murthy, of Florida, to be Representative of the United States on the Executive Board of the World Health Organization, Kristen Sarri, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, John N. Nkengasong, of Georgia, to be Ambassador-At-Large for Global Health Security and Diplomacy, Elizabeth K. Horst, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Troy Fitrell, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles, Kelly Adams-Smith, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova, Juan Carlos Iturregui, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, Jennifer D. Gavito, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the State of Libya, Tracey Ann Jacobson, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq, Joshua M. Harris, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, and Peter W. Lord, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, all of the Department of State.

S-116

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety

To hold hearings to examine preparing workers for AI.

SD-562

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To hold hearings to examine FAA oversight of Boeing's broken safety culture.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism

To hold hearings to examine sexual assault in U.S. prisons two decades after the Prison Rape Elimination Act.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 4444, to take certain mineral interests into trust for the benefit of the Crow Tribe of Montana, S. 4633, to provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, S. 4643, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Zuni Indian Tribe in the Zuni River Stream System in the State of New Mexico, to protect the Zuni Salt Lake, S. 4705, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Yavapai-Apache Nation in the State of Arizona, to authorize construction of a water project relating to those water rights claims, and S. 4998, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Navajo Nation in the Rio San Jose Stream System in the State of New Mexico.

SD-628

3 p.m.

Committee on Finance

Subcommittee on Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Growth

To hold hearings to examine providing small business relief from remote sales tax collection.

SD-215

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6611–S6145

Measures Introduced: Twenty-six bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 5077–5102, and S. Res. 824–829. **Pages S6144–45**

Measures Reported:

S. 3036, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Utah certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 118–224)

S. 616, to amend the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act to provide for the transfer of additional Federal land to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 118–225) **Page S6144**

Measures Passed:

National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 829, designating October 8, 2024, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”. **Page S6150**

Intergovernmental Critical Minerals Task Force Act: Senate passed S. 1871, to create intergovernmental coordination between State, local, Tribal, and territorial jurisdictions, and the Federal Government to combat United States reliance on the People’s Republic of China and other covered countries for critical minerals and rare earth metals, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6184–85**

Hassan (for Peters) Amendment No. 3288, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6182–85**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, with respect to who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism; which was

referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–62) **Page S6141**

Jenkins Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, September 19, 2024, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Rose E. Jenkins, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court; and that the motion to invoke cloture with respect to the nomination ripen at 1:45 p.m. **Pages S6185–86**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 49 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 245), Michelle Williams Court, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Page S6132**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 244), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S6122**

By 50 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 246), Margaret L. Taylor, of Maryland, to be Legal Adviser of the Department of State. **Page S6133**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S6186–89**

Messages from the House: **Page S6141**

Measures Referred: **Page S6142**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S6142**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6142–44**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6145–46**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S6144**

Additional Statements: **Page S6140**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S6150**

Notices of Intent: **Page S6184**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S6184**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S6184**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—246) **Pages S6122, S6132–33, S6133.**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:22 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, September 19, 2024. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6186.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM AND SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Subcommittee on Food and Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics, and Research concluded a hearing to examine keeping kids learning in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program, after receiving testimony from Kay Rentzel, Chair, Department of Agriculture Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee, Dillsburg, Pennsylvania; Russell C. Redding, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Secretary, Harrisburg, on behalf of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture; Crystal FitzSimons, Food Research and Action Center, Washington, D.C.; Evora Nichole Taylor, Chichester School District, Upper Chichester, Pennsylvania; and Meg Bruening, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park.

TAX REFORM

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Policy concluded a hearing to examine the macroeconomic impacts of potential tax reform in 2025, after receiving testimony from Kitty Richards, Groundwork Collaborative, Washington, D.C.; and Ai-jen Poo, National Domestic Workers Alliance, New York, New York.

AVIATION CYBERSECURITY THREATS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine aviation cybersecurity threats, after receiving testimony from Brigadier General Marty Reynolds, USAF (Ret.), Airlines for America, and John Breyault, National Consumers League, both of Washington, D.C.; and Lance Lyttle, Port of Seattle, SeaTac, Washington.

REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine America's regional commissions, focusing on sharing best practices in regional and economic development, after receiving testimony from Cory Wiggins, Federal Co-Chair, Delta Regional Authority, Clarksville, Mis-

issippi; Jennifer Clyburn Reed, Federal Co-Chair, Southeast Crescent Regional Commission, Columbia, South Carolina; Chris Saunders, Federal Co-Chair, Northern Border Regional Commission, Burlington, Vermont; Juan Sanchez, Federal Co-Chair, Southwest Border Regional Commission, Las Cruces, New Mexico; and Jocelyn Fenton, Interim Federal Co-Chair, Denali Commission, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 4373, to provide for congressional approval of national emergency declarations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 4711, to limit the consideration of marijuana use when making an employment suitability or security clearance determination, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 4681, to ensure a timely, fair, meaningful, and transparent process for individuals to seek redress because they were wrongly identified as a threat under the screening and inspection regimes used by the Department of Homeland Security, to require a report on the effectiveness of enhanced screening programs of the Department of Homeland Security, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 4043, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make executive agency telework policies transparent, to track executive agency use of telework, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 4676, to enhance the effectiveness of the Shadow Wolves Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 4700, to modify the governmentwide financial management plan, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 4419, to require the Science and Technology Directorate in the Department of Homeland Security to develop greater capacity to detect, identify, and disrupt illicit substances in very low concentrations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 7219, to ensure that Federal agencies rely on the best reasonably available scientific, technical, demographic, economic, and statistical information and evidence to develop, issue or inform the public of the nature and bases of Federal agency rules and guidance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 7524, to amend title 40, United States Code, to require the submission of reports on certain information technology services funds to Congress before expenditures may be made;

H.R. 272, to amend title 31, United States Code, to authorize transportation for Government astronauts returning from space between their residence and various locations;

H.R. 4403, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make improvements to the Securing the Cities program; and

H.R. 5887, to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to improve Government service delivery, and build related capacity for the Federal Government.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 2695, to amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, with an amendment;

S. 3857, to take certain land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Jamul Indian Village of California, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 4442, to amend the Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2010 to make improvements to that Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; 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.

NOMINATION

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Patrice H. Kunesh, of Minnesota, to be Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission, after the nominee testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

RURAL SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine streamlining and coordinating support for rural small businesses, including S. 1411, to amend title 5, United States Code, to require greater transparency for Federal regulatory decisions that impact small businesses, and S. 4764, to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Rural Affairs, after receiving testimony from Grant Menke, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Des Moines; Cara Lank, Stone Bank, Little Rock, Arkansas, on behalf of the National Rural Lenders Association; Zach Luse, Paragon Digital Marketing, Keene, New Hampshire; and Verlin Barker, First Community Bank, Newell, Iowa.

VA BUDGET CHALLENGES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine current and future VA budget challenges, focusing on providing for veterans, after receiving testimony from Shereef Elnahal, Under Secretary for Health, Veterans Health Administration, and Joshua Jacobs, Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

FOREIGN THREATS TO ELECTIONS

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine foreign threats to elections in 2024, focusing on roles and responsibilities of U.S. tech providers, after receiving testimony from Kent Walker, Google and Alphabet, Mountain View, California; Nick Clegg, Meta, Menlo Park, California; and Brad Smith, Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, Washington.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 28 public bills, H.R. 9644–9671; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 1462–1468, were introduced. **Pages H5445–46**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5448–49**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 8674, to establish milestone-based development and demonstration projects relating to nuclear fuel, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–686);

H.R. 9459, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enable secure and trustworthy technology through other transaction contracting authority, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–687);

H.R. 9460, to authorize the Joint Task Forces of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–688);

H.R. 6474, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expedite geothermal exploration and development in previously studied or developed areas (H. Rept. 118–689); and

H.R. 6969, to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to procure a statue of Benjamin Franklin for placement in the Capitol (H. Rept. 118–690).

Page H5445

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Thompson (PA) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H5323

Recess: The House recessed at 10:47 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m.

Page H5328

Recess: The House recessed at 1:16 p.m. and reconvened at 1:31 p.m.

Page H5338

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Tuesday, September 17th. Find and Protect Foster Youth Act: S. 1146, to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to identify obstacles to identifying and responding to reports of children missing from foster care and other vulnerable foster youth, to provide technical assistance relating to the removal of such obstacles, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 408 yeas to 7 nays, Roll No. 422;

Pages H5340–41

Protecting America's Children by Strengthening Families Act: H.R. 9076, amended, to reauthorize and modernize part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to strengthen child welfare services, expand the availability of prevention services to better meet the needs of vulnerable families, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 405 yeas to 10 nays, Roll No. 423;

Page H5341

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To reauthorize child welfare programs under part B of title IV of the Social Security Act and strengthen the State and tribal child support enforcement program under part D of such title, and for other purposes”;

Page H5342

Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education, and Support Act of 2024: H.R. 7213, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to [enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism/reauthorize certain programs with respect to autism spectrum disorder?], by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 402 yeas to 13 nays, Roll No. 424;

Page H5342

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and reauthorize activities and programs relating to autism spectrum disorder, and for other purposes”;

Page H5342

Future Uses of Technology Upholding Reliable and Enhanced Networks Act: H.R. 1513, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to estab-

lish a task force to be known as the “6G Task Force”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 393 yeas to 22 nays, Roll No. 425.

Pages H5342–43

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Horsford wherein he resigned from the Committee on Financial Services.

Page H5354

Roll back ESG To Increase Retirement Earnings Act: The House passed H.R. 5339, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to specify requirements concerning the consideration of pecuniary and non-pecuniary factors, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 217 yeas to 206 nays, Roll No. 427.

Pages H5370–72

Rejected the Kildee motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Education and the Workforce by a yeas-and-nays vote of 206 yeas to 213 nays, Roll No. 426.

Pages H5370–71

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–50 shall be considered as adopted, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill.

Pages H5329–39

H. Res. 1455, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3724), (H.R. 4790), (H.R. 5179), (H.R. 5339), (H.R. 5717), and (H.R. 7909) and the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 136) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 214 yeas to 200 nays, Roll No. 421, after the previous question was ordered by a yeas-and-nays vote of 206 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 420.

Page H5339

Anti-BDS Labeling Act: The House passed H.R. 5179, to require the maintenance of the country of origin markings for imported goods produced in the West Bank or Gaza, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 231 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 428.

Page H5372

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted.

Pages H5329–38

H. Res. 1455, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3724), (H.R. 4790), (H.R. 5179), (H.R. 5339), (H.R. 5717), and (H.R. 7909) and the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 136) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 214 yeas to 200 nays, Roll No. 421, after the previous question was ordered by a yeas-and-nays vote of 206 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 420.

Pages H5339–40

Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act: The House passed H.R. 7909, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed sex offenses or domestic violence are inadmissible

and deportable, by a yea-and-nay vote of 266 yeas to 158 nays, Roll No. 429. **Pages H5372–73**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–47 shall be considered as adopted, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill. **Pages H5329–38**

H. Res. 1455, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3724), (H.R. 4790), (H.R. 5179), (H.R. 5339), (H.R. 5717), and (H.R. 7909) and the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 136) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 214 yeas to 200 nays, Roll No. 421, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 206 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 420. **Pages H5339–40**

Continuing Appropriations and Other Matters Act, 2025: The House failed to pass H.R. 9494, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2025, by a yea-and-nay vote of 202 yeas to 220 nays with two answering “present”, Roll No. 431.

Page H5374

Rejected the DeLauro motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations by a yea-and-nay vote of 209 yeas to 214 nays, Roll No. 430.

Pages H5373–74

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment printed in part D of the report of H. Rept. 118–656 shall be considered as adopted. **Page H5358**

H. Res. 1430, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 1398), (H.R. 1425), (H.R. 1516), (H.R. 7980), (H.R. 9456), and (H.R. 9494) was agreed to Tuesday, September 10th.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—Communication: Read a letter from Chairman Graves wherein he transmitted copies of eleven resolutions included in the General Services Administration’s Capital Investment and Leasing Programs. The resolutions were adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on September 18, 2024. **Pages H5374–75**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, as amended is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2024—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 118–168). **Pages H5353–54**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Eleven yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5339, H5340, H5340–41, H5341, H5342, H5342–43,

H5370–71, H5371–72, H5372, H5372–73, H5373–74 and H5374.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Committee Meetings

INSPECTORS GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on Inspectors General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Transportation, and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak). Testimony was heard from Rae Oliver Davis, Inspector General, Department of Housing and Urban Development; Eric J. Soskin, Inspector General, Department of Transportation; and Kevin H. Winters, Inspector General, National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak).

THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON THE NATIONAL DEFENSE STRATEGY

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Findings and Recommendations of the Commission on the National Defense Strategy”. Testimony was heard from Eric Edelman, Vice Chairman, Commission on the National Defense Strategy; and Jane Harman, Chairwoman, Commission on the National Defense Strategy.

EXAMINING THE BIDEN-HARRIS ATTACKS ON TIPPED WORKERS

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “Examining the Biden-Harris Attacks on Tipped Workers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 3433, the “Give Kids a Chance Act”; H.R. 7188, the “Shandra Eisenga Human Cell and Tissue Product Safety Act”; H.R. 670, the “Think Differently Database Act”; H.R. 8107, the “Ensuring Access to Medicaid Buy-in Programs Act of 2024”; H.R. 8108, to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to add a Medicaid State plan requirement with respect to the determination of residency of certain individuals serving in the Armed Forces; H.R. 7623, the “Telehealth

Modernization Act of 2024”; H.R. 3227, the “Ensuring Seniors’ Access to Quality Care Act”; H.R. 9067, the “Building America’s Health Care Workforce Act”; H.R. 7890, the “Children and Teens’ Online Privacy Protection Act”; H.R. 7891, the “Kids Online Safety Act”; H.R. 8449, the “AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act”; H.J. Res. 139, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services relating to “Medicare and Medicaid Programs: Minimum Staffing Standards for Long-Term Care Facilities and Medicaid Institutional Payment Transparency Reporting”; H.J. Res. 163, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “New Source Performance Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From New, Modified, and Reconstructed Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Existing Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; and Repeal of the Affordable Clean Energy Rule”; H.J. Res. 133, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards for Heavy-Duty Vehicles-Phase 3”; H.J. Res. 117, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Reconsideration of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter”. H.J. Res. 139, H.J. Res. 163, H.J. Res. 133, H.J. Res. 117 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 3433, H.R. 7188, H.R. 670, H.R. 8107, H.R. 8108, H.R. 7623, H.R. 3227, H.R. 9067, H.R. 7890, H.R. 8449, and H.R. 7891 were ordered reported, as amended.

DAZED AND CONFUSED: BREAKING DOWN THE SEC’S POLITICIZED APPROACH TO DIGITAL ASSETS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Digital Assets, Financial Technology and Inclusion held a hearing entitled “Dazed and Confused: Breaking Down the SEC’s Politicized Approach to Digital Assets”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PROTECTING AMERICANS’ SAVINGS: EXAMINING THE ECONOMICS OF THE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR ROMANCE CONFIDENCE SCAM INDUSTRY

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions held a hearing entitled “Protecting Americans’ Savings: Examining the Econom-

ics of the Multi-Billion Dollar Romance Confidence Scam Industry”. Testimony was heard from Dara Daniels, Associate Director, Research and Analysis Division, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury; Matthew Noyes, Cyber Policy and Strategy Director, U.S. Secret Service, Department of Homeland Security; Scott Rembrandt, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Policy, Office of Terrorist Finance and Financial Crimes, Department of the Treasury; and Erin West, Deputy District Attorney, Santa Clara County, California.

GREAT POWER COMPETITION IN THE INDO-PACIFIC

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Great Power Competition in the Indo-Pacific”. Testimony was heard from Kurt Campbell, Deputy Secretary of State, Department of State.

A COUNTRY WITHOUT BORDERS: HOW THE BIDEN-HARRIS OPEN BORDERS POLICIES HAVE UNDERMINED OUR SAFETY AND SECURITY

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “A Country Without Borders: How the Biden-Harris Open Borders Policies Have Undermined Our Safety and Security”. Testimony was heard from Jim Desmond, Board of Supervisors, San Diego County, California; David Hathaway, Santa Cruz County, Arizona; and public witnesses.

CONTINUITY OF CONGRESS: PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE BY LEARNING FROM THE PAST

Committee on House Administration: Subcommittee on Modernization held a hearing entitled “Continuity of Congress: Preparing for the Future by Learning from the Past”. Testimony was heard from Representative Wenstrup; Rebecca Gambler, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; Eric Petersen, Specialist in American National Government, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and a public witness.

OVERSIGHT OF HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance held a hearing entitled “Oversight of Homeland Security Investigations”. Testimony was heard from Katrina Berger, Executive Associate Director, Homeland Security Investigations, Department of Homeland Security.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing on H.R. 1479, the “Chiricahua National Park Act”; H.R. 1504, the “Apex Area Technical Corrections Act”; H.R. 8931, to redesignate Saratoga National Historical Park as Saratoga National Battlefield Park; H.R. 8946, the “Reversionary Interest Conveyance Act”; H.R. 9159, the “Appalachian Trail Centennial Act”; H.R. 9492, to amend Public Law 99–338 with respect to Kaweah Project permits; H.R. 9516, the “Military Families National Parks Access Enhancement Act”; and S. 612, the “Lake Tahoe Restoration Reauthorization Act”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Ciscomani, Horsford, Valadao, and Chavez-DeRemer; Jacqueline Emanuel, Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Mike Caldwell, Associate Director, Park Planning, Facilities, and Lands, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Pamela Goynes-Brown, Mayor, North Las Vegas, Nevada; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 3642, to require the Office of Government Ethics to establish and maintain a centralized database for executive branch ethics records of noncareer appointees; H.R. 9598, to amend the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act to reauthorize such Office, and for other purposes; H.R. 9592, to amend title 44, United States Code, to modernize the Federal Register, and for other purposes; H.R. 5300, to amend provisions relating to the Office of the Inspector General of the Government Accountability Office, and for other purposes; H.R. 9597, to amend title 41, United States Code, to make changes with respect to the Federal Acquisition Security Council, and for other purposes; H.R. 9596, to amend title 41, United States Code, and title 10, United States Code, to provide best value through the multiple award schedule program, and for other purposes; H.R. 9595, to improve Federal technology procurement, and for other purposes; H.R. 9566, to require governmentwide source code sharing, and for other purposes; H.R. 5536, to require transparency in notices of funding opportunity, and for other purposes; H.R. 9594, to amend chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code, to charge labor organizations for the agency resources and employee time used by such labor organizations, and for other purposes; H.R. 9593, to require annual surveys of Federal employee managers, and for other purposes; H.R. 8784, 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; H.R. 825, to prohibit contracting with persons that have business operations with the Maduro regime, and for other purposes; H.R. 7507, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 203 East 6th Street in Lexington, Nebraska, as the “Bill Barrett Post Office Building”; H.R. 6116, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14280 South Military Trail in Delray Beach, Florida, as the “Benjamin Berell Ferencz Post Office Building”; H.R. 7158, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 East Battles Road in Santa Maria, California, as the “Larry Lavagnino Post Office Building”; H.R. 7508, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1285 Emancipation Highway in Fredericksburg, Virginia, as the “Gladys P. Todd Post Office”; H.R. 8057, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9317 Bolsa Avenue in Westminster, California, as the “Little Saigon Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Post Office”; H.R. 8405, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 McCamly Street South in Battle Creek, Michigan, as the “Sojourner Truth Post Office”; H.R. 8516, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 840 Front Street in Casselton, North Dakota, as the “Commander Delbert Austin Olson Post Office”; H.R. 8717, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 West Main Street in Santaquin, Utah, as the “SGT Bill Hooser Post Office Building”; H.R. 8841, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Center Street East in Roseau, Minnesota, as the “Floyd B. Olson Post Office”; H.R. 8868, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 609 Portsmouth Avenue in Greenland, New Hampshire, as the “Chief Michael Maloney Post Office Building”; H.R. 8909, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 82–6110 Mamalahoa Highway in Captain Cook, Hawaii, as the “Army 1st Lt. John Kuulei Kauhahao Post Office Building”; H.R. 8919, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 151 Highway 74 South in Peachtree City, Georgia, as the “SFC Shawn McCloskey Post Office”; H.R. 8976, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 West White Street in Millstadt, Illinois, as the “Corporal Matthew A. Wyatt Post Office”; H.R. 9174, 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”; H.R. 9285, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3913 Leland

Avenue Northwest in Comstock Park, Michigan, as the “Captain Miguel Justin Nava Post Office”; H.R. 9322, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 675 Wolf Ledges Parkway in Akron, Ohio, as the “Judge James R. Williams Post Office Building”; H.R. 9421, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 North Main Street in Bucoda, Washington, as the “Mayor Rob Gordon Post Office”; H.R. 9549, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 125 South 1st Avenue in Hillsboro, Oregon, as the “Elizabeth Furse Post Office Building”; H.R. 9580, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2777 Brentwood Road in Raleigh, North Carolina, as the “Millie Dunn Veasey Post Office”; H.R. 8641, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 Main Street in Brawley, California, as the “Walter Francis Ulloa Memorial Post Office Building”; and H.R. 9600, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 119 Main Street in Plains, Georgia, as the “Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Post Office”. H.R. 3642, H.R. 9598, H.R. 9598, H.R. 9598, H.R. 9592, H.R. 5300, H.R. 9597, H.R. 9596, H.R. 9595, H.R. 9566, H.R. 5536, H.R. 9594, H.R. 9593, H.R. 8784, H.R. 825 and H.R. 7507 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 6116, H.R. 7158, H.R. 7508, H.R. 8057, H.R. 8405, H.R. 8516, H.R. 8717, H.R. 8841, H.R. 8868, H.R. 8909, H.R. 8919, H.R. 8976, H.R. 9174, H.R. 9285, H.R. 9322, H.R. 9421, H.R. 9549, H.R. 9580, H.R. 8641, and H.R. 9600 were ordered reported, without amendment.

HOLDING THE SBA ACCOUNTABLE: TESTIMONY FROM SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR GUZMAN

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Holding the SBA Accountable: Testimony from Small Business Administrator Guzman”. Testimony was heard from Isabella Casillas Guzman, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 8689, the “Amtrak Executive Bonus Disclosure Act”; H.R. 3149, to designate United States Route 20 in the States of Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts as the “National Medal of Honor Highway”, and for other purposes; H.R. 3988, the “Assuring that Robust, Thorough, and Informed Congressional Leadership is Exercised Over National Emergencies Act”; H.R. 6435, the “Making Aid for

Local Disasters Equal Now Act”; H.R. 2672, the “FEMA Loan Interest Payment Relief Act”; H.R. 6997, the “Disaster Contract Improvement Act”; H.R. 8530, the “Improving Federal Building Security Act of 2024”; H.R. 2892, the “Weather Alert Response and Notification Act”; H.R. 6984, to designate the Federal building located at 300 E. 3rd Street in North Platte, Nebraska, as the “Virginia Smith Federal Building”, and for other purposes; H.R. 8692, the “Amtrak Transparency and Accountability for Passengers and Taxpayers Act”; H.R. 9135, the “Ensuring Airline Resiliency to Reduce Delays and Cancellations Act”; H.R. 8995, the “Baby Changing on Board Act”; H.R. 4043, to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to expand eligibility for certain wastewater infrastructure grants, and for other purposes; H.R. 9037, the “Federal Emergency Mobilization Accountability (FEMA) Workforce Planning Act”; H.R. 9541, the “Promoting Opportunities to Widen Electrical Resilience Act of 2024”; H.R. 3356, the “Motor Carrier Safety Screening Modernization Act”; H.R. 8505, the “Household Goods Shipping Consumer Protection Act”; H.R. 7779, the “Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024”; H.R. 1720, the “Ocean Pollution Reduction Act II”; H.R. 8728, the “State-Managed Disaster Relief Act”; H.R. 1605, the “Natural Disaster Recovery Program Act of 2023”; H.R. 8616, the “Ensuring Quality Investments in Preparedness Act of 2024”; H.R. 9121, the “Fire Management Assistance Grants for Tribal Governments Act”; H.R. 5623, the “Addressing Addiction After Disasters Act”; H.R. 6083, the “Duplications of Benefits Victims Relief Act”; H.R. 9313, the “Think Differently About Building Accessibility Act”; H.R. 9024, the “Extreme Weather and Heat Response Modernization Act”; H.R. 8610, the “Counter-UAS Authority Security, Safety, and Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 9591, to require the Administrator of General Services to sell certain property related to United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, and for other purposes; H.R. 5623, the “Addressing Addiction After Disasters Act”; H.R. 9024, the “Extreme Weather and Heat Response Modernization Act”; and 11 General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions. H.R. 8689, H.R. 3988, H.R. 8692, H.R. 9135, H.R. 3356, H.R. 8505, H.R. 7779, H.R. 1720, H.R. 8728, H.R. 5623, H.R. 9024, H.R. 8610, H.R. 2892, H.R. 8616, and H.R. 4043 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 3149, H.R. 2672, H.R. 6997, H.R. 8530, H.R. 6984, H.R. 9591, H.R. 8995, H.R. 9541, H.R. 9121, H.R. 6083, H.R. 9313, H.R. 6435, and H.R. 9037 were ordered reported, without amendment. Eleven GSA

Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions were agreed to. H.R. 1605 was not agreed to.

EXAMINING VA'S CHALLENGES WITH ENSURING QUALITY CONTRACTED DISABILITY COMPENSATION EXAMINATIONS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled "Examining VA's Challenges with Ensuring Quality Contracted Disability Compensation Examinations". Testimony was heard from Jeffrey London, Executive Director, Medical Disability Examination Office, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Elizabeth Curda, Director Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; and a public witness.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a markup on H.R. 9496, to amend title 38, United States Code, to include a representative of the National Association of State Veterans Homes on the Geriatrics and Gerontology Advisory Committee of the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 9324, the "Protecting Veteran Access to Telemedicine Services Act of 2024"; H.R. 9478, the "Veterans Supporting Prosthetics Opportunities and Recreational Therapy Act"; H.R. 9525, the "Service Dogs Assisting Veterans Act"; H.R. 7504, the "Rural Veterans Transportation to Care Act"; H.R. 9301, the "New Mexico Rural Veteran Health Care Access Act"; H.R. 9485, the "Enhancing Faith-Based Support for Veterans Act of 2024"; H.R. 9438, the "No Wrong Door for Veterans Act"; H.R. 9146, the "Ensuring Continuity in Veterans Health Act"; and H.R. 8562, the "Parity for Native Hawaiian Veterans Act". H.R. 9496, H.R. 9324, H.R. 9478, H.R. 9525, H.R. 7504, H.R. 9301, H.R. 9485, H.R. 9146, and H.R. 8562 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment. H.R. 9438 was forwarded to the full Committee, as amended.

DIAL 988+1: EXAMINING THE OPERATIONS OF THE VETERANS CRISIS LINE

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled "Dial 988+1: Examining the Operations of the Veterans Crisis Line". Testimony was heard from Matthew Miller, Executive Director, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Julie Kroviak, M.D., Principal Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Healthcare Inspections, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs.

INVESTING IN A HEALTHIER AMERICA: CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled "Investing in a Healthier America: Chronic Disease Prevention and Treatment". Testimony was heard from former Senator Bill Frist and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

RUSSIA'S IMPERIAL IDENTITY

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine Russia's imperial identity, after receiving testimony from Botakoz Kassymbekova, University of Basel; Philip Obaji Jr., The Daily Beast; Timothy Snyder, Yale University; and Maria Vyushkova, Buryat activist and scientist.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change, and Manufacturing, to hold hearings to examine Coast Guard drug interdiction and enforcement in the maritime environment, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine fusion energy technology development and commercialization efforts, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of John W. McIntyre, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Eswatini, Jeremy Neitzke, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Lesotho, Abigail L. Dressel, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Angola, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, James Holtsnider, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the Independent State of Samoa, Brian K. Stimmler, of Nebraska, to be Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic, Amanda S. Jacobsen, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, Keith D. Hanigan, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Solomon Islands, and Kali C. Jones, of Louisiana, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Benin, all of the Department of State, 10:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider an original resolution directing the Senate Legal Counsel to bring a civil action to enforce a subpoena of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, an original resolution authorizing the President of the Senate to certify the report of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate regarding the refusal of Dr. Ralph

de la Torre to appear and testify before the Committee, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 1306, to reauthorize the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, S. 2220, to amend title 35, United States Code, to invest in inventors in the United States, maintain the United States as the leading innovation economy in the world, and protect the property rights of the inventors that grow the economy of the United States, S. 2140, to amend title 35, United States Code, to address matters relating to patent subject matter eligibility, S. 4713, to amend chapter 11 of title 35, United States Code, to require the voluntary collection of demographic information for patent inventors, S. 2082, to make technical corrections relating to the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act, and the nominations of Ryan Young Park, of North Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Byron B. Conway, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, Jonathan E. Hawley, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois, April M. Perry, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, Gail A. Weilheimer, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and Joseph R. Adams, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of West Virginia, David L. Lemmon II, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of West Virginia, and Bobby Jack Woods, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Kentucky, all of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine how scammers are stealing from older adults, focusing on fighting fraud, 10 a.m., SD-106.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing entitled “Oversight of Extremism Policies in the Army”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Cost of the Biden-Harris Energy Crisis”, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials, hearing entitled “Holding the Biden-Harris EPA Accountable for Radical Rush-to-Green Spending”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce, hearing entitled “Federal Trade Commission Practices: A Discussion on Past Versus Present”, 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia, hearing entitled “Israel and the Middle East at a Crossroads: How Tehran’s Terror Campaign Threatens the U.S. and our Allies”, 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Accountability, hearing entitled “Money is Policy, Part II: Analyzing Select State Department Grant Awards”, 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, 2024, Subcommittee on Counterterrorism, Law Enforcement, and Intelligence; and

Subcommittee on Border Security and Enforcement, joint hearing entitled “Beyond the Border: Terrorism and Homeland Security Consequences of Illegal Immigration”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on Ratification of Subcommittee Assignments; H.J. Res. 144, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Department of Justice, relating to “Definition of ‘Engaged in the Business’ as a Dealer in Firearms”; H.R. 115, the “Midnight Rules Relief Act of 2023”; H.R. 358, the “Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act”; H.R. 8205, the “Keeping Violent Offenders Off Our Streets Act”; H.R. 8666, to amend title 28, United States Code, to authorize holding court for the Central Division of Utah in Moab and Monticello; H.R. 7177, to amend title 28, United States Code, to consolidate certain divisions in the Northern District of Alabama; and H.R. 9605, the “No Censors on our Shores Act”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3283, the “Facilitating DIGITAL Applications Act”; H.R. 4235, the “Wildfire Technology DEMO Act”; H.R. 5103, the “FISHES Act”; H.R. 6012, the “Fire Safe Electrical Corridors Act of 2023”; H.R. 6085, to prohibit the implementation of the Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Rock Springs RMP Revision, Wyoming; H.R. 6107, the “Urban Canal Modernization Act”; H.R. 6547, the “Colorado Energy Prosperity Act”; H.R. 6826, to designate the visitor and education center at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine as the Paul S. Sarbanes Visitor and Education Center; H.R. 6843, to expand the boundaries of the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area to include Lafourche Parish, Louisiana; H.R. 7332, the “Utah State Parks Adjustment Act”; H.R. 8219, the “Lahaina National Heritage Area Act”; H.R. 8413, the “Swanson and Hugh Butler Reservoirs Land Conveyances Act”; H.R. 8704, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to foster enhanced coexistence between ocean users and North Atlantic right whales and other large cetacean species; H.R. 8811, the “America’s Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act of 2024”; H.R. 9533, the “ESA Amendments Act of 2024”; and S. 612, the “Lake Tahoe Restoration Reauthorization Act”, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Full Committee, hearing entitled “A Legacy of Incompetence: Consequences of the Biden-Harris Administration’s Policy Failures”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day Hearing on Proposed Rules Changes for the 119th Congress”, 10 a.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Environment; and Subcommittee on Energy, joint hearing entitled “Navigating the Blue Frontier: Evaluating the Potential of Marine Carbon Dioxide Removal Approaches”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, hearing entitled “VA’s Open Cash Register: Fraud, Waste, Abuse and Revenue Operations”, 9 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, Full Committee, hearing entitled “How the CCP Uses the Law to Silence Critics and Enforce its Rule”, 9:15 a.m., HVC–210.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, September 19

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Rose E. Jenkins, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 1:45 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, September 19

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: To be announced.

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