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House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

Pastor Frank Rice, Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Hookerton, North Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Father, I love You and I thank You for the privilege of being an American. I am thankful to live in a nation whose Founders understood the importance of the providence of God, if our country would succeed.

It was Benjamin Franklin who reminded his countrymen at the constitutional convention:

"If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without [H]is notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without [H]is aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings that 'except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.'"

So this morning, I ask You, Heavenly Father, to guide our elected officials of this 119th Congress as they continue to be tools used by You to build the house.

Please grant them wisdom, guidance, boldness, empathy, protection, stamina, and courage as they represent us in these sacred Halls. May they live each day by the motto, "Duty is ours, results are God's."

I ask all of this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. WIED led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

WELCOMING PASTOR FRANK RICE

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, with honor I stand before you to introduce Pastor Frank Rice, an extraordinary man of faith and a true pillar in our community.

Originally from West Virginia, he felt God's call on his life at the age of 13. He dedicated his youth to studying theology, and it was at Southeastern College where he met the love of his life, Genell. Together they were blessed with four wonderful children.

For 25 years, Pastor Rice has devoted his life to ministry in eastern North Carolina, including the past 12 years as the senior pastor at Mount Calvary Free Will Baptist Church and administrator of Mount Calvary Christian Academy in Hookerton, North Carolina.

However, his work doesn't stop there. Hailing from a long line of veterans, Pastor Rice has a deep commitment to our men and women in uniform, constantly reaching out to offer them God's Word.

He is also known for God and Country Day to honor the first responders: fire and rescue, EMS, law enforcement, government officials, and all branches of the military.

I am incredibly proud to call Pastor Rice a beloved member of my home community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor I present him today. Pastor Rice's passion for God's work truly inspires me. He challenges each and every one of us to walk boldly in our faith, striving to make the world a better place through our actions and devotion to God.

Mr. Speaker, I thank him for this morning's prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

RECOGNIZING GRANT SMITH

(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 an instrumental partner in bringing about change to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Grant Smith, deputy director of the Office of Federal Affairs at the Drug Policy Alliance, works tirelessly to promote policies that reduce instances of recidivism among those formerly incarcerated.

However, today my words are less about the policies and more about the man who spent the last many years fighting for them.

Before joining the Drug Policy Alliance, Grant served as a victim services advocate with the Federal Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency right here in the District of Columbia.

Grant has spent his young life thinking about others and finding ways to help elevate their issues.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I ask that we lift Grant up in our hearts, our minds, and our prayers. We recently learned that Grant is receiving hospice care, and I want him, his family, and all who know him to understand his impact. He roamed the Halls of Congress, indifferent to politics, to make sure the

□ 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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voiceless were heard and reflected in our policymaking.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Grant for his work, which has inspired so many, including myself.

God bless.

VETERANS DESERVE BETTER

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

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, Louisvillian Tim Nicolazzi has dedicated his life to service. He served in the Air Force and then Army, deploying to Kuwait and Iraq, where he earned a Bronze Star.

After his honorable discharge, Tim's call to public service brought him to HUD, where he has helped victims of domestic abuse in Louisville find safety, helped veterans get off the streets, and helped first-time home buyers achieve their American Dream.

A few weeks ago, Tim was fired with no notice and no severance or compassion.

As we speak, the Trump administration is carrying out the biggest layoff of veterans in history, including tens of thousands announced just last night.

That is why today I am cosponsoring an act to protect veterans' jobs and to reinstate veterans who have been illegally fired by Elon Musk and DOGE.

Veterans put on the uniform. They served something higher than themselves. They deserve better.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Tim for all of his service. I won't stop fighting for veterans like him.

RECOGNIZING BILL JARTZ, THE VOICE OF LAMBEAU FIELD

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

Mr. WIED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a Green Bay local legend, Bill Jartz, who is retiring from WBAY after more than four decades, including 27 years at the evening anchor desk.

Bill grew up right in Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District in Clintonville and started his career with WBAY as a sports reporter in 1983. He made the jump to evening news in 1998.

Bill's legacy extends far beyond the newsroom. It lives in his warmth, wit, and unwavering dedication to our community. In fact, Bill is known for not being able to say no to any charitable cause where he can make a difference.

He has been a familiar voice emceeing, speaking, or judging countless local fundraisers and events for charitable organizations, including the CP Telethon and Make-A-Wish's Gourmet Wishes. Throughout his career, it is estimated that he dedicated more than 5,000 hours of community service.

While all of us in northeast Wisconsin will miss Bill's news coverage, thankfully, we will still get to hear the

voice of Lambeau Field during Green Bay Packer home games.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Bill for his many years of service to northeast Wisconsin and congratulations on his retirement. May this next chapter be as fulfilling as the legacy he leaves behind.

RECOGNIZING JENNIFER AND STEPHANIE HAN

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

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jennifer and Stephanie Han, two remarkably accomplished sisters from El Paso whose dedication and success in women's boxing has inspired all of us.

Jennifer Han, former IBF world featherweight champion and soon-to-be member of the International Women's Boxing Hall of Fame, has paved the way for women in the sport, making her one of the most accomplished female boxers in the country and the world. She now lives a quiet life as a mother and trainer at a local gym where she teaches youth programs.

Her sister, Stephanie Han, has built her own legacy in boxing with an undefeated record. She earned this year's WBA lightweight title by way of knockout in the first round in under 2 minutes. She is ranked as number two in the world, and beyond her success in the sport, she is a dedicated mother, wife, and officer with the El Paso Police Department where she dedicates herself to public service.

We are so proud of both of them.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION BURDENS TAXPAYERS

(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, the costs of illegal immigration to this country and to my home State of California according to a 2023 report, the benefits and services provided to the estimated 3.23 million illegal aliens just in California costs local taxpayers just under \$23 billion annually. Factoring in about 1.15 million U.S.-born children of illegal aliens, sometimes known as anchor babies, adds more than \$8 billion in costs making it roughly \$31 billion total.

This total cost under these findings of \$31 billion works out to a per capita cost to Californians of \$7,074 annually.

This report pegs the combined Federal, State, and local costs nationwide associated with illegal immigration at \$182 billion annually, and that is probably a low number.

State and local taxes paid by Californians accounts for one-sixth just in my home State of the nationwide costs associated with illegal immigration, including in K-12 education, housing, and nutrition assistance, in-State tuition

at public colleges and universities, health coverage under the State's Medi-Cal program, which is the trouble, and sweeping sanctuary policies that make our cities less safe.

□ 0915

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF RANDY RETTER

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

Mr. SHREVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the outstanding leadership of Sheriff Randy Retter, who dedicated 37 years of law enforcement experience to my district in Wayne County.

Over that career, Sheriff Retter has worked tirelessly, holding positions of ever-increasing responsibility, beginning as a road patrol officer before being ultimately elected sheriff of Wayne County and having served as president of the Indiana Sheriffs' Association.

It was as sheriff that Mr. Retter met with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to diligently detain illegal criminal migrants, making the Sixth District far safer for Hoosiers to live and work in.

It was this past Tuesday in the joint session that I had the privilege of hosting Sheriff Retter as my guest for the President's joint address to Congress. It was our first. We shared that experience together.

It was there that the President reaffirmed his steadfast support for our Nation's law enforcement officers and their vital work to protect our communities.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT RELATING TO "PROTECTION OF MARINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES"

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 177, I call up the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 11) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management relating to "Protection of Marine Archaeological Resources", and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 177, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

S.J. RES. 11

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management relating to "Protection of Marine Archaeological Resources"

(89 Fed. Reg. 71160 (September 3, 2024)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The joint resolution shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on S.J. Res. 11.

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

There was no objection?

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S.J. Res. 11, a resolution to express disapproval of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's misguided protection of the "Protection of Marine Archaeological Resources" rule.

First, I thank my colleagues, Senator KENNEDY and Representative EZELL, for championing this effort and collaborating with my team to bring this resolution to the floor today. Additionally, I acknowledge Democratic Senators HICKENLOOPER, CORTEZ MASTO, and ROSEN for supporting this resolution in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, S.J. Res. 11 is a commonsense measure that would repeal a burdensome and unnecessary Biden administration rule that forces offshore energy operators to conduct costly archeological surveys and submit reports for every exploration and development plan on the Outer Continental Shelf.

Under the rule in question, operators must comply with this blanket mandate, even in areas with no known archeological risks, adding millions in unnecessary costs and delays despite existing State and Federal protections under the National Historic Preservation Act.

Eliminating this one-size-fits-all rulemaking will ensure that energy production isn't bogged down by duplicative red tape. S.J. Res. 11 uses the Congressional Review Act to nullify a rule which BOEM acknowledges places "100 percent of the increased Gulf of Mexico compliance cost for survey[s]" on operators that are small entities.

This resolution would end the Biden administration's needless overreach and return the regulatory regime to a targeted, evidence-based approach.

Notably, this repeal preserves America's ability to tap its offshore resources efficiently. It will not weaken genuine historic preservation but will stop a pointless cash grab that inflates administrative burdens. In fact, this

resolution could boost Federal revenues by speeding up leasing and production timelines that are critical to U.S. energy security.

Offshore oil and gas from the Outer Continental Shelf accounts for 15 percent of U.S. production, supporting jobs, powering homes, fueling transportation, paying for conservation, and lowering costs for goods we all need. Yet, this rule, part of a broader pattern of Biden-era restrictions, threatens that stability with added costs of more than 500 additional labor hours per year across operators.

Federal regulators shouldn't stifle energy development. This resolution offers a rational fix by eliminating a rule which was intended to add burdens to a vital industry. S.J. Res. 11 will protect American energy security and keep energy costs down for families as part of an all-of-the-above energy strategy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we are just 2 months into this Congress, yet we have already seen one favor after another to Big Oil from our friends across the aisle.

Republicans just can't get enough, and so we are back here once again giving another favor to Big Oil. One gets the feeling that the majority is just warming up and that this is going to be a recurring theme in this Congress.

Meanwhile, we are 1 week away from a government shutdown. We are on the heels of what we know is a Republican plan to gut Medicaid to pay for tax cuts for billionaires. Today, are my colleagues across the aisle talking about any of those things? No.

Republican Members have brought us here to talk about repealing a minor rule that simply protects marine archeological resources. If that sounds ridiculous to my colleagues, that is because it is.

This bill targets a rule from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, which is the agency that regulates offshore energy development in Federal waters. The rule says that underwater surveys, which these companies already conduct before they drill, simply have to meet some basic, consistent standards. Wow, the heavy hand of government.

Republicans have argued that this is simply too burdensome for their friends in Big Oil. Yet, the rule doesn't even require companies to conduct any new surveys. Companies already do these surveys.

The rule simply states that future surveys need to adhere to minimum standards to be used for archeological reports. No matter how my colleagues slice it, this rule will not cause a substantial financial burden to operators. It just ensures that the data that companies collect can be used to look for things like shipwrecks and other historically important objects.

Mr. Speaker, the chairman said in his opening remarks that he doesn't like the fact that they need to look for these things in areas where they are not known to exist.

That is kind of the whole point. If you are not going to look for them while already there doing a survey, we may never know that things actually exist in some areas. Without these surveys, operators might not discover these archeological resources until they go to drill.

Here is what happens when they find out at that point: It forces costly delays for their friends in the oil industry because, regardless of whether this survey work is completed beforehand, companies still have to comply with laws that protect shipwrecks and mitigate impacts to sites that were once above water and home to indigenous peoples.

The rule actually promotes efficiency, something Republicans say that the majority cares a lot about. It prevents delays and extra costs for good actors who report unexpected finds, as they are required to do under the law. It keeps bad actors from just quietly working and hoping that no one notices, something that is much easier to get away with if you are not required to do those studies in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, why do Republicans want to roll this rule back? Well, for one, my guess is that Republicans saw that it was a Biden regulation on offshore oil and gas. If Biden did it, it must be bad.

My colleagues want to pick a fight with anything that Republicans perceive to be a threat to Big Oil, even a minor rule that actually helps the industry avoid unexpected costs.

The second very likely reason that we are here is that my Republican colleagues are looking for ways to kill time. The majority needs some pretext to chew up some floor time here in Congress to distract the public.

This resolution does that, and it allows Republicans to keep working behind the scenes on their plan to find tax giveaways for their billionaire friends and working behind the scenes on their plan that we know is coming to cut Medicaid and SNAP deeply, hurting working families all over this country. My Republican colleagues have voted on the framework for that last week and are still squabbling with the Senate over the details and what comes next.

Clearly, we are not doing work this week to fund the government or to stop Trump's new tax on energy, which he calls a tariff, standing up to self-dealing billionaires who are taking a sledgehammer to our Federal Government, or dealing with their illegal firing of workers and constituents of many of us and causing complete chaos across the country.

Instead of holding this administration accountable for all of that, House Republicans are urgently tinkering,

trying to create the appearance that my colleagues across the aisle are busy doing something here in Congress on a minor rule that simply requires scientific standards for underwater surveys.

Republican Members don't want people to remember that the majority voted just last week to set in motion devastating cuts to Medicaid and SNAP or that, a few days ago, Elon Musk said that Social Security is a Ponzi scheme. Yet, the other night, my Republican friends stood and applauded for him like he was Elvis Presley.

The majority also doesn't want people to remember that the Trump administration has announced plans to cut staffing in half at the Social Security Administration, guaranteeing that services for seniors will suffer, or that the Trump Secretary of Agriculture just went on television and told Americans who are struggling with food prices to get a chicken.

That is why House Republicans want to talk about something else. That is why we are here to debate and vote on this rule.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose this farcical resolution and the theater that it represents, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill is not about repealing anything that is going to add any protections or viability to anything that is happening on offshore exploration. The rule was not even about wearing a suspender with a belt.

This rule was put in place to hamper offshore energy production. Under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, protections already exist for offshore operators, and it requires them to identify and avoid marine archeological sites, making this rule totally redundant.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the Biden-era rule wasn't just for redundancy. It was to put shackles on offshore energy production and to put higher costs on American consumers, who are already struggling with inflation that has resulted from the policies of the previous administration.

Good governance doesn't have redundancy and duplicative rules in place that hamper Americans from building and producing.

What we are doing is releasing the shackles off of energy production so that we can provide the things that our country and our economy need.

That is why I really appreciate the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. EZELL) for bringing this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. EZELL).

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in favor of S.J. Res. 11, a Congressional Review Act to reverse the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, or BOEM, rule that targeted oil and gas production in our Outer Continental Shelf.

The Biden administration spent the last 4 years steamrolling our American energy sector with burdensome regulations. Instead of unleashing our Nation's vast resources, the administration handcuffed U.S. oil and gas production with red tape, driving up costs, stifling innovation, and making us more dependent on foreign energy.

BOEM'S rule is not about safety or environmental stewardship. It is not about protecting archeological resources. This rule is nothing short of a universal mandate. It even applied to areas known to have no archeological risk.

This is about forcing an extreme agenda that weakens our energy independence and hurts hardworking Americans. The result: higher costs at the pump, fewer jobs in the energy sector, and a direct hit to our economy.

That is why I am proud to stand up today for the American workers and consumers by leading the House version of this CRA to reverse this detrimental rule. Under the Trump administration, we have the power to push back against these reckless policies and restore commonsense energy solutions to put America first.

In just the last 2 months, we have seen what happens when government gets out of the way. Energy prices drop, jobs flourish, and we become a net energy exporter.

Mr. Speaker, that is the kind of future we should be fighting for, not where Washington bureaucrats make it harder for American businesses to succeed.

Let's send a clear message: We stand for affordable energy, good-paying jobs, and an America that leads, not one that follows bad policies straight into higher costs and economic decline.

I thank Senators KENNEDY and HYDE-SMITH for their leadership in the Senate, and I thank Chairman WESTERMAN for advocating to get this resolution introduced on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S.J. Res. 11, and I look forward to the President signing this into law.

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

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues across the aisle are arguing that the rule is duplicative and that the offshore drilling industry is already doing these surveys.

Mr. Speaker, that is kind of the point. The fact that these surveys are already being done is exactly why this rule is so simple and not burdensome. The rule does not require any new or standalone surveys for the vast majority of leases. It simply makes sure that these surveys are done right, these surveys that are already being performed, so that we can protect archeological sites by identifying them before the work starts.

This is common sense. It is a tweak that will provide important protection for offshore archeological resources, bring the agency into compliance with the law, and actually promote efficiency.

□ 0930

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. ELFRETH).

Ms. ELFRETH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to S.J. Res. 11. As has been said, historic artifacts serve as evidence of ancient civilizations. They teach us about the development of science, trade, transportation, and culture.

So many of these artifacts are buried on the seafloor from shipwrecks and storms to indigenous artifacts. When that seabed is disturbed, these priceless pieces of history get damaged or destroyed. More importantly, they cost the company seeking to do this work more money when they disturb these artifacts and are faced with fines and cleanup like the Mica shipwreck, which was bisected by a pipeline in 2001.

It cost ExxonMobil \$250,000 in fees to mitigate the damage it caused that could have been found from the beginning had there been a consistent survey, saving that company money.

This is not new. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has had guidelines on marine archeology since 1982, and since have been updated during administrations from both parties to create greater consistency and predictability for everyone involved.

These rules have stood for 40 years because they protect artifacts and protect the oil and gas companies from the liability of unknowingly destroying irreplaceable pieces of history.

Each update to the rules has served to codify industry practice, use the best available science, and ensure compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.

Each update has provided oil and gas companies with more clarity and consistency. S.J. Res. 11 seeks not only to undo all of that work that has been done, but it will prohibit such a rule from ever being enacted in the future. Counter to some arguments, this rule is not financially burdensome.

BOEM reports the total annualized financial impact for the entire oil industry is less than \$400,000 a year. For an industry with a reported pretax profit of \$83.9 billion in 2024, this has a negligible impact.

The rule does not negatively impact America's energy dominance and independence. The U.S. is still the number one producer of oil and gas in the world and has been since 2009. We are producing more oil than any country ever.

In fact, we are exporting energy, which is what is really hurting American energy prices. This rule didn't even meet the threshold to require a Statement of Energy Effects report because it has such a negligible possibility of impacting energy supply, distribution, or use.

This rule actually promotes efficiency as has been stated. It provides consistency to businesses and protects oil and gas companies from that liability. Doing these surveys before drilling saves time and money in the long run.

It is much more damaging to a company's bottom line to stop operations suddenly when they find a shipwreck or artifacts.

Nobody gets everything they want in the public policy that we debate on this floor, but this final rule, at the beginning of the day, is a good policy that benefits every stakeholder involved, and banning this rule would set a dangerous precedent for solutions-oriented policymaking. It will roll back decades of bipartisan work that we have all done to preserve history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to consider the cost of this action, and I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on S.J. Res. 11.

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

Mr. Speaker, our country is at a point where we need more energy and every form of energy when we look at the demands for data processing, when we look at transportation demands, when we look at demands for energy to grow our economy and to produce more things here. I don't think anybody on either side of the aisle would question the fact that we need more energy and our energy consumption is on an exponential increase.

This rule that the Biden administration made is not about an all-of-the-above energy approach. It is not about producing more energy, more clean reliable energy that comes from America. It is about attacking an industry.

If you don't believe that, just look at the rule itself. We produce more than one kind of energy offshore. We produce oil and gas. We also produce wind, but magically wind farms don't trigger an archeological review, I guess, because they are not included in this analysis, this redundant process that the Biden administration put in place.

The reason they are not is the same reason that oil and gas should not be included; because there is already a process to do the National Historical Preservation Act section 106 requirements when you are getting a permit.

This rule was added by the Biden administration just to create another level of bureaucracy, another level of regulatory hurdles to stop offshore oil and gas exploration and production. That is the only purpose they could have put this rule in place for. Otherwise, they would have said, if they really cared about archeological features and artifacts in the Gulf and offshore, they would have included the wind farms in this, but it is only targeted at oil and gas.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources on the Natural Resources Committee.

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S.J. Res. 11, which nullifies the Biden administration's politically driven rule to mandate all off-

shore oil and gas exploration and development projects complete costly and burdensome archeological surveys and reports. Over the past 4 years, the American people have seen the most anti-oil, antigas, anti-traditional energy, and antitiming administration in this Nation's history.

When energy here in the United States and around the world is growing, as the chairman just said, rather than supporting an all-of-the-above energy strategy, Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration sought to stop traditional forms of energy like oil and gas.

Prior to the Biden administration's rule, oil and gas companies were only required to complete these reports when BOEM, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, had a reason to believe an archeological resource may be present.

Instead, the Biden administration made that archeological report mandatory, even when it was clearly unnecessary.

These unnecessary reports would lead to millions of dollars in additional compliance costs to complete the required survey work and deal with the additional red tape. This is in addition to the significant staff time reviewing these reports would eat up at BOEM, leading to further delays in important energy projects that we need to build for the American people.

It is clear the Biden administration's rule wasn't actually necessary. It was just another example of their death-by-a-thousand-paper-cuts agenda to crush our domestic oil and gas industry and raise energy prices for all Americans in the process.

After we pass this resolution today—and it will pass the House. It already passed the Senate, and President Trump will sign it. After it passes this House today and when it is overturned, these oil and gas projects won't be waived from historic preservation rules.

This resolution does nothing to weaken the National Historic Preservation Act. These developers will still be required to take necessary steps to ensure they do not harm historic properties or archeological sites.

As was the case before the Biden rule, BOEM will still have the authority to require operators to perform these additional surveys and reports when it is actually necessary and actually warranted, Mr. Speaker. This resolution will just return us to the previous process.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will argue this is necessary to preserve historic and archeological sites on the Outer Continental Shelf.

If that is the case, why did the Biden administration's rule only apply to oil and gas operations? Why didn't this rule apply to offshore wind development?

This was politically driven. I am not arguing we need these additional necessary requirements for offshore wind.

I am just pointing out the blatant hypocrisy of the past administration. It is clear where their intentions were. Overturning this rule is good for our energy security and for our energy independence.

Mr. Speaker, a couple nights ago, the President of the United States addressed this House and the Senate. He talked about energy independence, energy dominance, critical mineral dominance, and a critical mineral powerhouse for our Nation.

It is crystal clear that the Biden administration wanted to diminish the tried and true respect of traditional energies we had and have because they didn't include wind in this. It is complete hypocrisy.

If you are going to do it for one, you do it for all. They tried to choose winners and losers. They tried to do it, but here in the House, we are going to follow the Senate's bipartisan passing of the CRA.

Today, it is going to pass in a bipartisan fashion in the House and very soon the President of the United States will sign this into law. It will change one of the many disasters of the prior administration, the prior administration, as I opened up, that was the most anti-oil, gas, and mining administration in the history of this country. I come from a rich mining State; biggest untapped copper-nickel find in the world.

The Biden administration banned mining in northeastern Minnesota. He took the mineral leases away that were in place since 1966. Yet, they want us to compete in defense, Nassau and other areas of our communities, with adversarial governments when we have to buy their minerals for the F-35s, the F-22s, the F-16s, our submarines.

Mr. Speaker, I am excited to vote on this CRA because it gives me one more opportunity, once again, to change the direction of this country that the previous administration was derelict in doing. I am very happy to stand here today with my Democrat and Republican colleagues in a bipartisan fashion to get this across the finish line.

The American people deserve it. The cost of energy and the need for our energy is going to be increasing. As the chairman just said, Mr. Speaker, we need to win the AI war, and that is going to mean we need energy to do it. We are going to need energy, Mr. Speaker, when these businesses come back to our country. When we reshore these manufacturing facilities, we are going to need the energy to do that. Now, we have an administration that understands it and will not be politically driven by just a few people.

Mr. Speaker, with my comments, I will say one last thing. Energy independence and critical mineral dominance is a Trump administration agenda. That is the America First agenda that is going to employ a lot of people.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, let's talk about this claim of a double standard and of hypocrisy. Oh, the poor fossil fuel industry is being singled out.

Poor Big Oil with its record profits and its record exports and its executive bonuses and its collusion with OPEC to gouge American consumers, they are just such a victim in the telling of my friends across this aisle.

I hate to intrude on that narrative with a little bit of truth, but the fact is, the offshore wind industry already does this stuff. They have to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act.

The reason that the fossil fuel industry is the subject of this regulation is to bring them into compliance. I guess it reflects the radical proposition that the Big Oil oligarchs, your pals in the industry, should play by the same rules as everyone else. That is not socialism or wokeness or anything else. It should just be common sense and fairness.

Mr. Speaker, I will talk about the real human cost of our Republican friends' allergy, opposition, reflexive opposition, to any type of regulation and what this CRA would mean for working men and women on the Outer Continental Shelf.

□ 0945

Marine archaeological surveys are not just a nice idea. They actually are safeguards that protect workers from hidden dangers lurking beneath the waves. These surveys can detect unexploded ordnance, UXOs, which are military ammunition, that has never detonated.

There is actually a lot of that out there. From World War II into the 1970s, the Federal Government dumped massive amounts of UXOs into the ocean, including depth charges, torpedoes, munitions, mustard gas, and even chemical weapons, all in designated explosive dumping areas. If that wasn't bad enough, these same waters were used to dispose of radioactive waste.

The old technology used to map these areas was crude at best, leaving countless unexploded devices scattered beyond known dumping areas, but modern marine archaeological surveys can identify these things and save lives before disaster strikes.

Rather than protect workers from these deadly hazards, Republicans want to repeal this commonsense rule, rolling the dice with human life in the name of corporate profits. They wrap it all up in a phony pitch about prices like they are standing up for the little guy while they look the other way when their oil oligarch pals collude with OPEC to gouge American consumers.

Well, what about the working-class men and women who power our offshore energy industry? What about their safety? Are they just collateral damage for the latest favor to Big Oil? Let's be clear. This resolution isn't about helping the common worker, it is about Republicans making good on their promise to deliver for Big Oil billionaires destroying our planet.

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I am prepared to close, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

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

My Republican colleagues decided that the best use of our time today is to debate whether or not we should keep a commonsense rule that protects Tribal resources, worker safety, and our Nation's history. They claim we must do this because this rule is too burdensome for oil and gas companies and will create higher energy prices for American consumers. All of that is nonsense.

What does this rule actually require of companies like Shell, BP, ExxonMobil, companies that make between \$28- and \$85 billion a year? It requires them to tweak surveys that oil and gas companies are already doing so that they can proactively look for marine archaeological resources or unexploded ordnance, discoveries that would actually stop oil and gas development if they didn't do this proactively.

Even without this rule, this is a commonsense look-before-you-drill provision that benefits the American people and keeps offshore workers safe.

Republicans aren't delivering for everyday Americans. If they were, they would take a stand on ridiculous tariffs that Trump is imposing on our closest allies or unconstrained exports of liquefied natural gas that are driving up energy prices or repealing energy tax credits in the IRA, all policies on their side that are going to raise energy prices.

If they were delivering for everyday Americans, they wouldn't allow working-class people to go out into the Outer Continental Shelf without the guarantee that they aren't working on top of unexploded military ammunition or radioactive waste. That is what this rule does. It protects workers and the public interest.

If they were delivering for everyday Americans, they would not allow massive firings of essential employees who protect public lands.

If they were delivering for everyday Americans, they would not vote for healthcare to be ripped away, like they just did last week.

The Republican agenda in the House today accomplishes one thing and one thing only—selling out the American people and our planet so they can continue to enrich the oil baron oligarchs and billionaire class. This resolution is just the latest favor to these elites.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of S.J. Res. 11. I thank my colleagues across the aisle for actually making our point on why this regulation that was put in place by the Biden administration is totally unnecessary.

We made the point that it is targeted specifically for oil and gas and that wind is exempted. They tried to say that wind is exempted because they are already doing the analysis under the National Historic Preservation Act, section 106.

Guess what? Oil and gas is doing the same thing. They are already making these archaeological assessments under existing rules.

This is redundant, but it is not just redundant. It is punitive. It was a rule put in place to attack what our colleagues like to refer to as the Big Oil bogeyman. Apparently, because they have been successful and they can actually turn a profit because there is a demand for their product, they should be attacked by the Federal Government; they should have more regulations put on them. We should do anything we can to stop producing more energy offshore if you are in the mindset of the previous administration.

That is not helping America. That is not helping the American consumers. That is not helping the American economy, and it is certainly not helping America on the world stage. It is ridiculous that we are having to come here and do Congressional Review Acts on horrible policies that were put in place by the previous administration, but thank goodness we have the tool to do that. Thank goodness the Senate has already done it, and we have bipartisan support in the Senate to do the CRA on this rule.

State and Federal laws, as has already been mentioned, provide robust oversight for marine historic resources, again making this added layer of Federal bureaucracy pointless and wasteful. The repeal will lower energy costs for American families, strengthen U.S. energy independence, and support an industry critical to our economy and our security, all while maintaining responsible stewardship of historic resources.

One thing that BOEM failed to analyze that often gets overlooked, it is not just Big Oil in the Outer Continental Shelf, it is also small producers, family-owned businesses, and thousands and thousands of people who make a living working in the Outer Continental Shelf.

This burdensome regulation will be detrimental to those small businesses. I urge my colleagues to support the resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Pursuant to the rule, the previous question is ordered on the joint resolution.

The question is on the third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the joint resolution.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members will record their votes by electronic device.

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on passage of S.J. Res. 11 will be followed by a 5-minute vote on the adoption of H. Res. 189.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 221, nays 202, answered “present” 1, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 61]

YEAS—221

Aderholt	Goldman (TX)	Miller (OH)
Alford	Gonzalez, V.	Miller (WV)
Allen	Gooden	Miller-Meeks
Amodei (NV)	Gosar	Mills
Arrington	Graves	Moolenaar
Babin	Gray	Moore (AL)
Bacon	Green (TN)	Moore (NC)
Baird	Greene (GA)	Moore (UT)
Balderson	Griffith	Moore (WV)
Barr	Grothman	Moran
Barrett	Guest	Murphy
Baumgartner	Guthrie	Nehls
Bean (FL)	Hageman	Newhouse
Begich	Hamadeh (AZ)	Norman
Bentz	Haridopolos	Obornolte
Bergman	Harrigan	Ogles
Bice	Harris (MD)	Onder
Biggs (AZ)	Harris (NC)	Owens
Biggs (SC)	Harshbarger	Palmer
Bilirakis	Hern (OK)	Perez
Boebert	Higgins (LA)	Perry
Bost	Hill (AR)	Pfuger
Brecheen	Hinson	Reschenthaler
Bresnahan	Houchin	Rogers (AL)
Buchanan	Hudson	Rogers (KY)
Burchett	Huizenga	Rose
Burlison	Hunt	Rouzer
Calvert	Hurd (CO)	Roy
Cammack	Issa	Rutherford
Carey	Jack	Salazar
Carter (GA)	Jackson (TX)	James
Carter (TX)	Johnson (LA)	Johnson (SD)
Ciscomani	Cline	Johnson (TX)
Cline	Cloud	Jordan
Cloud	Clyde	Joyce (OH)
Cole	Collins	Joyce (PA)
Collins	Comer	Kean
Comer	Costa	Kelly (MS)
Costa	Crane	Kelly (PA)
Crane	Crank	Kennedy (UT)
Crawford	Crenshaw	Kiggans (VA)
Cuellar	Kim	Kiley (CA)
Davidson	Knott	Staubert
De La Cruz	Kustoff	Stefanik
DesJarlais	LaLota	Steube
Donalds	LaMalfa	Strong
Downing	Langworthy	Stutzman
Dunn (FL)	Latta	Taylor
Edwards	Lawler	Tenney
Ellzey	Lee (FL)	Thompson (PA)
Emmer	Letlow	Tiffany
Estes	Loudermilk	Timmons
Evans (CO)	Lucas	Turner (OH)
Ezell	Luna	Valadao
Fallon	Luttrell	Van Drew
Fedorchak	Mace	Van Dwyne
Feenstra	Mackenzie	Van Orden
Finstad	Malliotakis	Wagner
Fischbach	Maloy	Walberg
Fitzgerald	Mann	Weber (TX)
Fleischmann	Massie	Webster (FL)
Flood	Mast	Westerman
Fong	McCaul	Wied
Fox	McClain	Williams (TX)
Franklin, Scott	McClintock	Wilson (SC)
Fry	McCormick	Wittman
Fulcher	McDowell	Womack
Garbarino	McGuire	Yakym
Gill (TX)	Messmer	Zinke
Jimenez	Meuser	
Golden (ME)	Miller (IL)	

NAYS—202

Adams	Garcia (CA)	Ocasio-Cortez
Aguilar	Garcia (IL)	Olshewski
Amo	Garcia (TX)	Omar
Ansari	Gillen	Pallone
Auchincloss	Goldman (NY)	Panetta
Balint	Gomez	Pappas
Barragan	Goodlander	Pelosi
Beatty	Gottheimer	Peters
Bell	Green, Al (TX)	Pingree
Bera	Harder (CA)	Pocan
Beyer	Hayes	Pou
Bishop	Himes	Pressley
Bonamici	Horsford	Quigley
Boyle (PA)	Houlahan	Ramirez
Brown	Hoyer	Randall
Brownley	Hoyle (OR)	Raskin
Budzinski	Huffman	Riley (NY)
Bynum	Ivey	Rivas
Carbajal	Jackson (IL)	Ross
Carson	Jacobs	Ruiz
Carter (LA)	Jayapal	Ryan
Caspar	Jeffries	Salinas
Case	Kaptur	Sanchez
Casten	Keating	Scanlon
Castor (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Schakowsky
Castro (TX)	Kennedy (NY)	Schneider
Cherfilus-	Khanna	Scholten
McCormick	Krishnamoorthi	Schrier
Chu	Landsman	Scott (VA)
Cisneros	Larsen (WA)	Scott, David
Clark (MA)	Larson (CT)	Sewell
Clarke (NY)	Latimer	Sherman
Cleaver	Lee (NV)	Sherrill
Clyburn	Lee (PA)	Simon
Cohen	Leger Fernandez	Smith (WA)
Conaway	Levin	Sorensen
Connolly	Liccardo	Soto
Correa	Lieu	Stansbury
Courtney	Lofgren	Stanton
Craig	Lynch	Stevens
Crockett	Magaziner	Strickland
Crow	Mannion	Subramanyam
Davids (KS)	Matsui	Suozzi
Davis (IL)	McBath	Swalwell
Perez	McBride	Sykes
Davis (NC)	McClain Delaney	Takano
Dean (PA)	McClellan	Thanedar
DeGette	McCollum	Thompson (CA)
DeLauro	McDonald Rivet	Thompson (MS)
DeBene	McGarvey	Titus
Deluzio	McGovern	Tlaib
DeSaulnier	McIver	Tokuda
Dexter	Meeks	Tonko
Dingell	Menendez	Torres (CA)
Doggett	Meng	Torres (NY)
Elfreth	Mfume	Trahan
Escobar	Min	Tran
Espallat	Moore (WI)	Underwood
Evans (PA)	Morelle	Vargas
Fields	Morrison	Velazquez
Figures	Moskowitz	Vindman
Fitzpatrick	Moulton	Wasserman
Fletcher	Mrvan	Schultz
Foster	Mullin	Waters
Foushee	Nadler	Watson Coleman
Frankel, Lois	Neal	Whitesides
Friedman	Neguse	Williams (GA)
Frost	Norcross	Wilson (FL)
Garamendi		

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Nunn (IA)

NOT VOTING—8

Diaz-Balart	Johnson (GA)	Pettersen
DeZales, Tony	Kamlager-Dove	Rulli
Grijalva	LaHood	

□ 1019

So the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. RULLI. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 61.

CENSURING REPRESENTATIVE AL GREEN OF TEXAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfin-

ished business is the vote on adoption of the resolution (H. Res. 189) censuring Representative AL GREEN of Texas, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 224, nays 198, answered “present” 2, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 62]

YEAS—224

Aderholt	Jimenez	Miller (WV)
Alford	Goldman (TX)	Miller-Meeks
Allen	Gooden	Mills
Amodei (NV)	Gosar	Moolenaar
Arrington	Graves	Moore (AL)
Babin	Green (TN)	Moore (NC)
Bacon	Greene (GA)	Moore (UT)
Baird	Griffith	Moore (WV)
Balderson	Grothman	Moran
Barr	Guest	Moskowitz
Barrett	Guthrie	Murphy
Baumgartner	Hageman	Nehls
Bean (FL)	Hamadeh (AZ)	Newhouse
Begich	Haridopolos	Norman
Bentz	Harrigan	Nunn (IA)
Bergman	Harris (MD)	Obornolte
Bice	Harris (NC)	Ogles
Biggs (AZ)	Harshbarger	Onder
Biggs (SC)	Hern (OK)	Owens
Bilirakis	Higgins (LA)	Palmer
Boebert	Hill (AR)	Perez
Bost	Hinson	Perry
Brecheen	Houchin	Pfuger
Bresnahan	Houlahan	Reschenthaler
Buchanan	Hudson	Rogers (AL)
Burchett	Huizenga	Rogers (KY)
Burlison	Hunt	Rose
Calvert	Hurd (CO)	Rouzer
Cammack	Issa	Roy
Carey	Jack	Rulli
Carter (GA)	Jackson (TX)	Rutherford
Carter (TX)	Johnson (LA)	Salazar
Ciscomani	Case	Scalise
Cline	Ciscomani	Johnson (SD)
Cloud	Cline	Jordan
Clyde	Cloud	Joyce (OH)
Cole	Clyde	Joyce (PA)
Collins	Cole	Kaptur
Comer	Collins	Kean
Costa	Comer	Kelly (MS)
Crane	Costa	Kelly (PA)
Crank	Crane	Kennedy (UT)
Crawford	Crank	Kiggans (VA)
Crenshaw	Crawford	Kiley (CA)
Cuellar	Crenshaw	Kim
Davidson	Davidson	Knott
De La Cruz	De La Cruz	Kustoff
DesJarlais	DesJarlais	LaLota
Donalds	Donalds	LaMalfa
Downing	Downing	Langworthy
Dunn (FL)	Dunn (FL)	Latta
Edwards	Edwards	Lawler
Ellzey	Ellzey	Lee (FL)
Emmer	Emmer	Letlow
Estes	Estes	Loudermilk
Evans (CO)	Evans (CO)	Lucas
Ezell	Ezell	Luna
Fallon	Fallon	Luttrell
Fedorchak	Fedorchak	Mace
Feenstra	Feenstra	Mackenzie
Finstad	Finstad	Malliotakis
Fischbach	Fischbach	Maloy
Fitzgerald	Fitzgerald	Mann
Fleischmann	Fleischmann	Massie
Flood	Flood	Mast
Fong	Fong	McCaul
Fox	Fox	McClain
Franklin, Scott	Franklin, Scott	McClintock
Fry	Fry	McCormick
Fulcher	Fulcher	McDowell
Garbarino	Garbarino	McGuire
Gill (TX)	Gill (TX)	Messmer
Golden (ME)	Golden (ME)	Meuser
		Miller (IL)
		Miller (OH)

NAYS—198

Adams	Amo	Auchincloss
Aguilar	Ansari	Balint

Barragán	Gonzalez, V.	Panetta
Beatty	Goodlander	Pappas
Bell	Gottheimer	Pelosi
Beyer	Gray	Peters
Bishop	Harder (CA)	Pingree
Bonamici	Hayes	Pocan
Boyle (PA)	Horsford	Pou
Brown	Hoyer	Pressley
Brownley	Hoyle (OR)	Quigley
Budzinski	Huffman	Ramirez
Bynum	Ivey	Randall
Carbajal	Jackson (IL)	Raskin
Carson	Jacobs	Riley (NY)
Carter (LA)	Jayapal	Rivas
Casar	Jeffries	Ross
Casten	Johnson (GA)	Ruiz
Castor (FL)	Johnson (TX)	Ryan
Castro (TX)	Keating	Salinas
Cherfilus-	Kelly (IL)	Sánchez
McCormick	Kennedy (NY)	Scanlon
Chu	Khanna	Schakowsky
Cisneros	Krishnamoorthi	Schneider
Clark (MA)	Landsman	Scholten
Clarke (NY)	Larsen (WA)	Schrier
Cleaver	Larson (CT)	Scott (VA)
Clyburn	Latimer	Scott, David
Cohen	Lee (NV)	Sewell
Conaway	Lee (PA)	Sherman
Connolly	Leger Fernandez	Sherrill
Correa	Levin	Simon
Courtney	Liccardo	Smith (WA)
Craig	Lieu	Sorensen
Crockett	Lofgren	Soto
Crow	Lynch	Stansbury
Cuellar	Magaziner	Stanton
Davids (KS)	Mannion	Stevens
Davis (IL)	Matsui	Strickland
Davis (NC)	McBath	Subramanyam
Dean (PA)	McBride	Swallow
DeGette	McClain Delaney	Sykes
DeLauro	McClellan	Takano
DelBene	McCollum	Thanedar
Deluzio	McDonald Rivet	Thompson (CA)
DeSaulnier	McGarvey	Thompson (MS)
Dexter	McGovern	Titus
Dingell	McIver	Tlaib
Doggett	Meeks	Tokuda
Elfreth	Menendez	Tonko
Escobar	Meng	Torres (CA)
Espallat	Mfume	Torres (NY)
Evans (PA)	Min	Trahan
Fields	Moore (WI)	Tran
Fletcher	Morelle	Underwood
Foster	Morrison	Vargas
Foushee	Moulton	Vasquez
Frankel, Lois	Mrvan	Veasey
Friedman	Mullin	Velázquez
Frost	Nadler	Wasserman
Garamendi	Neal	Schultz
Garcia (CA)	Neguse	Waters
Garcia (IL)	Norcross	Watson Coleman
Garcia (TX)	Ocasio-Cortez	Whitesides
Golden (ME)	Olszewski	Williams (GA)
Goldman (NY)	Omar	Wilson (FL)
Gomez	Pallone	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—2

Figures	Green, Al (TX)
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NOT VOTING—8

Diaz-Balart	James	Pettersen
Gonzales, Tony	Kamlager-Dove	Vindman
Grijalva	LaHood	

□ 1028

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.

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 62.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I had to miss votes today to travel back to Illinois. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 61 and YEA on Roll Call No. 62.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I recently gave birth and am unable to travel to D.C. to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 61 and NAY on Roll Call No. 62.

The SPEAKER. Will Representative GREEN present himself to the well.

By its adoption of H. Res. 189, the House has resolved that Representative AL GREEN be censured; that Representative AL GREEN forthwith present himself in the well of the House of Representatives for the pronouncement of censure; and that Representative AL GREEN be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly, 10 o'clock and 32 minutes a.m., the House stood in recess.

□ 1057

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BAUMGARTNER) at 10 o'clock and 57 minutes a.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Deirdre Kelly, one of his secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would announce that the Chair's earlier announcement regarding roll-call No. 61 was mistaken.

The correct tally was 221 voting "aye," 202 voting "no," and 1 answering "present."

□ 1100

ELECTING MEMBERS TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of H. Res. 190, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 190

Resolved,

SECTION 1. ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY AND JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING.

(a) JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY.—The following Members are here-

by elected to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration and the chair of the Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch of the Committee on Appropriations:

- (1) Mr. Carey.
- (2) Mr. Morelle.
- (3) Ms. Johnson of Texas.

(b) JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING.—The following Members are hereby elected to the Joint Committee on Printing, to serve with the chair of the Committee on House Administration:

- (1) Mr. Morelle.
- (2) Mr. Murphy.
- (3) Ms. Sewell.
- (4) Mrs. Miller of Illinois.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025, TO MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

DEREGULATION EMPOWERS FREE ENTERPRISE

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, the greatest strength of our Nation's economy has been its ability to continue to innovate and compete both with ourselves and with our counterparts.

However, over the last 4 years, the American economy has been suffocated under the enormity of regulatory burdens implemented under the Biden administration. To be clear, the Biden administration cost the taxpayers \$1.8 trillion through unilateral rulemaking and executive orders.

This brazen abuse of executive power stymied commerce and our free markets and directly affected our ability to innovate and remain competitive in the international economy.

The effects of this aggressive regulatory regime was clear: Gas prices rose to the highest levels in history, and inflation reached the highest levels in decades.

Due to this, nearly a third of Americans were forced to choose between paying their energy bills or for their groceries.

Mr. Speaker, America is and will continue to be a beacon for free enterprise, innovation, and competition. I applaud President Trump for his pledge to roll back 10 regulations for any 1 implemented, and I look forward to seeing America enter a golden era of prosperity.

CONGRATULATING APOSTLE NORBERT SIMMONS

(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, I am excited to take a moment to celebrate Apostle Norbert Simmons. He founded Deeper Life Church Ministries, which recently marked an incredible 41 years of service.

Hailing from Mount Olive, North Carolina, Apostle Simmons graduated from Carver High School, where he served as chaplain for the National Alumni Association. He has done a fantastic job of growing his church from just 9 to 2,000 members.

Apostle Simmons has truly inspired so many in the community, and I had the privilege of presenting him with the Order of the Longleaf Pine on behalf of the Governor.

It is essential to acknowledge that he didn't do it alone. His loving wife, Gwen, along with their family and church, supported him every step of the way.

We are all so grateful for everything that Apostle Simmons and his family have contributed to eastern North Carolina and our State.

CELEBRATING CHAMORU PEOPLE'S VIBRANT HERITAGE

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the rich and vibrant heritage of the CHamoru people as we recognize March as the National CHamoru Heritage and Cultural Month. The CHamoru people have long exemplified the spirit of inafa'maolek, the CHamoru philosophy of interdependence and cooperation as the very foundation of their culture.

Throughout history, they have shown remarkable resilience and perseverance in the face of adversity, embodying the true spirit of strength and unity.

Mr. Speaker, let us acknowledge the significant contributions of the CHamoru people to the tapestry of our Nation's culture and history. Our traditions, language, and customs are a testament to our unwavering commitment to preserving our heritage and identity.

In closing, I say: "Biba mes CHamoru"; "Long live CHamoru Month."

May this month serve as a reminder to all of us to embrace and celebrate the remarkable CHamoru heritage and culture.

MAKE HOUSING AFFORDABLE

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

Ms. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because Oregonians can't afford to buy a home.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the rent is too damned high.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the game is rigged.

Mr. Speaker, I hear from everyone I talk to, from my constituents to my kids, about how hard it is to find affordable housing.

Oregon ranks 45th in the Nation in housing affordability, and it is getting worse. Our population has grown faster than our housing supply, driving costs up for buyers and renters.

I refuse to leave Oregonian families hanging. That is why I am fighting on the Financial Services Committee to make a difference. I am fighting to make it easier to buy or rent a home, and I am fighting to build more houses and increase our supply.

Mr. Speaker, I will always fight to lower costs and make life just a little bit easier for Oregonians.

ENERGY RELIEF FOR FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, families continue to suffer from the disastrous decisions of the Biden-Harris administration, which led to outrageous energy prices.

Republicans passed bills this week to correct regulations of Biden and lower costs, including:

Reversing the rule on energy standards, which overregulates standards for consumer products and commercial equipment, led by Congressman ANDREW CLYDE.

Reversing the rule on national emission standards, which imposes limits on tire manufacturers, led by Congressman MORGAN GRIFFITH. This legislation supports tire manufacturers, such as Michelin and Bridgestone, in South Carolina, which now is the leading State manufacturer and exporter of tires in America, creating jobs.

Reversing the rule requiring archeological reports for oil and gas exploration or development plans on the Outer Continental Shelf, led by Senator JOHN KENNEDY.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent, as warned by the FBI. President Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength.

MAUI MINUTE ON HUD'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, Congress, Democrats and Republicans alike,

came together to pass the American Relief Act of 2025, securing \$12 billion to rebuild communities devastated by disaster. We made a promise to North Carolina, Florida, Texas, and Maui.

Mr. Speaker, that promise isn't just being broken. It is being ripped apart. What a slap in the face for those constituents when that funding to rebuild homes, businesses, and communities gets delayed or even withheld because the Musk-Trump administration plans to gut HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development, the very team responsible for getting billions of relief dollars to where they belong. It will be essentially eliminated. That isn't streamlining or efficiency. That is sabotage.

This week, I am proud to have led a bipartisan letter, signed by 47 Members of Congress, calling on this administration to not cut these critical positions.

We voted for this funding. Now, let's do our jobs and fight to make sure it gets to the people who need it most.

HONORING COACH JOHN WILLIS

(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 honor the life and legacy of Coach John Willis, the winningest football coach in Brunswick High School history, who passed away at the age of 80.

Starting in 1980, he led the Brunswick High School Pirates to an impressive record of 138-103 over 22 seasons. Under his guidance, the Pirates secured four regional championships, including three consecutive titles, from 1997 to 1999. The 1999 team reached the State championship game, finishing with a 14-1 record.

Beyond the field, Coach Willis was a dedicated physical education teacher at Brunswick High School, known for his motivational speeches and serving as a father figure to many of his players.

As a lifelong resident of Brunswick, Coach Willis, alongside his wife, Barbara, contributed significantly to local education and athletics.

Coach Willis is survived by his wife, Barbara, and their three children, Michael, Wesley, and Maria.

Maria now follows in her father's footsteps, coaching the Lady Pirates basketball team.

Coach Willis' unwavering dedication to his students, athletes, and the Brunswick community has left an enduring legacy that will inspire future generations.

AMERICA STILL SUPPORTS UKRAINE

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

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, for 3 years, Ukraine has fought for its survival

against Russia's brutal assault. For 3 years, America has supported the Ukrainian people in their brave fight for freedom.

Mr. Speaker, Trump is halting military aid, blocking intelligence sharing, and betraying a democratic ally. This risks our national security and emboldens dictators around the globe.

History will judge us for abandoning a democracy under attack and for leaving innocent people to defend themselves against an aggressive authoritarian regime.

Mr. Speaker, there is still time for my Republican friends to speak up.

There is still time for Republicans to reaffirm to the world that America does not bow to our foreign adversaries.

There is still time for Republicans to join with Democrats and remind Donald Trump that America does not abandon our friends.

For our future and theirs, we cannot—we must not—betray the courageous people of Ukraine.

RECOGNIZING ARCADIO SANTIAGO-RODRIGUEZ

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

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary service of Master Sergeant Arcadio Santiago-Rodriguez, a proud member of the Army's 65th Infantry Regiment, known as the Borinqueneers.

During the Korean war, then-Private First Class Santiago-Rodriguez displayed extraordinary heroism in the face of danger. When his squad leader was gravely wounded, he swiftly took command, rallying his fellow soldiers and leading them safely with unwavering courage and determination.

Later, while evacuating a wounded comrade, he singlehandedly engaged five enemy soldiers, killing four and capturing a fifth, forcing that captured soldier to carry the wounded soldier to safety. For his heroism, he was awarded the Silver Star.

At 101 years old, Master Sergeant Santiago-Rodriguez continues to inspire us.

I join my predecessor, the Honorable Bill Posey, in honoring Mr. Rodriguez, and I hope that he will be recognized for his unwavering service to our Nation.

STAYING ON UKRAINE'S SIDE

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I applaud and support the remarks of the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ROSS). We must be on Ukraine's side and against dictators, despots, and war criminals.

HONORING BEVERLY BYRON

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Marylander, a dedicated champion of our men and women in uniform, and a former Member of this body, Beverly Byron, a dear friend of mine for over 60 years.

Beverly passed away at the age of 92 on February 9.

When Beverly succeeded her husband, Representative Goodloe Byron, in Congress after his sudden passing in 1978, many people underestimated her. Throughout her 14 years in Congress, however, she proved to be a gifted leader in her own right.

Beverly became the first woman to chair a House Armed Services subcommittee. Her commitment to her constituents and to her principles earned her respect on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress needs more leaders like Beverly Byron today. Her passing is a great loss to Maryland, to America, and to this institution.

I ask my colleagues to join me in praying for Beverly and her family.

HIGHLIGHT OF TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I will discuss the biggest highlight of the Trump administration so far, and that is what he has done at the border. We have gone from having over 300,000 people a month trying to get into this country to under 8,000 in February.

That shows that, with a little bit of determination, we can enforce our immigration laws.

Mr. Speaker, there was an important hearing that was not covered enough in this Congress this week. In the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, we brought in four Democratic mayors who refused to say that our immigration laws should be enforced.

It is very difficult for President Trump to protect our country when we have elected officials, mayors and Governors from around the country, in essence saying: We are going to stand in the way of enforcing our immigration laws.

It is time for the American people to stand up and tell their local officials that we want our immigration laws enforced. It is very difficult to enforce them if local law enforcement or social services are not on board.

□ 1115

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FRANK TURNER

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

Ms. ELFRETH. Mr. Speaker, as a proud gentlewoman from Maryland, I

rise today to honor the life and legacy of Frank Turner, a distinguished educator and public servant whom we lost earlier this year.

In 1990, Frank made history by becoming the first Black judge in Howard County, Maryland. Then in 1994, he became the first African American elected to the general assembly from Howard County where he served with distinction for 24 years.

After his time in the legislature, he served his community further as a trustee of Howard Community College.

Frank will forever be remembered for his generosity and kindness, his thoughtfulness and his skill, but above all, for his unwavering commitment to his community, Howard County, which stays with me and so many Marylanders.

He led a life of unparalleled service, and for that we will ever be grateful.

Mr. Speaker, I am personally keeping his family, his friends, and every life that he ever touched through his good works in my prayers.

AMERICA IS WORTH CHEERING FOR

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, during the joint session Tuesday night, Republicans cheered for the vision, plan, and great future of America. We cheered for secure borders, wiping out fentanyl and human trafficking, and an energy policy that lowers fuel cost and inflation.

We cheered for our military, increased recruitment of young patriots, and readiness. We cheered for peace, world stability, and an America first economy, bringing a renaissance to U.S. technology, manufacturing, great-paying jobs, and the Made in the USA logo.

We cheered for the President's leadership in fighting waste, abuse, fraud, and corruption. We cheered for the vision of a new Golden Age, and Americans cheered with us.

We saw in the polls over 75 percent, nearly 80 percent, appreciated the optimistic, yet realistic outlook for our great country. We cheered for a child who overcame cancer, a family who suffered loss, and the brave who were knocked down but got back up, truly an American thing.

Unfortunately, not everyone cheered. Rather, there was seemingly opposition without a cause. That is not productive. It is counterproductive. America is an idea about hope; always will be; always was.

Mr. Speaker, America is worth cheering for.

MICHIGAN HAS 2.6 MILLION PEOPLE ON MEDICAID

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I remind many of my constituents in the 12th Congressional District that I hear you and I understand the pain and the fear that you all are going through as you continue to hear about the \$880 billion in Medicaid cuts.

The budget proposal, that overwhelmingly on party lines Republicans supported, cuts the very health coverage for those that only use it for long-term care. Families and parents that have a child with disabilities and special needs rely heavily on this.

I remind you all, the Trump administration continues to really attack the values that we have in regard to taking care of our most vulnerable. However, shredding the Constitution—that is what I kept really seeing as I continued to watch the joint address. He is illegally dismantling—I say illegally, not me, but the judges continue to say that it is illegal—dismantling Federal agencies that we have authorized to provide services for our families.

Mr. Speaker, I remind folks that 60 percent of Americans live paycheck to paycheck. In Michigan, 2.6 million residents have Medicaid. We have got to stick with the people, not the billionaires.

WE NEED THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, it is all over the news this morning.

In just a few hours, it is expected that Donald Trump will sign an executive order to shut down the Department of Education. I condemn that in the strongest possible terms.

This will slash support for students with disabilities, undermine schools in rural communities, and also eliminate the civil rights protections that people fought and died for.

This executive order will be an illegal and unconstitutional abuse of power. An act of Congress created the Department of Education and only an act of Congress can dismantle it, and we will fight that.

Last month, I introduced H. Res. 94 in defense of public education. We have more than 80 colleagues on that resolution. I want everyone to join us in signing that. Do not let them bulldoze our public education system.

They are going to try to justify it by saying we have to return authority to States and local school boards, but they already have the authority. The Department of Education and the Federal Government don't set curriculum. They don't decide how many kids are in each class. What the Department of Education does is it protects civil rights, gives support to students who are low income and students with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, we will fight the efforts to defund this important work. If we can't legislate, we will litigate, but we will not back down.

HONORING SYLVESTER TURNER: A FRIEND, A COLLEAGUE, AND A CONFIDANT

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

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart in honor of my friend, my colleague, and my confidant, Sylvester Turner.

It is not often one gets the opportunity to serve alongside of a person like Sylvester Turner, one of the finest public servants this Nation has ever known.

Each and every day, we worked in this Chamber and sat side by side, center aisle, row five, seat one and two. I called him Mr. Mayor.

Sylvester's brilliance was in crafting policy that served the underrepresented and became an inspiration to me. After storms devastated his region, we stood shoulder to shoulder, fighting for disaster relief funds, building recovery plans that now protect millions.

As mayor, he transformed Houston's infrastructure, expanded economic opportunity, and navigated the city through unprecedented challenges with grace and determination.

In our private moments, Sylvester would say things like: Cleo, let me just tell you, we are not here for titles. We are here for the people who will never walk these Halls. That was the measure of an extraordinary man.

As I remember my friend, he was not only just an accomplished legislator and mayor, but a man whose friendship and dedication made America a better place for all of us.

RECOGNIZING PAUL TAZEWEILL

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Mr. Paul Tazewell as Ohio's 13th Congressional District Champion of the Week for winning an Academy Award for his costume design work in the movie "Wicked."

Paul's first Academy Award will join a crowded trophy case that contains an American Cinematheque Award and a British Academy Film Award, both for his costume design in "Wicked." He also won Critics Choice and Costume Designers Guild Awards for his work on the film.

While this is Paul's first win at the Oscars, he was also nominated for costume design in the 2022 film adaptation of the "West Side Story."

Paul, a 1982 Buchtel High School graduate, proudly acknowledged during his acceptance speech that he is the first Black man to win an Oscar for costume design, to a resounding crowd and a standing ovation. I don't know if he could hear us while he was up on stage, but our entire community in Akron was standing up and cheering him on when we heard his name called.

He later shared, "I have evolved into that inspiring figure that I had been longing to emulate as a developing designer. I receive this beautiful recognition with immense pride and I dedicate it to everyone who has the dream to fly."

Mr. Speaker, I, again, congratulate Paul Tazewell on this amazing accomplishment. He has certainly made our community proud, and he is a shining example of why Ohio's 13th Congressional District is the birthplace of champions.

FIGHTING FOR OUR VETERANS

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, my Pennsylvania district is home to more than 32,000 veterans, many of whom rely on physical and mental health care from three VA medical centers: Lebanon in Berks County, Coatesville in West Norriton, and Philadelphia for Montgomery County.

Yet, because of President Trump, the VA, which cares for more than 9 million veterans nationwide, has been gravely weakened. Already in Coatesville and Philadelphia, they were forced to rescind job offers to physicians and to lay off administrative and clerical staff.

The Trump administration has jeopardized care, putting lives and health at risk. Many of the brave men and women who serve in our Armed Forces continue to serve our Nation in the civilian workforce, including in the VA.

So far, 1,400 employees have been dismissed and an internal memo shows 80,000 more to come—the firing of 80,000 VA workers.

DOGE and this incompetent, chaotic administration are breaking our most sacred promise to our veterans. They fought for us; we must fight for them.

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS ARE YOUR HARD-EARNED BENEFITS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, my message today is an alert for Social Security recipients. Pay attention to what billionaire Elon Musk is doing with your hard-earned Social Security benefits.

Musk is coming after your Social Security. The top administrator of the Social Security administration says that Musk's DOGE boys are trying to break the system entirely. That will stop your hard-earned benefits from reaching seniors and eligible recipients.

Social Security benefits are your hard-earned benefits. They don't belong to billionaire Elon Musk. Americans work hard to earn their Social Security retirement and be secure as they

age. Social Security has been around since Franklin Roosevelt created the program nearly 100 years ago.

Social Security accounts are yours, and it is a sacrilege to do anything to disturb them. You might think about President Trump; he inherited all of his money. He didn't have to work.

Mr. Speaker, we have to do everything possible to protect Social Security for the millions and millions of Americans who deserve those earned benefits, and no one should lie about them and say that they are in trouble. They are 99.8 percent delivered. They are 99.8 percent perfect. It is almost a perfect score. Don't believe what the President said down on this floor just a few days ago. We are here to protect Social Security benefits.

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

REMEMBERING REPRESENTATIVE SYLVESTER TURNER

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

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember our colleague, Representative Sylvester Turner. My colleague previously discussed his policy accomplishments, but I will take this from a different angle.

If I had to rank my freshmen colleagues, respectfully, by kindness and decency, Sylvester Turner would have won in a landslide. He had a warmth about him, whether you were a constituent, a colleague, or just someone passing by. He didn't serve for recognition. He did it because he wanted to make people's lives better.

Representative Turner made this a better place, through his work and through the way he treated people. Before Congress, he served as the mayor of Houston, leading with the same heart and dedication that defined his life.

Losing him reminds us to appreciate the people around us. Today, let's take a moment to reflect, to check in on one another, and in this House and in houses across this Nation, let's carry forward the kindness and service that define Sylvester's life.

THE ACTIONS OF THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL ACTUALLY RAISE COSTS FOR EVERY AMERICAN

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

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, this week's address to Congress was one of the longest addresses to Congress ever, yet there was no real plan or blueprint for how we are actually going to lower costs.

We heard a lot about Greenland and golden tickets and something about Mars, but we didn't actually hear

about lowering costs because the actions of this administration will actually raise costs for every American.

If you cut Medicaid, for instance, not only will you cut off care for millions, it will raise the healthcare premiums of every American, not just the ones on Medicaid. Health costs will go up.

If you fire half the people who administer Social Security and undermine it for our seniors, costs will go up. If you continue the brain drain in our government and fire Federal workers who protect consumers or do critical safety or health research, you will make us less safe and costs will go up.

Mr. Speaker, this administration's policies will directly lead to costs going up for all families. Americans deserve better.

□ 1130

REMEMBERING LARRY GERSTNER

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

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Larry Gerstner, an outstanding businessman who was well loved by his community and spent his life in service to it.

Larry was born in Columbus, Ohio, and grew up on a small farm in Hilliard. Earning a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Cincinnati, Larry joined the Peace Corps in 1971 and spent 3 years in Tonga constructing the main island's road and country's first jet field.

Upon returning to the States, Larry was elected Hocking County Engineer in 1976 and later served as a board member for the Hocking Hills Tourism Association.

Larry created numerous businesses that grew Hocking County's tourism industry, most known for the Columbus Washboard Company, the very last maker of washboards in the United States. One of his incredible washboards is displayed in my office for Ohioans to enjoy, similar to this one that I hold in my hand today.

After an 18-year fight with cancer, with his devoted wife, Joyce, by his side, Larry passed away in February of 2025. Larry will be dearly missed in Hocking County and across Ohio, but the legacy of his life of service will continue.

TARIFFS WHACK TRUMP VOTERS

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans are trumpeting the dawn of a golden age of economic growth. However, this week, The Wall Street Journal had an editorial, "Trump's Tariffs Whack Trump Voters" with a subhead of "Whatever happened to GOP concern for the working class?"

The Wall Street Journal said: "President Trump won the Presidency a second time by promising working-class voters he'd lift their real incomes. Which makes it all the more puzzling that he's so intent on imposing tariffs that will punish those same Americans."

The Wall Street Journal said: "Tariffs are taxes, and Mr. Trump's latest tariffs are estimated to be about an annual \$150 billion tax increase. Taxes are antigrowth. That is the message investors are sending this week since Mr. Trump let his 25 percent tariffs on Canada and Mexico take effect."

The Wall Street Journal said: "Brace for higher prices on berries, bell peppers, and . . . beer. Target CEO Brian Cornell told CNBC . . . that tariffs on Mexico may force the company to raise prices on fruits and vegetables."

The Wall Street Journal said all of these things, Mr. Speaker. I couldn't have said it better myself.

CONGRATULATING LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Lincoln High School football team on winning their second State title in 3 years. This was a huge achievement, but it is even more amazing when you consider what this team had to overcome to get there.

The Hornets spent their entire season on the road, after their field was deemed unsafe due to water damage. The team boarded buses and traveled to every single practice. They never played a home game.

Despite these obstacles, this team never gave up. They demonstrated resilience, grit, and teamwork, and together they brought home the State championship.

Congratulations again to the Lincoln High School football team. All the incredible players and coaches have made our entire district and city proud.

REMEMBERING DR. HAZEL NELL DUKES

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart. Only days ago, New York State and our Nation lost a giant, an icon with the passing of Dr. Hazel Nell Dukes.

I have known Dr. Dukes for most of my life, and I consider it one of my greatest blessings to have called her my friend, mentor, soror, Link Sister, and inspiration.

When we look back on Dr. Dukes' remarkable life, we will remember her tireless advocacy and work to further

racial diversity, equity and inclusion, and prosperity for the Black community. We will remember her leadership as president of the NAACP and its New York chapter, which solidified her as a source for social action and change. We will remember how she stood tall against the oppressive status quo of Jim Crow and paved the way forward to a more enlightened, more accepting, more loving era for our country and world.

I know I will remember the image of her arm in arm with my mother, Dr. Una Clarke, at the Democratic Convention, where they stood in the trenches together, fighting for the Black community at each other's sides.

Truly, Dr. Dukes lived a life of courage, resolve, and unmatched tenacity. We owe her a debt of gratitude that can never be measured or repaid, and I will miss my friend's warmth and wisdom so dearly.

Ma Dukes, we will never forget you. May you rest in power. May you rest in peace.

SAYING GOOD-BYE TO A GIANT

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

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today we say good-bye to a giant, a leader, a warrior for justice. Today, we mourn the passing of my dear friend and brother in service, Congressman Sylvester Turner.

Mr. Turner was more than a colleague. He was family. He carried the weight of his community on his shoulders, never once complaining, never once backing down from a fight when the people needed him. He walked these Halls not for power, not for prestige, but for purpose. That purpose was clear: to uplift the forgotten and fight for the unseen and to ensure that every child, no matter the ZIP Code they were born in, had a fair shot at success.

His legacy will be defined by his lifelong fight for civil rights, economic justice, and opportunity for all, but perhaps some of his most visionary work was cofounding the Congressional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Caucus that he, Congressman FIELDS, and I took on together with urgency and purpose.

Sylvester knew that representation wasn't just a box to check, it was the foundation of our democracy itself. He fought to break down barriers, to build pipelines of opportunity, and to ensure that government truly reflected the people it served.

THIS IS NOT NORMAL

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

Ms. STANSBURY. America, continue to be courageous because what is happening right now is not normal: The

dismantling of agencies, including today the Department of Education, the firing of teachers, veterans, military, hacking your personal data, cozying up to foreign adversaries. This is not normal.

We must continue to fight back, to push back in Congress, in the courts, and in our communities, so here is what you can do. Raise your voice. Push your Members of Congress, push the administration, push your State and local leaders, engage in collective action, and engage in everyday acts of resistance in your own life because, America, this is not normal. We will not go back.

I say to you, stay strong, raise your voices, and engage in acts of courage.

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

A REAL MATH PROBLEM

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. SCHWEIKERT of Arizona was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.)

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, have you ever had the time here where you basically are having to take on two things that push against each other, that create a real math problem, and that telling the truth about it—how do you say it?—oh, yeah, gets the crap kicked out of you? Let's have at it, though.

President Trump stood there just a couple days ago, and within his speech, when you talk about some of the policy to help our brothers and sisters in this country, there was the discussion of no tax on tips, no tax on overtime, these things, and the pushing to get us in Congress, the Senate included, to move the extension of the 2017 tax cuts. I am going to show you why that is so important.

However, at the same time, within almost the same breath, the President looked out at us and said he also wants a balanced budget.

Okay. Now we need to deal with the reality of how hard that math is, but there is a way to do it. I just don't know if intellectually, when you think about the things you heard behind these microphones this last week, how many of our brothers and sisters here, how many of the public, how many of the armies of lobbyists that are in the hallways here lined up saying they want more spending, more money, more regulation on their competition understand this. Let's go through some of the basic math facts, and then let's have a brutally honest conversation of how we stabilize and how far we can actually go.

All right. An oldie but a goodie, and the numbers are actually worse, but I didn't want to print another chart, so we have been using the same one from last year.

Do you see all the red in the chart? That is what we call mandatory. It is

automatic. It is earned benefits. It is, you served in the military, your pensions, those things. Interest is automatic. You have to pay it.

Do you see the blue? That is military and what we call nondefense discretionary. A Member of Congress, other than in a reconciliation opportunity—we are going to come back to why it is so important—only votes on this blue. Every dime a Member of Congress votes on, other than that moment of reconciliation, is borrowed. It is all borrowed money. Last year, for every dollar we took in in tax receipts, we borrowed \$1.39.

Look, the number of times I have come before these mikes, and I have done the charts and shown, in times when we have had very high marginal tax rates, we take in about 17, 18 percent of GDP in taxes. When we have had very low marginal tax rates, we take in about 17, 18 percent of GDP. It is the seesaw of lower marginal tax rates, the economy grows; higher marginal tax rates, the economy shrinks. We are getting basically the same percentage of the economy in tax receipts.

There is an article on the Manhattan Institute's website that does an aggregation of a lot of studies, many of them from leftwing groups, showing that if you raised every tax that functionally the Dems have offered that has gotten scored, and then you adjust it for its economic effects, you get about a 1.5 percent of GDP in taxes, additional taxes.

The cuts we had been talking about were now actually getting much broader, but let's go back to that point and a half. We are going to borrow 7.25 percent of the entire U.S. economy this year, so when the President turned to us and said he really wants a balanced budget, that is a tough one.

Now, his Treasury Secretary has talked about if we could get down to 3 percent stability. Ray Dalio, who is talking about a book he is giving away, talks about his incredible fear of the squeeze that is happening around the world because the countries in the world are bingeing on debt and that there may be a shortage of borrowable capital, which will cause us, as he says, a heart attack. He says it would be good if we could get back to 3 percent of the size of the economy.

Okay, maybe that should be our goal, but, once again, remember your government is functionally an insurance company with an army because the vast majority of our spending, the vast majority are things like Social Security, Medicare, and other benefits you get either because you hit a certain age, you worked a certain number of quarters, you fell below a certain income, or you are part of a certain Tribal group, but they are automatic. The one time we get an honest opportunity to really look at them is when there is this reconciliation. You are able to open up and look at the formula spendings.

Let's actually walk through this for someone like myself, who basically is

intellectually whipsawing, just beating the crap out of myself.

□ 1145

Mr. Speaker, I do not want and believe it would be a horrible thing to allow taxes to go up at the end of this year, particularly on small businesses and the working population.

This is the average. Understand that I represent the Phoenix and Scottsdale area. For my folks, our math is \$3,300, almost \$3,400 a year for my average family in tax hikes. For the country, it is \$2,850.

That is the tax hike that is already in the law. That is already what is coming at us. That is what the Democrats have been arguing, saying we shouldn't extend these tax cuts, and then they give these beautiful speeches about defending the working class.

This is coming to us. This is part of the battle. Understand those tax hikes aren't just going on rich people. Mr. Speaker, 62 percent of the tax-paying population actually see their taxes go up. I am going to show some distributional charts later.

After 2017, remember we actually made the tax code in the United States more progressive, meaning with a higher income, we are paying a higher percentage of the Federal income tax. What we also did was we functionally took half of our brothers and sisters who make much more moderate wages and pulled them off the tax system. They are still paying payroll tax, which is Social Security, Medicare, unemployment, and disability, paying into those as sort of a retirement account. Think of it that way. They pay almost no income tax.

We are going to focus on these charts about the income tax side. Once again, remember this is coming at us at the end of the year. This is what the budget reconciliation ultimately is about.

For some of us, we are stressing about: How do I not let the taxes go up? How do I not play the scam of, "Here, we are going to extend the tax cuts," and, "Here, give me a credit card so I can charge it to you"? That is the scam.

Mr. Speaker, is it really economically honest? We have a great set of data that shows if we borrow the money at the end of the decade, it actually costs those working families more because we have slowed down the economy and raised interest rates, those things, instead of saying I extended your tax cuts but because I charged it to you, your retirement account, your kids' future—understand that borrowing money is a tax. It is just not collected right now. It is collected in the future with interest on it.

Let's actually walk through a chart that has upset a number of my fellow Republicans, but the math is honest. The day we were elected this November, we publicly borrowed—let's do a quick explanation. When we hear someone say our total debt is \$37 trillion or 36-point whatever, a portion of that we

borrow internally. We reach into the Social Security trust fund and borrow that money.

We pay interest. The Treasury gives them special T bills. We pay interest on it. In some years, the interest we were paying to the different trust funds we have borrowed money from was actually a pretty good interest rate. That is internal borrowing.

Then, there is the public borrowing. These are the options. This is the note, T bill, or bond that is in a retirement account. Another country may buy it to hold in their version of their Federal Reserve.

Remember, China is not our number one buyer of our debt. As a matter of fact, China has been rolling off its debt for years, the holdings of U.S. sovereigns. They are actually somewhere under \$900 billion now. It should make us a little nervous that certain foreign governments are no longer bingeing on U.S. debt because we would love to get their money. Most of the debt we sell to the retirement, to the business, to the bank, and other things.

The day we were elected, publicly borrowed debt was about \$28 trillion. Let's do a math experiment. Baseline borrowing for the next 10 years is \$22 trillion. If we were to do the tax extensions—and this is going to make sense. When we hear people running around here saying let's just use current policy, let's just pretend our spending stays the same, our tax policy all stays the same, and we don't have to pay attention to the actual law, that would be \$5.5 trillion plus another \$1.3 trillion on top of that in interest.

Then, let's add in some of the President's priorities: no tax on tips; no tax on overtime if we could find the mechanics, which is a little harder because we can't actually do it in reconciliation; no tax on Social Security. If we add those all up, it would mean, at the end of 2035, the amount of debt that has been borrowed from the public—one of the reasons the public number is higher is, in 2033, the Social Security trust fund is empty. We don't get to reach over there and keep using that as a piggy bank, even though we pay it back every month because the tax receipts from FICA taxes don't match the checks going out the door.

Here is the punch line. It took us 240 years to get to that \$28 trillion. We are basically talking about doubling it in 10 years. The publicly held debt is not exact, but it is close. It is math I can do in my head. We are talking about almost doubling the publicly held debt in the next 10 years.

When we hear those coming behind the microphone and saying DOGE is horrible and evil. Really? Federal spending this year will be about \$7 trillion, but we are only going to take in \$5 trillion, so we are going to borrow about \$2 trillion or \$2.3 trillion. If I came to a business and said they are bleeding, for every dollar of revenue they are taking in, they are spending \$1.36, \$1.39, wouldn't that business turn

around and try to find some ways to reduce spending and to modernize on how they do business?

Think of this, if we are going to spend 7, could we find 15 percent savings? Maybe. It would be really hard. People would complain. It will screw up some people's business models. Some of the public employee unions will be cranky. If we can find 15 percent, that would be \$1 trillion a year.

It still doesn't get us to 3 percent of the GDP borrowing because, remember, again, 7¼ percent of the entire economy will be consumed by this government in borrowing this year.

When idiots like me hold up charts like this and I get complaints that I am hurting people's feelings, the fact of the matter is this is why we have to thread this needle and do really hard things. How do we extend the tax cuts, the tax reforms, the tax benefits, and the baseline economic growth of what we accomplished in 2017 but find ways to offset as much of it as we possibly can?

Once again, even CBO and some of the outside studies made it very clear: If we offset the spending so that money stays in the economy, instead of being borrowed by government here, by it staying in the economy, we maximize economic growth because it gets lent to this business, lent to this new construction project.

When we take it out of the economy—remember, our baseline, we are already borrowing \$22 trillion over the next 10 years. How many more trillions should we stack on top of that? If we don't find offsets, it means we doubled U.S. publicly held debt in 10 years. It took us 240 years, and then we double it again in 10.

This is how insane the chart looks from the people running around this place and saying just use current policy because it is easy and so I don't have to say no to the army of people sitting in my office and wanting money for whatever their cause is.

Mr. Speaker, you do realize when you start looking at this stuff, you are talking about 140, 150-plus percent of debt to GDP. It goes from a 100 today to almost a 50 percent increase in the next 10 years. It is uncomfortable. The primary driver of U.S. sovereign debt is interest and healthcare costs.

The people who run around here and just want to pretend the law doesn't exist and that if we were already doing it, we should just pretend and look the other way and just keep doing it. If we do that, that means in 9 budget years, just the interest—and this was assuming the interest rates from last December—we spend over \$2 trillion a year in interest.

When we hear members from the different committees around here talk about how hard this is, how difficult it is, when the Democrats are saying how dare we talk about these benefits, help us. Where is the creativity? Where is the modernization? Where is the use of technology to disrupt the cost but

make it better, faster, and cheaper? Help us.

That doesn't give us the dopamine hits and the hope to win back the next election to take the majority because winning around here is more important than doing what is moral, right, and economically rational.

This is important. Are we ready as a country? My math for this year is we are going to spend about \$1.2 trillion in interest. Dear Lord, please don't let interest rates move against us.

Also, just an economic concept I need everyone to process is to think of a seesaw. When we see interest rates going down, yay, except the problem is that it typically means the economy is slowing down. There is less demand for debt in the markets, and the economy is slowing down.

What happens, Mr. Speaker? What happens to the U.S. Treasury? It means tax receipts are going down. They may not go down immediately. We often don't see the lag for three quarters, sometimes a year. We can see it in the growth calculations that interest rates are falling, the economy is slowing down, and we are going to take in less tax receipts.

Oh, good, the economy is growing. Interest rates go up. We are now paying it because this year or in the next 12 months we have to refinance \$9 trillion of U.S. sovereign debt, plus probably add another couple trillion on top of that of what we call new issuances.

We are going to take in higher tax receipts because the economy is doing well, but it all gets consumed by the higher interest rates.

The center of this seesaw—it is a technical economic term—we are screwed. There is no free option anymore. When we walk around with \$37 trillion of debt, when our baseline adds another 22, and that is with none of these policy discussions, why aren't more people around here just terrified?

Is it that our constituents are so desperate for more money from the Federal Government that explaining that we are not giving them something free, that we are putting it on their credit card, that they will pay this back in some fashion will deflate the value of the dollar so their savings crashes and raise the cost of goods, or that, at some point, we are going to brutalize their kids, their grandkids, and their retirement? It doesn't have to be that way.

God knows that, over the last couple of years, I have showed how we can crash the price of healthcare by using technology. Then, the lobbyists are in our offices, saying that would mean they have to change their business model.

Yesterday, on CNBC, Eric Cantor was, in many ways, almost mocking us. He is a former majority leader here. Now, he is on Wall Street. He said: Do we really think the bond market isn't going to notice if we just do this pretend thing and say let's call this thing current policy, so we will keep the current tax regime. Yes, it means financ-

ing another \$5.5 trillion, plus another \$1.3 trillion of interest on top of it, and the bond market won't even notice that.

We have the greatest fragility right now to this country. We are on the cusp of putting the bond market in charge of this country, not President Trump, not Congress. If we borrow about \$60,000 or \$70,000 a second every day, what happens when we pull up the next bond option and not enough people show up for it? It would create chaos around the world.

It is a dangerous, dangerous game we are playing around here, but we go home and talk to voters. They want things. They need our help.

Please understand this is a dangerous, dangerous game we are playing.

I was just trying to make the point that if we do all these things without financing, we are basically over 150 percent of debt to the GDP.

Let's actually do something difficult. The Treasury Secretary, Ray Dalio, these other people who are sort of economic experts—they are a lot smarter than I am or anyone else here—keep saying if we get to 3 percent of debt every year, it is actually somewhat equivalent to the growth of tax receipts.

To get to 3 percent, it functionally requires a couple of trillion dollars of reduction in spending every year—think about that, with where we are going growth-wise.

□ 1200

How many of you see Members of Congress come behind these microphones and say that we should work on this, let's get to \$2 trillion a year. That is actually how screwed up these numbers are.

When you get into the out-years, when you get to 2034, it is not \$2 trillion you would have to move to. It is over \$3 trillion.

The current policy budget deficit is in the billions. If you want to be at 3 percent, you have got to cut 2 this year, 2 the next year, and it grows and grows and grows. I don't think there is an understanding.

This is a sequitur. These tie together. The United States in 7½ years now will have more deaths than births. We have a shortage of young people. Yet, you want to live in a fantasy world of, oh, we are going to grow at 3 percent. Great. Tell me how, unless you are willing to do talent-based immigration, adoption of AI, or promotion of synthetic biology to do things better, faster, cheaper.

There are ways I can get you there. I am blessed. I am chairman of the Joint Economic Committee. We have a handful of Ph.D. economists, freaky smart. We have a model to do it.

What is my chance, Mr. Speaker, of getting this body to say—the President talked about doing talent-based immigration 2 nights ago, talked about modernizing, using technology.

When you call the IRS—their own auditor says only 31 percent of the

phone calls get answered. Why wouldn't you jump up immediately and say we are going to use the latest version of an AI chat that sounds like a person, that knows everything about the tax code, will stay on the phone with you, will help you fill out your forms, maybe even send you a YouTube video of how to fill out the form, maybe a PDF of the form, and it will stay on the phone with you all night long and will always pick up the phone. You get the union that goes: No, you can't use technology.

That is part of the discussion going on here. Do you want to keep living and existing in a model that is decades out of date and isn't working and is burying your future in debt? Actually you're currently in debt. Functionally, we are borrowing about \$6 billion a day.

I was doing a little math standing in the back, off the top of my head. If you had 70,000 Federal employees accept early retirement, and they make \$135,000 with benefits, you are cutting less than 2 days of borrowing. You need to do it. Do not take that comment and say: Oh, you see, it isn't enough.

Just the opposite. It is just the beginning. The lack of understanding of how much trouble we are in is the problem. Stop pretending and saying these little things aren't big enough. That is why you have got to do dozens and dozens and dozens and dozens of them.

But it might affect my business model; it might affect my—look, do you care about the future?

I have a 2½ year old we have adopted. My wife is my age. When my little boy becomes—I think my math was 24 years old—so 22 years from now, every tax in the United States has to have doubled just to maintain baseline services because that is our burn rate. This place is absolutely immoral.

Let's actually add to it. In 8 years, so 2033, the Social Security trust fund is empty. Yet, I will see my Democrat colleagues come behind saying we should expand the benefit. Great. Tell me how to finance it.

If the first year where the Social Security trust fund is completely empty—our rough math is it is over a \$600 billion a year shortfall. I think that is the entire corporate income tax.

There is this lack of understanding of the scale. We are in trouble. What is wrong with this place?

Is it so much easier to go home and just lie?

On cable television tonight, how many of them are going to do—whether it be the left or the right cable—hold up charts and say: Here is the reality of the demographics and math and how much trouble we are in?

For those folks who come up here and say, I care about poor people; I care about this, do you have any idea how much danger you are putting our future in?

I personally believe prosperity is moral. Design a tax code, design a regulatory code, design the adoption of

technology to maximize prosperity. Somehow, I am the idiot who keeps getting up behind this microphone and trying to get people—saying let's try to do things hard, maybe think about how we deliver healthcare services.

We are doing modeling with our economists on silly things. How many billions and billions and billions do we spend every year in just Medicare with duplicative MRI scans, x-ray scans, and ultrasounds? If you take that scan and attach it to someone's phone, then it becomes portable. Now, our original number—I am having trouble believing it because it needs more vetting—was like \$20 billion to \$25 billion a year. What if it is a quarter trillion over 10 years? Is that a cut in services, or is that using technology to make it more modern, portable, faster to use, easier to use, more accessible?

There will be lobbyists in my office tomorrow because I said this, saying: David, you don't understand. Those duplicate scans are our profit model.

Help us. If you are on the left, or even a couple of my Republicans, and you don't like the discussions of we are trying to do reforms, then bring us ideas.

There are freaky smart people in this country. You have a supercomputer in your pocket right now. The concept of what this thing can do—15 years ago, did you think you would have the world's knowledge and AI on it?

Save us. Save yourself. Save your retirement. Save your kids. Save your grandkids. You have got to do it by thinking.

The idiots I get—sorry, Mr. Speaker. I want to retract that.

I will get people who say if we just didn't have foreign aid—and you send them the charts saying it is 5 days of borrowing. This isn't easy, but it is math.

For my friends on the left that keep saying: Make the tax code more progressive. Okay. You have already seen your own studies from the progressive groups that say you might get another 1½ percent if you blow up everything, you maximize every tax policy you have ever promoted. You are borrowing 7¼ this year.

Remember, today, half the taxpayers—97 percent of the Federal income tax is paid by the top half, meaning the bottom half of those who are out there working their hearts out but don't make a great income pay almost no Federal income tax. They may pay FICA tax, Social Security, Medicare, those things.

Taxes now have become incredibly progressive. Maybe you need to make it more progressive, but don't pretend it actually makes that much difference in the debt model. It doesn't produce nearly the revenues.

I am going to bang through some of these real quick.

The Federal tax code remains incredibly progressive. It is more progressive today than it was prior to the 2017 tax reform.

Today, right now, if you actually take a look at the top earners, they are still paying the vast majority. What happens when your top 20 percent of income-earners are paying, I think a little shy of 70, 80 percent of all Federal income taxes?

Instead of an idiot standing here giving you percentages of GDP and numbers, I thought we would do it as time. Let's use it as a calendar. For some people, it is easier to see. How Washington finances 366 days of spending in 2024. Remember, it was a leap year. There was an extra day.

The top 20 percent of earners covered 201 days of Federal spending. The next 20 percent covered 41 days. The middle earners covered 17 days of government spending. The bottom 40 percent altogether covered 4 days.

If you take the folks below the 40 percent, we spent 103 days. We sent them money. We didn't tax them. We sent them money on the Federal income tax side.

Yet, when the intellectual vacuists say to just raise taxes, tell me how to get beyond the 17 percent GDP conundrum. The only model that really does, which is why much of the rest of the world uses it, is a value-added tax, where every separate production, you stack a tax on. Fine. Maybe that is what we are going to have to do in 10 years. Understand, that crushes the poor and crushes the middle class because their consumption is so much higher than those at the higher income.

Upper-income taxpayers overwhelmingly finance the Federal Government. Yay. The punch line here, get to the bottom 20 percent, we actually pay them. Take the bottom 40 percent, it is actually less than 5½ percent of the total Federal income tax. I don't know how much more progressive you can make the tax system.

If you want to do a super progressivity, great. When the people keep lying about the budget resolution—please, understand. I do not believe there was enough spending offsets in it. I want to make that perfectly clear. I actually felt incredibly let down. We spent months and months and months and months running around here trying to show people how you can modernize the delivery of services and lower the price of government. That scared too many people. So we got a budget resolution where functionally the baseline is \$1.2 trillion in cuts and another half trillion in shock absorbers. Yet, it is a \$4.5 trillion authorization. Meaning you would end up borrowing 3.3—\$1.7 trillion is discretionary, completely unenforceable, and another \$2.6 trillion of income is magic, thinking that somehow the GDP is going to grow 40 percent over baseline because we are so good looking.

In that sentence I just gave you, I just made a whole bunch of people angry, but it is math.

Find me a credible economist that is a truth teller and say somehow magi-

cally in a time where the United States has a shortage of young people—remember, in 7½ years, we have more deaths than births—and somehow magically we are going to start growing at this freakishly incredible rate while pulling stimulus out of the economy, which we have to do.

There is a way to make this work, but unless you are willing to do hard things—and then an army of people will show up and say: DAVID, I really want to balance the budget, but I need more spending because that is how I get elected. I bring the bacon home.

That bacon is put on your own credit cards.

The highest-earning 20 percent of taxpayers pay 90 percent of all Federal income taxes.

Let's try it one more time. The highest-earning 20 percent of taxpayers pay 90 percent of all Federal income taxes.

It is math. It is not comfortable. It doesn't fit almost any of the speeches you hear from the left behind the microphone.

That is a tax cut for billionaires and rich people. That is not what the math says. Because when it comes to math, we are able to lie about it all the time because it is big and it is hard. A trillion, 12 zeros, no one can see that, so you just make crap up around here.

Let's actually go to, one more time, the chart that gets me the most complaints, it upsets the most people, and yet it happens to be absolutely truthful.

□ 1215

The next 30 years, this is the CBO using current law, not make-believe of let's just continue to pretend we can extend policy, and it has no cost because the bond markets aren't going to pay any attention when we are bringing trillions and trillions of dollars to the bond market. The world is happy to just keep giving us all of their capital.

One more time, 100 percent of the next 30 years of borrowing is Medicare and its financing costs, and Social Security, because, remember, 8 years from now, the Social Security trust fund is empty. We doubled senior poverty. Good job, guys. We doubled senior poverty in 8 years because the average recipient is getting something like a 20 percent cut.

How many people speechifying around here have been talking about how to stabilize Social Security? It is hard. They will run television ads saying mean things about you because you mentioned the word "Social Security"—the absolute immorality of modern politics and how little the public understands.

Well, they stole the money. No, no one stole the money. The average family with their 40 quarters actually gets about a \$72,000 spiff out of Social Security. It is a crap rate of return. It is a horrible rate of return.

Many of you are the ones that went to war 25 years ago when President Bush said: Could we take a little tiny

piece and put it into the markets? Today, you would have dramatically greater wealth. That decision was made. The public spoke—actually, the leftist unions spoke and scared the crap out of people.

The real battle is that we are almost to the point of, for every dollar you put into Medicare and that payroll tax, you are almost taking out, well, \$7. That right there is the primary driver of U.S. debt.

Do you cut things? No. My argument is modernize, change it. My little example of the duplicative MRIs and scans and those things, why are we so terrified to modernize how we deliver Medicare? How many of you went to Blockbuster Video last night? The fact of the matter is technology changed because you now go home and hit a button, there are all your movies. Oh, well, that made my life more convenient.

You are telling me that the thing you can blow into, the thing you can wear on your body, the technology on this, you couldn't also use it to keep yourself healthy when obesity is the single biggest expenditure in this government. Think about that. We modeled last year that obesity will add another \$9 trillion of additional spending, \$9.1 trillion on the top end of spending over the next 10 years.

Maybe the revolution is the way you stabilize U.S. debt is to stop being fearful of technology, be willing to actually modernize and cut spending where it is not working for the American people, and help our brothers and sisters get healthier.

That means taking on farm bills, nutrition policy, how we deliver healthcare. Maybe things like Medicare Advantage and these things should be rewarded for making their populations healthier instead of running around scoring them as sicker. There are solutions here.

We have known this chart for decades, that this is coming. Why the hell can't this place have an honest conversation? "Oh, David, that is hard."

The President stood there just a couple of days ago, gave us a list of things he wanted to help the middle class. He also asked us to find a way to balance the budget. I am not sure I can make that happen, but I think I can get us to 3 percent, which is what the Treasury Secretary asked for.

Mr. Speaker, my question is, who is willing to join us? I handed out my binders with research for months and months. I footnote everything, and you guys just beat the crap out of me for trying to tell the truth and trying to save us. Screw me. I am an idiot who runs for this job. You have kids. How many of you have grandkids? How many of you would like your retirement? How many of you are prepared for a 20 percent cut in your Social Security in 8 years? Help us. This Republic is worth saving. Maybe we should actually buy calculators.

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

INCIVILITY IN CHAMBER

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. GREEN of Texas was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise.

And still I rise, a proud, liberated Democrat, unbought, unbossed, and unafraid.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to call to the attention of the House, this place that I revere and, notwithstanding recent events, that I have great respect for.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in response to a censure, a censure that took place as it relates to my behavior. I have been told by some that they did not have an opportunity to hear the actual resolution as it was read. I have here H. Res. 189, the censure resolution as it relates to my behavior.

I believe this resolution should be read. I am not in any way upset with the Speaker. I want people to know that the Speaker did what he was supposed to do. He did what he was supposed to do when we had the joint session of Congress.

When I interrupted, the Speaker called it to my attention. He did it on multiple occasions. I have no reason in my heart to be upset with the Speaker.

Later, persons came over and escorted me out. I appreciate them. They were very kind to me, the officers, very kind. They said kind words to me.

As a result of my behavior, I have been censured.

I am going to read the resolution and give some commentary. It reads, "H. Res. 189. In the House of Representatives, Mr. Newhouse submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on"—and the copy that I have does not have a committee. I am not sure it was referred to a committee. It may have come straight to the floor. Regardless as to how it arrived, it did, and I am not contesting the procedure.

The resolution reads: "Censuring Representative Al Green of Texas.

"Whereas, on March 4, 2025, during the joint session of Congress convened pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 11, the President of the United States, speaking at the invitation of the House and Senate, had his remarks interrupted by the Representative from Texas, Mr. Green;

"Whereas, the conduct of the Representative from Texas disrupted the proceedings of the joint address and was a breach of proper conduct; and

"Whereas, after numerous disruptions, the Representative from Texas had to be removed from the chamber by the Sergeant at Arms:

"Now, therefore, be it resolved, that—

"One, Representative Al Green be censured;

"Two, Representative Al Green forthwith present himself in the well of the House of Representatives for the pronouncement of censure; and

"Three, Representative Al Green be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker."

That concludes the resolution.

Some things bear repeating: I respect the Speaker. I have no ill feelings toward the Speaker, none toward the persons who escorted me away from the floor because I did disrupt. I did so because the President indicated that he had a mandate—and I wanted him to know that he didn't have a mandate—to cut Medicaid.

I did this because Medicaid is the only insurance many people have in this country. I am blessed. As I stand here now, there is a physician waiting. If something should happen, I will be taken to that physician. I have the best healthcare in the world.

There are other people who have less than I. I would have them have what I have, but I surely would not stand by and see them lose what little they do have.

Medicaid is for people who don't have the kind of healthcare that 435 Members of Congress and 100 Members of the Senate have, but they do have some healthcare.

It has been approved by legislation that the Energy and Commerce Committee would cut \$880 billion from their budget. The overwhelming majority of that budget has to do with healthcare. I see no way for this cut to take place without cutting into Medicaid.

I am going to fight the cutting of Medicaid. I hope that this comment, this message that I am giving today, will deter them and cause them to go a different way. Then, they can say: "We were never going to do it. Al Green just had this false notion." Well, let me have it. Don't cut Medicaid. It is all they have.

This is the richest country in the world. Mr. Musk has doctors. He will get the best healthcare. Let him understand that he should be on my side. He should be on the side of the people who need this healthcare. He has the ear of the President.

Mr. Musk, speak to him. He listens to you. But for the grace of God, dear brother, you could be on Medicaid. You just have been blessed. Don't assume that it was your intellect that has caused you all of these great blessings that you have received. You have just been blessed beyond measure. Speak to the President and tell him that Medicaid ought not be cut.

But I continue. I interrupted.

I was set to be in need of sanctions. I came to the floor today, and while the Speaker was reading, I recalled what happened in the sixties. I recalled that when we were faced with adverse circumstances, we would sing a song that would inspire and encourage us to move forward with alacrity.

□ 1230

The words were:

We shall overcome,
We shall overcome,
We shall overcome some day.

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe we shall overcome some day.

That was an act of incivility.

Why, AL GREEN, would you come to the well before your colleagues and the world and commit an act of incivility?

Here is why: It is because when the President of the United States right there at that podium addressed the Members of Congress, Democrats seated on this side, seated, many of them saying nothing, the President of the United States looked upon them, pointed toward them and said: Lunatics. The President of the United States at a joint session of Congress called Members of Congress lunatics.

That was an act of incivility.

There comes a time, Mr. Speaker, when you cannot allow the President's incivility to take advantage of our civility, and that is what is happening in this country. His incivility is overwhelming our civility. We cannot allow this. That act of incivility was in direct response to the President's incivility.

Mr. President, you, sir, were wrong when you pointed to the Members of Congress and called them lunatics, Democrats, I might add, you called them lunatics.

The President hasn't been sanctioned. The President hasn't been reprimanded. There has been no censure of the President. The President is above the law. The Supreme Court has said as much. He can do things that no other can do. He is above the law as it relates to certain things, but not as it relates to all things, not all. He is still subject to the norms of society, the decorum that you expect from me, you have to respect and expect from the President.

Why would we allow him to use his incivility and expect me to continue to engage in civility as it relates to his incivility?

Mr. President, there are some of us who are going to stand against your incivility. We have reached a point in our history where we have to hearken back to that which got us to this point in our history.

I remember the sixties. I remember Dr. King. I remember the movement. I remember what it took to get me in this House. I am not here because I am so smart. I am not here because of brilliancy or good looks. I am here because people made great sacrifices. It was incivility, and it was disruption, but they were prepared to suffer the consequences.

We are going to have to resort to the same tactics that we used in the sixties, but we did it for a worthy and noble cause. Calling the people of Congress lunatics was not noble, Mr. President. It was an ignoble act of incivility.

I remember how we marched and how we protested, and I am prepared to do it again. If you treat me like you treated me in the sixties, I am going to respond the way I responded in the sixties.

It is time for us to use the same level of incivility that was used in the six-

ties for a noble cause: to save Medicaid, to protect Medicare, and to prevent the demise of Social Security. It is time for us to take that stand. Incivility emanating from the highest office in the land cannot be tolerated and has to be negated.

I did it, and I have said to people that while I respect others and while I absolutely was cooperative when they led me away from the floor, but if circumstances permitted, given what I know, and I have to be candid, I would do it again. I would do it because I care about these people on Medicaid.

For edification purposes, the State of Texas was accorded \$100 billion—100 billion Medicaid dollars—100 billion Medicaid dollars were sent to the State of Texas to help poor people.

What did the State of Texas do?

The State of Texas rejected \$100 billion for poor people on Medicaid, 100 billion, not million, 100 billion. The State of Texas does not have the goodwill necessary to manage Medicaid dollars. If we block grant this money and send it to Texas, then those who are in need of it will get less of it. We have to stand up for them. They are among the least in our society. Unfortunately, we have to stand up for them.

I am standing up for those people. I will continue to stand, and I will continue to tell the world that this incivility has to be dealt with. We have to deal with the President's incivility.

The name-calling never ceases. MAXINE WATERS has assaulted verbally and Ms. WILSON of Florida. The list goes on and on and on. As Congresswoman WATERS is known to say: on and on and on.

We sit and we watch with civility as he employs incivility. Yes, I have said earlier, and I am retreating to the point, that he has been given a certain amount of immunity. He has not been given absolute immunity, but he seems to have an inordinate amount of influence with his party. It is inordinate. I see people doing things that I never thought I would see them do. I have seen people who are conservative and that I have great respect for doing things that I never thought I would see them do.

I am not calling names. I am just saying to my friends that the President has an inordinate amount of influence. He has an inordinate, unusual, and incomprehensible amount of influence.

The courts have given him a certain amount of immunity. His party has given him carte blanche to say anything and to come before the joint session of Congress and use the word "lunatics" as he refers to Democrats. The only thing left in ordinary times would be the courts.

The court orders ought to be obeyed. I don't always like them, but I remember what John Lewis explained to me about peaceful protests: Protest, the court orders you to do certain things, you don't have to agree with it, but you do it. You be willing to suffer the consequences.

The courts are right now in the midst of, as best as they can, trying to give us the laws necessary to prevent certain things from happening. Mass layoffs have to be taken to court. There have been mass layoffs with no due process and no thought of what is happening in the lives of these people. You just take a pen and with the stroke of a pen they are off. There is no concern about children in school, there is no concern about loved ones who may be ill, whom they are taking care of, being the chief breadwinner for the family. There is no concern.

You have got billions, Mr. Musk.

Why should you care about the concerns of people who have much less and who are working every day to eke out a living?

You have billions. You shouldn't worry about them. Worry about making more money. Go to the Moon.

They don't have that luxury. I am going to stand for them and mass layoffs without any consideration.

I just believe that this level of behavior if it were conducted, committed, and engaged in by one Barack Hussein Obama when he was President, if he behaved in this fashion, then he would have been impeached. He would have been impeached. I will go to my grave with this belief. We wouldn't allow these mass layoffs. We wouldn't allow these cuts to veterans, and we wouldn't allow Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security to be on the chopping block.

He would have been impeached.

To be very honest, I would have voted for the impeachment because I don't think that we should allow a President to circumvent what we know to be the requirements associated with the legislative process and with due process which should be accorded people who are being fired as it were.

When you do these things, the courts are acting, and the courts should act. However, there is a point, Mr. President, if your incivility allows you to disobey court orders given that your party has given you carte blanche and given that you believe you have absolute immunity by virtue of what the Supreme Court has accorded you—and you don't have absolute but I think you believe it—when you cross that line, when you cross that line and you, Mr. President, decide you will no longer honor orders from the judiciary, when you decide that *Marbury v. Madison* means nothing, when you decide that you are the supreme law of the land, then on that day we will have a dictatorship.

We are close because you are continually inching right up to the line, you are looking over to the other side, and at some point, regrettably, you may cross over.

Mr. President, I beg that you not do so. I beg that you would not do so and that you would honor the third branch of government designed to settle disputes among us, not always in a favorable way to some, obviously, but that is what it is there for.

I beg you, Mr. President, that you would not dishonor the judiciary in this country.

Here is what I know: I know that you have the ability to say to a judge: You have issued your court order, now let me see you enforce it. That is my Justice Department—not AL GREEN's, the President's—that is my Justice Department. The head of my Justice Department has pledged fealty to me—not AL GREEN, the President—that is my Justice Department. Let me see you get my Justice Department to enforce your order, Mr. Judge.

More specifically, Mr. John Roberts, get my Justice Department to enforce your order. Let me see you get my marshals to enforce your order.

This President, whether wittingly or unwittingly, has put himself in a position such that the Justice Department has pledged fealty to him.

Generals in the military: You don't get these positions now unless you have pledged fealty to him.

We ought to be ashamed of ourselves to allow such a thing to have happened. Yes, generals in the military, the Justice Department, the courts, many of them are bending knees and genuflecting.

□ 1245

Somehow, you believe that you are showing respect, I suppose, or maybe you are just currying favor.

Be that as it may, the Justice Department, generals in the military, and many of the courts are giving a genuflect. Wittingly or unwittingly, he is setting himself up such that he is in a position and such that, at the end of his fourth year, he might attempt to do what he tried to do and failed to do at the end of his last term.

He tried his best to prevent the transition of power. He did all that he could. He encouraged persons to come over to the Capitol. People came, and they literally broke into the Capitol. I was here. They came, and they marched through the Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, for doing it, the President has been given them the ultimate reward. You, you, and you—yes, you, too—all of you, you are pardoned. You are given some sort of amnesty. You are okay.

This is what the President has done. Wittingly or unwittingly, he is now in a position to make that same effort. Only this time, the Justice Department is with him, not with the Constitution. Generals in the military are with him, not with their oath that they have taken.

The President, wittingly or unwittingly, has put himself in a position such that if he chooses to stay on beyond his term of office and if he chooses to do what a Member of Congress has suggested that might be done by law, which is to give him a third term—I hold no animus toward the Member of Congress who has filed the legislation; I have no animus to you, dear brother—but what we have done is

witnessed a President who, wittingly or unwittingly, has put himself in a position such that he will have the power to enforce the inanity of not allowing a peaceful transfer of power.

He literally is putting himself in that position. Wittingly or unwittingly, he is.

As a result of his doing this, we have to not allow his incivility and his requirement of fealty to prevent us from taking the necessary actions to protect liberty and justice for all and to protect government of the people, by the people, and for the people. To protect what this country has in its great and noble ideals, we have to do what is necessary.

I believe that we have to engage in a level of positive, righteous incivility—positive, righteous incivility, the same kind of incivility that Dr. King engaged in and that John Lewis engaged in. This incivility would only be a counterbalance to the President's incivility.

I am not saying that we get into the name-calling and stoop to the level that he does. I am saying that, when there are moments for us to have righteous incivility, we should.

Now, I am back to where I started. I stood there in the well of the House, other Members with me. I never suggested to anybody that you do a certain thing. We did sing "We Shall Overcome."

It was an act of incivility, but I want people to know that it was in direct response to the President's incivility at the joint session of Congress. He has not been reprimanded. He has not been censured. He won't be reprimanded. He won't be censured.

However, there is one, as the President uses it, in his parlance, one card. There is one card that we have. You told the President of Ukraine: "You don't have the cards." Well, Mr. President, we have the cards.

There are 435 of us with the cards. The card, Mr. President, you know well because, on two occasions, these cards have been utilized to check you. You don't always get convicted when you are indicted, but you do get indicted.

If you continue with this line of behavior, you may not just simply be indicted. That means impeached. You may be more than impeached. There may be a Senate that has the will to live up to the ideals in the Constitution. When that Senate does so, you will no longer be President.

There are 435 cards. Mr. President, I have one of those cards. I have one of them. You are a Goliath. You are Goliath. You now have control of the Justice Department. You have the generals pledging fealty. You are a Goliath, Mr. President, but there are 435 Davids—435 Davids—435 with the power accorded to us by way of the rules of this House to bring Articles of Impeachment.

You may not be impeached the first time, but there is always a second, and there is always a third.

In the end, if you, Mr. President, continue with this behavior, you will be impeached, and I believe there will be the will in the Senate to convict.

I am not threatening anyone. I am talking about the rules that have been accorded to this House, which I happen to be a Member of and proud to be a Member of, and accorded to the Senate.

You are a Goliath, but, Mr. President, there are Davids among us. Your incivility can no longer be tolerated. It has to be met with righteous indignation and righteous incivility.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. McDOWELL). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President and to direct their remarks to the Chair.

FINDING COMMON GROUND

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. KILEY of California was recognized for 30 minutes.)

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, we just heard the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) speak passionately on a number of topics.

It is his prerogative as an elected Member of Congress to speak from this floor on any topic he chooses. What is not his or any of our right is to stand up during the State of the Union and interrupt the President of the United States.

Imagine if everyone did that. Imagine if everyone took whatever grievance they have in the moment and decided to use the State of the Union to air that grievance. Imagine if, during President Biden's speech, each and every one of the Republicans in the House had stood up and objected to the President's open-border policies or his runaway inflation policies. The State of the Union could not be delivered. The institution could not function.

What is even more remarkable, though, than the conduct of this 1 Member is the fact that all but 10 of his colleagues on their side of the aisle chose not to censure this eminently censurable conduct. We held a vote today, and there were 10 Democrats who joined with the Republicans in voting for the censure. They are AMI BERA of California, ED CASE of Hawaii, JIM COSTA of California, LAURA GILLEN of New York, JAMES HIMES of Connecticut, CRISSY HOULAHAN of Pennsylvania, MARCY KAPTUR of Ohio, JARED MOSKOWITZ of Florida, MARIE GLUESENKAMP PEREZ of Washington, and TOM SUOZZI of New York.

The other 200 Members who were present chose not to censure that conduct. I find that remarkable. Indeed, the antics on display during the joint session truly exemplified everything that is wrong with politics in this country today and exemplified everything that Americans are so tired of.

There was, of course, the outburst from the gentleman from Texas (Mr.

GREEN). There were the pathetic little protests of a handful of people walking out in the middle of the speech. There were the sad, little cards with statements like "Lies" on them.

Beyond all of that, there was a premeditated refusal from one side of the aisle, acting in unison, to stand and applaud for literally anything that the President said.

What were some of the things that they uniformly, acting as a monolith, refused to applaud?

They refused to stand and applaud for record-low illegal border crossings, for protecting women's sports, for stopping fraudulent payments, and for capturing a terrorist who killed 13 American servicemembers.

They refused to stand and applaud for supporting law enforcement, for improving military recruitment, for protecting free speech, for having our workers actually show up to work, for hiring people based on merit, for opening new power plants, for living in peace, for the signing of the Abraham Accords, and for returning manufacturing to America.

Not a single person stood. That is kind of the most incredible thing, that there was a willful decision to sacrifice any individuality to the orders being given by party leadership.

It got particularly disturbing when the President recognized a number of heroic Americans who were present, and we had our colleagues refuse to stand and applaud for a volunteer firefighter who provided a home to 40 foster children; to the victim of a deepfake who has become an advocate for other victims; to the family of Laken Riley; to the family of Jocelyn Nungaray; to a heroic Border Patrol agent; to the widow of an officer who was killed in the line of duty; to a 13-year-old survivor of brain cancer, such an inspiring young man; to a young man admitted to West Point; to a history teacher who has finally been brought home after being a political prisoner in Russia, sentenced to 14 years; and to the family of Corey Comperatore.

Each and every time the President recognized one of these individuals in the gallery, there was a premeditated refusal to stand and acknowledge them.

We know that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle know how to do it. During President Biden's State of the Union Addresses, which, by the way, his last one was one of the most caustic, partisan speeches I have ever seen, where he repeatedly compared himself to his predecessor; that is, his political opponent at the time. Dozens of times, Democrats stood and applauded.

By the way, on our side, for a lot of those times, we didn't stand and applaud because he was saying partisan things or things that we disagreed with.

When he said things that we agreed with, I would stand. Others on my side

would stand, as well. When he spoke to unifying ideas, ideas about what makes our country great, we would stand and applaud. When he highlighted people who were deserving of commendation, we would stand and applaud.

Yet, the contrast could not have been starker in President Trump's speech and the reaction to it here in the Chamber on Tuesday.

I think that is really unfortunate because Americans of all party affiliations—Republican, Democratic, Independent, Green Party, whatever the case may be—repeatedly say in overwhelming numbers that the political divisions in this country are a serious problem.

I believe it is weakening us as a country, and I think we need to find opportunities to come together. We need to be looking for common ground. The fact that we had one side that came to Tuesday's speech intent on finding no common ground whatsoever is a very unfortunate thing.

□ 1300

CALIFORNIA'S HIGH-SPEED RAIL

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I formally requested that FBI Director Kash Patel open an investigation into California's High-Speed Rail.

My letter to Director Patel reads as follows: "While I know that many issues are competing for your time, one issue that deserves your attention is California's High-Speed Rail Project.

"Nearly 17 years ago, California and the United States were sold on the dream of high-speed rail in California. Originally projected to cost \$33 billion and scheduled to be completed by 2020, that dream has become a nightmare. According to the California High-Speed Rail Authority's own estimates, the total project cost has now ballooned by over \$100 billion above that original estimate. Moreover, California's auditor reports that the HSRA will miss its latest 2033 deadline . . . without having completed a single segment of the track. Indeed, The New York Times reported that, according to 'projections widely used by engineers and project managers, the train could not be completed in this century.'

"This malfeasance leads to questions that transcend mere incompetence. How is it possible to have spent over \$13 billion without a single station opening? Where have these funds gone? Who benefited?

"Because the project has consumed billions in Federal funding, the FBI has both the authority, and I would argue the responsibility, to pursue these questions and deliver answers to the American people. The public integrity division is uniquely qualified to root out any corruption, recover stolen funds, and restore confidence that our tax dollars are being stewarded carefully.

"On behalf of my constituents and the people of California, thank you for your consideration of this request."

I am hopeful that through this investigation we will finally see some accountability and a measure of justice for California taxpayers.

187,000 PEOPLE IN CALIFORNIA ARE HOMELESS

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, the California Legislative Analyst has just released a new report on the amount of homelessness spending in California. It reports that since 2019, the State has spent over \$36 billion.

This is truly astounding when you consider what has actually happened with homelessness in California during that time. During the Governorship of Gavin Newsom, we have seen a 24 percent increase in homelessness. The population is now over 187,000 people, and roughly half of all unsheltered homeless in the United States are in California.

We have continued to spend more and more money, over \$36 billion over this time period, and the homeless population has only continued to grow. What is worse, the legislative analyst has found that the Governor's office lost track of most of that money.

This was in an audit that was released last year. In this new report, even since that audit, we are seeing the same problem with the new spending that has been authorized. Indeed, the LAO reports that, despite many requirements, as of this writing, no data have been provided to the legislature on how many people living in encampments have received permanent housing or any other type of housing. The legislature lacks other key outcomes data such as the number of encampments that have been resolved.

We continue to see the same problems in California: spending billions of billions, homelessness getting worse, and zero accountability.

The Governor even vetoed last year a bipartisan bill that would have allowed for greater transparency and accountability when it comes to homelessness spending.

Mr. Speaker, this is absolutely unacceptable, and it has gotten to the point where I believe we need to find ways to bring new tools of Federal oversight and accountability to the out-of-control homelessness situation in California.

We are looking at ways of doing just that.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION IS OUT OF CONTROL

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, this week, I officially introduced the Coastal Commission Accountability Act to strip the California Coastal Commission of its powers under Federal law.

The Coastal Commission is simply out of control. It is one of the most out-of-control agencies in the whole country, and it has veered far from its purpose of protecting the coast.

From blocking SpaceX launches to obstructing fire prevention projects, the commission has repeatedly threatened the safety of Californians and weakened our national defense, while

needlessly undercutting innovation and economic progress.

The need to rein the commission in has now become urgent as we face the challenge of rebuilding Los Angeles following the fires, and that will not be possible if the commission is allowed to continue operating as it has been.

Just to give you a couple of examples of some of its abuses, one of them is specifically related to fire.

In 2019, the L.A. Department of Water and Power began replacing nearly 100-year-old wooden power line poles that are cutting through Topanga State Park.

The project, though, was halted because there was apparently an endangered plant, the Branton's milkvetch plant that was in the area.

Now, the goal of this project was to improve fire safety for the Pacific Palisades area by replacing the wooden poles with steel, widening fire access lanes in the area, and installing wind- and fire-resistant power lines. This was all after the area had been identified as having an elevated fire risk.

What the Coastal Commission did, because of this Branton's milkvetch plant, is they marched in, they halted the project, and they even demanded \$2 million in fines.

On top of that, the commission has blocked a desalination plant that had been proposed in Huntington Beach. It has stood in the way of housing, contributing to the housing crisis that we have in California, and it even tried to stop SpaceX from launching rockets out of Vandenberg.

This one was particularly remarkable because SpaceX and the Air Force came and said we want to increase our launch cadence at Vandenberg. These launches are very important for a number of reasons when it comes to innovation, space exploration and national security. That is why the Air Force was involved.

The Coastal Commission said, no, we are not going to allow that. What was the reason they cited? It had nothing to do with preserving the coast, which is their mission. It had nothing to do with maintaining the beauty of the California coast, one of the most beautiful places in the world, which is their mission.

No. The commissioners explicitly said during their meeting that the reason they were going to stop these launches, which the Air Force said are in the national security interests of the United States, is because they didn't like some of the political posts put on X by Elon Musk on completely unrelated topics.

This gives you a sense of what a rogue agency the Coastal Commission has become and the barriers that we will face to rebuilding Los Angeles if this is allowed to continue.

I am looking forward to advancing the Coastal Commission Accountability Act through the House and getting it signed by the President, who I know agrees with me on this issue. I

am hopeful that we can get bipartisan support throughout the process.

PROTECTING WOMEN AND GIRLS'S SPORTS IN CALIFORNIA

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I am calling on California Governor Gavin Newsom to immediately issue an executive order to protect women and girls sports in California and ask the legislature for legislation codifying in law that men shall never compete in women's sports in California again.

Today, the Governor, on his newly established podcast called "This is Gavin Newsom," came out with a statement that surprised many on this topic. He said that when it comes to men competing in women's sports, he said: "I think it is an issue of fairness." It is an issue of fairness. "It is deeply unfair." Those were the Governor's words.

Now, this was surprising because his policies have been the 180-degree opposite. For example, he has signed legislation that has taken away the right of parents to be notified about decisions that their kids make at school with respect to how they identify, or on this issue of sports.

In June 2022, not that long ago, the Governor attacked the State of Tennessee for not funding men competing in girls' sports. So at that point, he was not only in favor of it, he thought that a State refusing to actively promote it and fund it was deserving of censure.

Okay. The Governor has changed his mind. I think that is great. Maybe it has something to do with the fact that polls show that some 90 percent of Americans support the basic predicate of sanity that men should compete in men's sports and women should compete in women's sports.

Now, that message has apparently not been received by the United States Senate, which recently refused to pass the bill we passed in the House, the Protecting Women and Girls in Sports Act, but the Governor has made his statement.

He claims this is his position. It would represent a change of heart, but it means nothing unless he acts on it if he continues to support policies that do the exact opposite.

If the Governor is serious, I am calling on him today to take executive action to protect women's sports and to get the legislature to take action as well, so that we can end this absurdity and unfairness in California once and for all.

MUCH-NEEDED COMPREHENSIVE EFFORT UNDER WAY TO MODERNIZE OUR GOVERNMENT

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, there is at this time a much-needed comprehensive effort under way to modernize our government, to root out fraud, to root out inefficiency, to implement reforms that will save the taxpayers' money, and lead to a higher quality of government service while rightsizing the Federal Government.

This is an undertaking that is supported by a broad majority of Americans of all party affiliations.

I have been very appreciative of the administration's efforts to keep us informed as well as to solicit feedback from Members of Congress as to how things are playing out in our districts, knowing that such a massive undertaking that is being done at a much-needed aggressive pace will inevitably, from time to time, produce some effects that need to be looked at more closely.

□ 1315

One of the ways in which I have provided feedback to the administration is as it concerns the issue of fire protection in my district. Now, of course, we all saw the horror that unfolded in Los Angeles recently, but in recent years, these catastrophic events have become a recurring phenomenon. They have become, sadly, a fact of life for folks in California.

Several of the most devastating fires in State history have occurred in my district. In the wake of these fires, there has been a massive undertaking to do whatever we can to try to prevent similar events from happening in the future.

One of my very first priorities since I got to Congress is to bring unprecedented resources to our district for massive fire mitigation projects that will keep our communities safe. By the way, there is a lot of reform that we still need to do in terms of the regulations. There have been some minor improvements, but the Fix Our Forests Act, for example, is a bill that will go a long way.

We do need the resources, which we have managed to secure at an unprecedented level, and I have simply tried to emphasize the importance of protecting these efforts, especially given the fact that in parts of my district that have rather extreme weather, there is a pretty short window of time right now to get some of these projects started and to get them completed.

Just as a few examples, the Plumas County Fire Safe Council has a grant of nearly \$7 million that is very important for fire mitigation efforts.

The Nevada County Board of Supervisors has significant grants that have come in for vital wildfire mitigation projects, shaded fuel breaks, evacuation planning, and community wildfire protection planning.

The Mono County Board of Supervisors has a public safety and law enforcement grant related to staffing of the forest protection officers and law enforcement officers, as well.

American Rivers, there is a \$16 million grant that is being funded by National Fish and Wildlife. There are matching funds as well with a number of regional partners. The purpose of the project is to restore high-severity burned areas near the South Fork of the American River and Cosumnes River to prevent erosion and flooding

as well as to protect water quality and for drinking, irrigation, and hydropower.

There is also the Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project. This is in Mammoth Lakes. There is \$6.7 million for implementation funds as well as a number of other types of funds. This is a project that, again, is designed to do important fire mitigation work. There are potentially 1,609 acres with a reduction of 77 percent of total acres that is now potentially being faced.

We have then as well some reports of folks with the Forest Service and positions that are in jeopardy.

In the Camino Fire Safe Council, we have also gotten some reports of activity when it comes to their grants, as well.

That is just to emphasize that this is an issue of the highest importance for folks in my district and that we need to absolutely—and I have been advocating this since I have been in elected office—have much more sensible policies when it comes to forest management, when it comes to the laws and regulations that we have that make it so difficult to do this needed work.

We also need to do the work at a scale, and the resources to do it at a scale that is much higher than we have done in the past. I have been extremely critical of the Governor, for example, of not doing that, of exaggerating the amount of fire protection work done by almost 700 percent, according to Capital Public Radio. We have made good progress in terms of bringing Federal resources to get this work done, and I will continue to advocate for that here in every way that I can.

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

IMPOSING SANCTIONS ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 119-23)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and the Judiciary and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), section 212 (f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (8 U.S.C. 1182 (f)), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I hereby report that I have exercised my authority to declare a national emergency in order to halt efforts by the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute persons in America and our close ally Israel through blatant lawfare. I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

The ICC has, without basis, asserted jurisdiction over and opened investigations into personnel of the United States and certain of its allies, including Israel, and has further abused its power by issuing baseless arrest warrants targeting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Former Minister of Defense Yoav Gallant. The ICC has no jurisdiction over the United States or Israel, as neither country is party to the Rome Statute or a member of the ICC. Neither country has ever recognized the ICC's jurisdiction, and both nations are thriving democracies with militaries that strictly adhere to the laws of war. The ICC's recent actions against Israel and the United States set a dangerous precedent, directly endangering current and former United States personnel, including active service members of the Armed Forces, by exposing them to harassment, abuse, and possible arrest. This malign conduct in turn threatens to infringe upon the sovereignty of the United States and undermines the critical national security and foreign policy work of the United States Government and our allies, including Israel.

Pursuant to the national emergency that I have declared, the United States will impose tangible and significant consequences on those responsible for the ICC's transgressions, including by blocking property and assets, and suspending entry into the United States of ICC officials, employees, and agents, as well as their immediate family members. I have directed the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, to identify and sanction any foreign person found to have, among other things, directly assisted in any ICC efforts to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute a protected person without consent of that person's country of nationality.

I have further determined that the unrestricted immigrant and non-immigrant entry into the United States of any covered alien found to have participated in any ICC efforts to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute a protected person, as well as immediate family members of such aliens, or aliens determined by the Secretary of State to be employed by, or acting as an agent of, the ICC, would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, as immigrants or non-immigrants, and therefore have suspended such immigration except where the Secretary of State determines that the entry of the person into the United States would not be contrary to the interests of the United States.

In addition, I have determined that donations of articles specified in section 203(b)(2) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702(b)(2)) by, to, or for the benefit of any person whose assets are blocked, would impair my ability to address the national emergency I de-

clared. I have therefore prohibited such donations.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 5, 2025.

NOTIFICATION OF CERTAIN ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS THE SYNTHETIC OPIOID SUPPLY CHAIN IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE FLOW OF ILLICIT DRUGS ACROSS OUR NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN BORDERS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 119-24)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with applicable law, including the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621) and the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701), I am providing notice of certain actions I have taken to address the synthetic opioid supply chain in the People's Republic of China and the flow of illicit drugs across our northern and southern borders. As reflected in the Executive Orders described below, the sustained influx of illicit opioids and other drugs has profound consequences on our Nation, endangering lives and putting a severe strain on our healthcare system, public services, and communities. These actions are an expansion of the national emergency I declared in Proclamation 10886 of January 20, 2025 (Declaring a National Emergency at the Southern Border of the United States).

Executive Order 14193, as amended by Executive Orders 14197 and 14226, and Executive Order 14194, as amended by Executive Orders 14198 and 14227, expand the scope of the aforementioned national emergency to "cover the threat to the safety and security of Americans, including the public health crisis of deaths due to the use of fentanyl and other illicit drugs" and the failure of Canada and Mexico to arrest, seize, detain, or otherwise intercept drug trafficking organizations, other drug and human traffickers, criminals at large, and illicit drugs. Furthermore, Executive Order 14195, as amended by Executive Orders 14200 and 14228, expands the scope of the same national emergency declared in Proclamation 10886 to cover the failure of the People's Republic of China to arrest, seize, detain, or otherwise intercept chemical precursor suppliers, money launderers, transnational criminal organizations, criminals at large, and drugs. To combat these problems, I have determined that ad valorem tariffs on articles that are products of these countries are in order.

My Administration will continue to consult with the Congress on our efforts to address the influx of illegal drugs into our communities. As described in these Executive Orders, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Commerce, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, and the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security, are authorized to submit recurring and final reports to the Congress on this national emergency.

I am enclosing copies of the Executive Orders I have issued.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 5, 2025.

JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported that on March 4, 2025, the following joint resolution was presented to the President of the United States for approval:

H.J. Res. 35. Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Waste Emissions Charge for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems: Procedures for Facilitating Compliance, Including Netting and Exemptions".

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, March 10, 2025, at noon 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-516. A letter from the Director, Rule-making Operations, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Child Restraint Systems, Child Restraint Anchorage Systems, Incorporation by Reference [Docket No. NHTSA-2024-0089] (RIN: 2127-AL20) received March 3, 2025, 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-517. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; New Jersey; Permits and Certificates for Minor Facilities (and Major facilities Without an Operating Permit), and Air Emission Control and Permitting Exemptions [EPA-R02-OAR-2024-0573; FRL-12459-02-R2] received February 27, 2025, 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-518. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Office of Air

and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's notice of decision — California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Emission Warranty and Maintenance Provisions; Advanced Clean Trucks; Zero Emission Airport Shuttle; Zero-Emission Power Train Certification; Waiver of Preemption [EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0330, EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0331; FRL-9900-02-OAR] received March 5, 2025, 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-519. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's notice of decision — California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The "Omnibus" Low NOx Regulation; Waiver of Preemption [EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0332; FRL-9902-02-OAR] received March 5, 2025, 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-520. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's notice of decision — California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption [EPA-HQ-OAR-2023-0292; FRL-11010-02-OAR] received March 5, 2025, 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-521. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Report Pursuant to Section 2(8) of the Senate's Resolution of Advice and Consent to the Ratification of the Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Australia Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CALVERT (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. ISSA):

H.R. 1894. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to vest in the Secretary of the Interior functions under that Act with respect to species of fish that spawn in fresh or estuarine waters and migrate to ocean waters and species of fish that spawn in ocean waters and migrate to fresh or estuarine waters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. SPARTZ (for herself, Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Mr. RULLI, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 1895. A bill to increase the benefits guaranteed in connection with certain pension plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. FLOOD, Mr.

GIMENEZ, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Ms. BUZINSKI, Mr. SORESENSEN, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas):

H.R. 1896. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to include fuel for ocean-going vessels as additional renewable fuel for which credits may be generated under the renewable fuel program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WESTERMAN (for himself, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. BENTZ, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. EZELL, Mr. AMODEI of Nevada, Mr. HUNT, Ms. MALOY, Mr. BIGGS of Arizona, and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 1897. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to optimize conservation through resource prioritization, incentivize wildlife conservation on private lands, provide for greater incentives to recover listed species, create greater transparency and accountability in recovering listed species, streamline the permitting process, eliminate barriers to conservation, and restore congressional intent; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BARRETT (for himself and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 1898. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress reports on the feasibility of installing traffic alert and collision avoidance systems and automatic dependent surveillance-broadcast IN capabilities in all military rotary-wing aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. FEENSTRA (for himself and Mr. PAPPAS):

H.R. 1899. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to allow for the furnishing of audio-only telehealth services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BARR (for himself and Mr. FITZGERALD):

H.R. 1900. A bill to specify when the record is complete on certain acquisition applications related to depository institution holding companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. BARRAGAN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. WATERS, Mr. SOTO, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MFUME, Ms. ANSARI, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. VASQUEZ):

H.R. 1901. A bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to permanently extend the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BERA (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. CHU, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. POCAN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. BACON, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. BROWN, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 1902. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to improve the

detection, prevention, and treatment of mental health issues among public safety officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. PANNETTA, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 1903. A bill to amend the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 to impose limitations on the authority of the President to adjust imports that are determined to threaten to impair national security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Ms. BROWNLEY (for herself and Ms. STANSBURY):

H.R. 1904. A bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to establish the Climate Scientific Research Advisory Committee and the Rural Climate Alliance Network, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. TENNEY, and Ms. VAN DUYN):

H.R. 1905. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain students from the calculation to determine if certain private colleges and universities are subject to the excise tax on net investment income, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BUDZINSKI (for herself, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. TAYLOR):

H.R. 1906. A bill to provide for the prioritization of projects that provide behavioral and mental health treatment services in selecting grantees under certain rural development programs, and extend the substance abuse disorder set-aside and priority under the programs; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 1907. A bill to allow an individual to shoot an unmanned aircraft flying over property owned by the individual under certain circumstances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 1908. A bill to prohibit stock trading and ownership by Members of Congress and their spouses and dependent children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, House Administration, 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. CARTER of Georgia (for himself, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. CAMMACK, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. MACKENZIE):

H.R. 1909. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize support for State-based maternal mortality review committees, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to disseminate best practices on maternal mortality prevention to hospitals, State-based professional societies, and perinatal quality

collaboratives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CASTEN (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Mr. TORRES of New York):

H.R. 1910. A bill to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to require certain large banking institutions to have a Chief Risk Officer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CONAWAY (for himself, Mr. SUOZZI, and Mr. VAN DREW):

H.R. 1911. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that certain payments to foreign related parties subject to sufficient foreign tax are not treated as base erosion payments; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Ms. SALINAS, and Ms. TLAIB):

H.R. 1912. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the repayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of benefits misused by a fiduciary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRANK:

H.R. 1913. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to limit certain Federal funding to States that do not have a process to notify the Secretary of Homeland Security of the release from custody or detainment certain aliens under certain circumstances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. CROCKETT (for herself, Mr. EDWARDS, Ms. CHU, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ):

H.R. 1914. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the work opportunity tax credit for hiring displaced disaster victims; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DAVIDSON (for himself, Mr. CLINE, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama):

H.R. 1915. A bill to improve the collection of intelligence regarding activities by drug trafficking organizations in certain foreign countries; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), Foreign Affairs, Homeland Security, Oversight and Government Reform, Energy and Commerce, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ (for herself, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. MACE, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. LUTTRELL, Ms. PEREZ, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. KEAN, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. BRESNAHAN, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. GUEST, and Mr. GILL of Texas):

H.R. 1916. A bill making appropriations for the salaries and expenses of certain U.S. Customs and Border Protection employees working during a Government shutdown in fiscal year 2025, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Mr. HUIZENGA, and Mr. WALBERG):

H.R. 1917. A bill to establish the Great Lakes Mass Marking Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Ms. BALINT, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CASTOR

of Florida, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. MCCLEIN DELANEY, Ms. DEXTER, Ms. ELFRETH, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Ms. FRIEDMAN, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HOYER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LATIMER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEU, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. MFUME, Mr. MIN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. PRESSLEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 1918. A bill to prohibit the sale and distribution of expanded polystyrene food service ware, expanded polystyrene loose fill, and expanded polystyrene coolers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. EMMER (for himself, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. OGLES, Mr. BOST, Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. BIGGS of Arizona, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. KIM, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. KILEY of California, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. BARR, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. ROSE, Mr. STEIL, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. HARIDOPOLIS, Mr. DOWNING, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. BACON, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. MACE, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. HOUGHIN, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. FINSTAD, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. AMODEI of Nevada, Mr. GRAVES, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. CRANE, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. FLEISCHMAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. BICE, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. BERGMAN, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. LATTI, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. ISSA, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PERRY, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. CAREY, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. ROY, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. CRANK, Mr. BAUMGARTNER, Mr. MACKENZIE, Mr. MCDOWELL, Mr. MESSMER, Mr. SCHMIDT, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. GILL of Texas, and Mr. GUEST):

H.R. 1919. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit the Federal reserve banks from offering certain products or services directly to an individual, to prohibit the

use of central bank digital currency for monetary policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. FEENSTRA (for himself, Ms. McDONALD RIVET, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. RILEY of New York, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. SORESENSEN):

H.R. 1920. A bill to amend the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 to strengthen oversight over foreign investment in the United States agricultural industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Foreign Affairs, 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 Mrs. FISCHBACH (for herself and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 1921. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to clarify that fully implanted active middle ear hearing devices are prosthetics and are not subject to the hearing aid coverage exclusion under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARBARINO (for himself, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 1922. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exempt certain drugs from the part D manufacturer discount program under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HARDER of California (for himself, Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. STANTON):

H.R. 1923. A bill to provide for the implementation of certain recommendations from the Report of the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Education and Workforce, Oversight and Government Reform, Armed Services, Energy and Commerce, Science, Space, and Technology, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Small Business, 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. HERN of Oklahoma (for himself, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. SMUCKER, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 1924. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a new criterion for the nonapplication of site-neutral payments to long-term care hospitals under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. FOSTER):

H.R. 1925. A bill to require a report by the Transportation Security Administration on digital identity ecosystems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. HUNT:

H.R. 1926. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to provide for commingling; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. CRANE, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. HARIDOPOLOS, and Mr. FEENSTRA):

H.R. 1927. A bill to provide for enhanced Federal, State, and local assistance in the enforcement of the immigration laws, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act, and to authorize appropriations to carry out the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. CRANE, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. HARIDOPOLOS, and Mr. FEENSTRA):

H.R. 1928. A bill to authorize private enforcement of immigration laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 1929. A bill to authorize additional district judges for the district courts and convert temporary judgeships; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas (for herself, Mr. CASE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. STANTON):

H.R. 1930. A bill to require an assessment of CBP and ICE staffing at the southern border, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 1931. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to facilitate patient access to certain pediatric technologies; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:

H.R. 1932. A bill making continuing appropriations for military pay in the event of a Government shutdown; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. LAWLER (for himself and Mr. TORRES of New York):

H.R. 1933. A bill to award posthumously a congressional gold medal to James Earl Jones, an American icon, in recognition of a remarkable life in reshaping perceptions, dismantling racial barriers, and advocating for equal opportunities for people of all backgrounds in film and theatre; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself, Mr. NADLER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H.R. 1934. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to prohibit the taking for a trophy of any endangered or threatened species of fish or wildlife in the United States and the importation of endangered and threatened species trophies into the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LUTTREL:

H.R. 1935. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that aliens who have been convicted of or who have committed an offense related to entering military, naval, or coast guard property, are inadmissible and deportable; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MAGAZINER (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. McIVER, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SWALWELL, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 1936. A bill to prohibit funds for the Armed Forces to engage in operations to invade or seize territory from Canada, the Republic of Panama, or the self-governing territory of Greenland; to the Committee on

Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 1937. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recognize nurse registries for purposes of the Veterans Community Care Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. MCCLELLAN (for herself, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. RYAN, Mr. LALOTA, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 1938. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to request modifications relating to certain permits issued under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. AMO, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KEATING, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. MENG, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. OMAR, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 1939. A bill to require the imposition of sanctions with respect to conflict in Sudan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, the Judiciary, and Oversight and Government Reform, 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. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 1940. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on indoor tanning services; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MORELLE (for himself and Mr. KEAN):

H.R. 1941. A bill to prohibit the disclosure of intimate digital depictions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MORELLE (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 1942. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the standard charitable mileage rate for delivery of meals to elderly, disabled, frail, and at-risk individuals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CISCOMANI, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. BACON, Mr. COSTA, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. WHITESIDES, and Mrs. KIM):

H.R. 1943. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for special base rates of pay for wildland firefighters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself and Mrs. LUNA):

H.R. 1944. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to cap credit card interest rates

at 10 percent; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ONDER:

H.R. 1945. A bill to designate the America's National Churchill Museum National Historic Landmark, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PERRY (for himself and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 1946. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the carbon oxide sequestration credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PERRY (for himself, Mr. OGLES, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 1947. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense to furnish stellate ganglion block to veterans and members of the Armed Forces with post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ELLZEY, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ZINKE, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas):

H.R. 1948. A bill to authorize the International Boundary and Water Commission to accept funds for activities relating to wastewater treatment and flood control works, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PFLUGER (for himself, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LETLOW, Mrs. SPARTZ, Ms. BOEBERT, Mrs. BICE, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BABIN, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Ms. HAGEMAN):

H.R. 1949. A bill to repeal restrictions on the export and import of natural gas; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself, Mr. DOGETT, and Mr. FROST):

H.R. 1950. A bill to protect benefits provided under Social Security, Medicare, and any other program of benefits administered by the Social Security Administration or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. RILEY of New York (for himself and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 1951. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to reauthorize rural cooperative development grants; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. RILEY of New York (for himself and Mr. FEENSTRA):

H.R. 1952. A bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to extend grants and fellowships for food and agricultural sciences education; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. ROY (for himself, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. OGLES, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. ROSE, Ms. BOEBERT, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. PERRY, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BABIN, Mr. BIGGS of Arizona, and Mr. CLOUD):

H.R. 1953. A bill to prohibit foreign assistance to countries that deny or delay accepting aliens as described in section 243 of the Immigration and Nationality Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SCANLON,

Mr. PETERS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. POCAN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. TITUS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. FRIEDMAN, Mr. MFUME, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. NEAL, Ms. CHU, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. HOYER, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. OMAR, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. CARSON, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. WATERS, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. FIELDS, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. TONKO, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. ANSARI, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. STANTON, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. DOGETT, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MCGARVEY, and Mr. AMO):

H.R. 1954. A bill to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to protect civil rights and otherwise prevent meaningful harm to third parties, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SORENSEN:

H.R. 1955. A bill to require the establishment within the Department of Defense of a pilot program on arsenal workload sustainment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. STRICKLAND (for herself, Mr.

BACON, Mr. BEYER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Ms. GOODLANDER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. LIEU, Mr. MOULTON, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PETERSEN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mr. WITTMAN):

H.R. 1956. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to increase the basic allowance for housing inside the United States for members of the uniformed services; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. TAKANO (for himself, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. LEVIN):

H.R. 1957. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, and the United States Housing Act of 1937, to make certain improvements to the supported housing program for veterans commonly known as "HUD-VASH"; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAYLOR (for himself, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. SCHMIDT, Ms. MACE, Mr. ONDER, Mr. MESSMER, Mr. LATTA, Mr. KENNEDY of Utah, Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. ROSE, Mr. HARIDOPOLOS, and Mr. FINSTAD):

H.R. 1958. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify that aliens who have been convicted of defrauding the United States Government or the unlawful receipt of public benefits are inadmissible and deportable; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. TENNEY (for herself and Mr. SMUCKER):

H.R. 1959. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect small businesses from unemployment insurance premium increases by reason of unrepaid State advances; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. BRESNAHAN, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 1960. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide guidance to applicants for grants for comprehensive service programs for homeless veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 1961. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish and implement a department-wide after-action program and a risk communication strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. VAN DREW (for himself and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 1962. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to remove the overtime wages exemption for certain employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Ms. VAN DUYNE:

H.R. 1963. A bill to require the heads of agencies identify whether major rules of the agency are budget neutral, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VASQUEZ:

H.R. 1964. A bill to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Las Cruces, New Mexico, the "Las Cruces Bataan Memorial Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. VASQUEZ (for himself and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 1965. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an annual increase in stipend for books, supplies, equipment, and other educational costs under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Ms.

UNDERWOOD, Ms. ADAMS, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. BROWN, Mr. CARSON, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. DOGETT, Mr. FIELDS, Mr. FIGURES, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TLAI, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 1966. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, to award grants to expand and improve maternal health care services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. CARSON, Mr. COHEN, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mrs. MCIVER, and Ms. TLAI):

H.R. 1967. A bill to rename the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. NEAL, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. STANTON, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas):

H.J. Res. 72. A joint resolution relating to a national emergency by the President on February 1, 2025; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. NEAL, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. STANTON, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas):

H.J. Res. 73. A joint resolution relating to a national emergency by the President on February 1, 2025; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. NORMAN (for himself, Mr. BARR, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. OGLES, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. DOWNING, and Mr. MOORE of North Carolina):

H.J. Res. 74. A joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to "Prohibition on Creditors and Consumer Reporting Agencies Concerning Medical Information (Regulation V)"; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. STEIL (for himself and Mr. MORELLE):

H. Res. 198. A resolution providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Nineteenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H. Res. 199. A resolution condemning woke foreign aid programs; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KHANNA:

H. Res. 200. A resolution expressing support for a comprehensive political reform plan; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. OGLES:

H. Res. 201. A resolution removing certain Members from standing committees of the House of Representatives; to the Committee on Ethics.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. HUDSON:

H.R. 1870.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 1894.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 1 and clause 18.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 1895.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 1896.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. WESTERMAN:

H.R. 1897.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. BARRETT:

H.R. 1898.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. FEENSTRA:

H.R. 1899.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section VIII of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 1900.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 1901.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BERA:

H.R. 1902.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

mental health

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 1903.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 1904.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 1905.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Ms. BUDZINSKI:

H.R. 1906.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 1907.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 1908.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 1909.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. CASTEN:

H.R. 1910.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution

By Mr. CONAWAY:

H.R. 1911.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The General Welfare Clause found in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 1912.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CRANK:

H.R. 1913.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. CROCKETT:

H.R. 1914.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. DAVIDSON:

H.R. 1915.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional citation: Article 1, Section 8: Congress shall have 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 in any Department or Officer thereof

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ:

H.R. 1916.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 1917.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 1918.

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.

By Mr. EMMER:

H.R. 1919.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. FEENSTRA:

H.R. 1920.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

To amend the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 to strengthen oversight over foreign investment in the United States agricultural industry, and for other purposes.

By Mrs. FISCHBACH:

H.R. 1921.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 1922.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8.

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 1923.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. HERN of Oklahoma:

H.R. 1924.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 1925.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United

States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. HUNT:

H.R. 1926.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, clauses 1 & 3

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 1927.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 1928.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 1929.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 1.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 1930.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 1931.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:

H.R. 1932.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 1933.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 7

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 1934.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const., Art. 1, Sec. 8

By Mr. LUTTRELL:

H.R. 1935.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8. To make 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.

By Mr. MAGAZINER:

H.R. 1936.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 1937.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. McCLELLAN:

H.R. 1938.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.R. 1939.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 1940.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. MORELLE:

H.R. 1941.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MORELLE:

H.R. 1942.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution and Amendment XVI of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 1943.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:

H.R. 1944.

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

By Mr. ONDER:

H.R. 1945.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 1946

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 1947.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 1948

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PFLUGER:

H.R. 1949.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8

By Mr. POCAN:

H.R. 1950.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. RILEY of New York:

H.R. 1951.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section VIII

By Mr. RILEY of New York:

H.R. 1952.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section VIII

By Mr. ROY:

H.R. 1953.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:

H.R. 1954.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. SORENSEN:

H.R. 1955.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

By Ms. STRICKLAND:

H.R. 1956.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 1957.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. TAYLOR:

H.R. 1958.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 1959.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 1960.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by the constitution in the Government of the United States or any Department or Office thereof."

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 1961.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 1962.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Ms. VAN DUYNE:

H.R. 1963.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. VASQUEZ:

H.R. 1964.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United State Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of the Congress.

By Mr. VASQUEZ:

H.R. 1965.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United State Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of the Congress.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 1966.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 1967.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, 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.

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.J. Res. 72.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.J. Res. 73.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution
By Mr. NORMAN:
H.J. Res. 74.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 57: Mr. GILL of Texas.
H.R. 60: Mr. GILL of Texas.
H.R. 275: Mr. PFLUGER.
H.R. 349: Mr. LAWLER, Mr. CROW, Mr. HORSFORD, Mrs. KIM, and Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 369: Mr. HARRIS of Maryland.
H.R. 407: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 426: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 439: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 452: Mr. CARSON, Mr. HIMES, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. GOMEZ, and Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 530: Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 568: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 609: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 610: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 628: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 637: Mr. COLE, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. CARSON, and Mr. DELUZIO.
H.R. 643: Mr. DAVIDSON and Mr. MOORE of North Carolina.
H.R. 652: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 764: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 766: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 768: Ms. NORTON and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 821: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 862: Ms. MCBRIDE.
H.R. 879: Mrs. SYKES, Mrs. FOUSHEE, and Mr. GRIFFITH.
H.R. 881: Mr. LUTTRELL.
H.R. 903: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 909: Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Ms. PEREZ, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, and Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 914: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 930: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 979: Ms. SEWELL, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. DOWNING, Mr. DUNN of Florida, and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 995: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 1041: Mr. SELF.
H.R. 1103: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 1145: Mrs. TORRES of California.
H.R. 1151: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 1189: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1196: Mrs. FOUSHEE.
H.R. 1197: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1229: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 1254: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1269: Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. GOODLANDER, Mr. GOODEN, Ms. GILLEN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. CISCOMANI, Ms. ANSARI, Mr. LALOTA, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. TITUS, and Mrs. KIM.
H.R. 1299: Mr. CISCOMANI, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. LALOTA, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1355: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 1356: Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, and Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 1357: Mr. JAMES.
H.R. 1363: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1378: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 1383: Mr. WHITESIDES, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 1422: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 1440: Mr. GARBARINO and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1443: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 1452: Ms. HAGEMAN.
H.R. 1462: Ms. HAGEMAN.
H.R. 1490: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 1520: Ms. MALOY, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 1524: Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. MACE, Ms. SALAZAR, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 1530: Ms. ROSS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. FIELDS, and Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 1542: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 1544: Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 1545: Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 1589: Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE.
H.R. 1597: Ms. TLAIIB.
H.R. 1637: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 1650: Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
H.R. 1700: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 1701: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 1719: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. VAN ORDEN.
H.R. 1725: Ms. ROSS, Mr. HORSFORD, and Mrs. TORRES of California.
H.R. 1744: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 1754: Mr. HARRIS of Maryland.
H.R. 1757: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 1759: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 1775: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 1788: Ms. UNDERWOOD and Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 1799: Mr. ROSE.
H.R. 1810: Ms. BALINT and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 1811: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 1820: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
H.R. 1849: Mr. OBERNOLTE and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 1862: Mr. BIGGS of Arizona.
H.R. 1893: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.J. Res. 65: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H. Con. Res. 4: Mr. ROUZER, Mr. COSTA, Mr. LATTA, and Mr. DELUZIO.
H. Res. 23: Mr. TRAN.
H. Res. 70: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Ms. SCHRIER.
H. Res. 94: Mr. CARBAJAL and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H. Res. 98: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H. Res. 120: Ms. SHERRILL.
H. Res. 166: Mr. JAMES and Ms. SHERRILL.
H. Res. 168: Ms. MENG and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H. Res. 194: Mr. HUIZENGA, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. McDONALD RIVET, and Mr. WALBERG.
H. Res. 197: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.



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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, before whose eyes the ages pass, who knows our changing thoughts, help us to remember that You guide the planets and our times are in Your hands. Open our ears to hear Your voice as the Heavens declare Your glory and the flowers speak of Your majesty. As you whisper in the wind, teach us to number our days and to seize the seasons You have given us to serve.

Strengthen our lawmakers for today's work. Give them priorities that honor You, patience to persevere, and humility to build new bridges of cooperation. Lord, empower them to do to others what they want done to themselves.

And, Lord, bring peace to our troubled world.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MULLIN). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Troy Edgar, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, my message today is to the administration and particularly to President Trump, who is very forcefully enforcing the immigration laws that were not enforced in the last administration, a message about bringing justice to some people who have been harmed by the previous administration.

On January 20, President Trump's first day in office, he signed the Executive order that is called Securing Our Borders Executive Order. His Executive order properly instructs the Justice Department and the Department of Homeland Security to "fulfill the requirements of the DNA Fingerprint Act of 2005." That is music to my ears because I have been involved in that issue in regard to the kids who have been lost in this system of immigration that the previous administration has not been able to follow. As I said, that is music to my ears.

For years, my oversight has sounded the alarm on the Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Homeland Security's failure to fully implement the 2005 DNA Fingerprint Act.

I have a lot of whistleblowers come to me on different subjects. Three whistleblowers—Mark Jones, Mike Taylor, and Fred Wynn—disclosed to their superiors that the Department of Homeland Security wasn't following

the 2005 law. In other words, they were not taking DNA from the people whom they were supposed to be keeping track of. Specifically, these whistleblowers disclosed that the government wasn't collecting the DNA from individuals encountered at the southern border like the law requires.

As you might expect, because it happens to so many whistleblowers, instead of being thanked for pointing out this failure, the Department of Homeland Security and Customs and Border Protection officials retaliated against these whistleblowers. That is why you hear me say so often that whistleblowers are a very—I would like to say they love their country. They want to see their government just simply enforce the law. Then we find out, as I am going to show you, how they are treated like a skunk at a picnic.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Taylor had their law enforcement credentials removed. After 30 years of Federal service, Mr. Taylor lost his law enforcement retirement benefits. All three were subject to harassment.

The Office of Special Counsel has the power to investigate and did investigate and substantiated their whistleblower disclosures and that retaliation occurred.

President Trump and this administration, moving so forcefully to see that the laws are enforced, ought to appreciate whistleblowers who are telling the truth about the government not carrying out the law. In this case, I am asking President Trump to immediately remedy the situation of these whistleblowers.

Last year, how I became acquainted with a lot of this—at least the details of it—I hosted an oversight roundtable with these whistleblowers. The roundtable exposed that the Department of Homeland Security and Customs and Border Protection failed to take the DNA of the individuals charged with the tragic murder of Rachel Morin despite having three opportunities to

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



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take those fingerprints. Had the Biden-Harris Department of Homeland Security and Customs and Border Protection done their job, there is a chance that Ms. Morin would be alive today.

This Executive action couldn't come soon enough. That is why I am pleading with President Trump or his staff to follow up and make sure that justice is brought to these three whistleblowers. Then the President is going to see that the law is enforced. I don't have any doubt about the President seeing that this law is carried out in the future because full compliance with the law will make our border stronger and our citizens safer.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

HALT FENTANYL ACT

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, in just a few short weeks, President Trump has restored order to the southern border. If initial reports are accurate, approximately 8,450 illegal immigrants were apprehended trying to cross the border last month. Not long ago, Border Patrol would sometimes apprehend that many illegal immigrants in a single day—in a single day.

With less chaos, Border Patrol can focus on the criminals, cartels, terrorists, and traffickers who used to try to hide behind the surges, and that makes our country safer. But we have more work to do. Illegal drugs continue to plague too many communities and take too many Americans' lives. More Americans die of drug overdoses each year than Americans who died in the entirety of the Vietnam war. The New England Journal of Medicine estimated that 22 teenagers died of overdoses each week in 2022. That is an entire high school classroom lost every week to the scourge of drugs. And so many of these tragedies are from a lethal dose of fentanyl in a single pill—fentanyl that can frequently be traced back to the southern border.

This crisis is affecting every part of the country. We have seen it in South Dakota. Police in Sioux Falls seized enough fentanyl to kill 2.5 million people last year. Law enforcement reports that cartels have a presence in our area, and the price of a single pill has dropped from \$40 a few years ago to \$5 per pill today, largely because of increasing supply.

I am grateful for the men and women in law enforcement and first responders who work every day to save lives, and we need to help them get these drugs off our streets and prevent more overdose deaths.

The President is already taking major steps to halt the supply of drugs

flowing across our borders, and, later today, the Senate will vote to begin consideration of the HALT Fentanyl Act, which will provide law enforcement with a critical tool to combat fentanyl.

Until a few years ago, the fentanyl analogs that have killed so many Americans were generally classified as schedule II substances, meaning they were less tightly regulated and violations carried lighter penalties. And if a particular analog was moved to schedule I, cartels would slightly alter the chemical composition of their fentanyl equivalents to avoid a crackdown—changes that made those drugs no less deadly.

But in 2018, President Trump put a stop to that. All fentanyl analogs were temporarily reclassified as schedule I drugs, enabling law enforcement to go after the people bringing this poison to our communities. Congress has extended this provision several times because it works, but the most recent extension expires at the end of this month. It is time that all fentanyl analogs are permanently classified as what they are: the most deadly kind of drugs.

Our colleagues Senators CASSIDY, GRASSLEY, and HEINRICH have put forward a bill to do just that, expanding on Senator JOHNSON's leadership in this area and Senator GRAHAM's good work. The HALT Fentanyl Act would permanently list fentanyl analogs on schedule I. Doing this will help law enforcement keep pace with the evolving threat of fentanyl that is driving drug overdoses in our country.

It has backing from a number of State attorneys general and from law enforcement. Attorney General Bondi has endorsed the bill. It has bipartisan support here in Congress, including bipartisan cosponsorship and strong bipartisan votes in both the Senate Judiciary Committee and in the House of Representatives.

I am also proud that this bill has come to the Senate floor through regular order. The Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on fentanyl, where members heard the heart-breaking stories of lives taken or changed forever by deadly fentanyl analogs. The committee held a markup and reported the bill to the floor by a bipartisan vote of 16 to 5, and now we are going to have a debate on the bill here on the floor of the U.S. Senate. And I hope that, in the coming days, we will have a productive process to make a law that will save American lives.

So, Mr. President, I thank Senators CASSIDY, GRASSLEY, and HEINRICH for their leadership on this issue, and Senators JOHNSON and GRAHAM for their work, as well, and I am looking forward to sending the HALT Fentanyl Act to President Trump's desk soon.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, well, last night, reports came out that President Trump is preparing to sign an Executive order to abolish—end—the Department of Education as soon as today. If this report is true, this would be one of the most destructive and devastating steps Donald Trump has ever taken—and the main victims of this decision: American children.

This right here is why every single Democrat said “hell no” to the nomination of Linda McMahon. This is why we did it. Linda McMahon is an Education Secretary who personifies nails on the chalkboard. I have never heard before of a Secretary who wanted a Cabinet job solely for the purpose of detonating the very Agency she seeks to lead. I have never heard of an Education Secretary who wants to give every teacher in America a rotten apple. But this is where we are.

These are not just metaphors of the moment. They are the perils of the present. This would be horrible for our schools, our school leaders, our families, and the children Secretary McMahon is supposed to serve. The blast radius of this order will harm nearly every child, every teacher, every family, and every community in the country.

Don't forget: Defunding education means property taxes will go up to make up the funding gap. Homeowners are about to get blindsided by the toxic brew of seeing their property taxes go up while seeing the quality of many schools that depend on funding go down.

But nobody—nobody—will suffer more from Donald Trump's decision than our kids. Almost 90 percent of the students in America attend public schools, and they will suffer because of what Donald Trump is doing. Why?

The Department of Education is a lifeline for public schools across the country. It is particularly strong in rural areas because there is not much choice. There is one school in the town.

With Federal funding, many rural schools will vanish and some schools will crumble at the foundation, literally. Education is the best investment for turning a struggling community around. With good schools and without the funding to support these schools, our children will be hurt, our country will be worse, and the notion of the American dream will fall by the wayside.

Rural schools will be particularly hard-hit because rural communities often only have one school in the area, and if that disappears, the communities will deteriorate. Kids with special education needs will be left out in

the cold. Public schoolteachers already worked to the bone will be thrown into chaos; class sizes will explode; job training programs will vanish; school districts will be at the mercy of State budgets that are already struggling to fund education; and the albatross of student debt will become insurmountable for tens of millions of Americans, many of whom come from working families.

Every single one of us wants our schools to do better, our students to perform better, and eliminate wasteful spending. Education reform is necessary, but to make things better—to improve education—you do not use a chain saw. Using a chain saw will make things worse because it doesn't discriminate between the funds that are needed and the funds that may be necessary or should be redirected.

Erasing the Department of Education in the blink of an eye is not what education reform looks like. Donald Trump should immediately reverse course before he causes irreparable harm to our students and our classrooms.

Again, let me just repeat that you do not—you do not—hire a Secretary whose purpose—whose very purpose is detonating the very Agency she seeks to lead. That makes no sense.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Now, on Social Security, I want to point my colleagues to a profoundly disturbing report this morning in the Washington Post. This morning we learned that the Acting Head of the Social Security Administration admitted what many of us feared: DOGE is calling the shots and their mistakes are going to put Social Security benefits in danger.

Listen to these stunning quotes from the acting head of the Social Security Administration. He says:

Things are currently operating in a way I have never seen in government before.

He says DOGE are:

[O]utsiders who are unfamiliar with the nuances of [Social Security] programs.

And he admits:

[T]hey will make mistakes.

Well, that is unacceptable. Social Security is perhaps the most sacrosanct program in government. It has helped seniors and people with disabilities for nearly close to a century. Now, for the first time, DOGE is putting Social Security benefits in real danger. The American people are frightened and outraged at the same time. DOGE is spreading outlandish lies about fraud and waste that we all know doesn't actually exist. They are cherry-picking data to spin a fantasy detached from reality so they can again use that chain saw.

Social Security is the last place where a chain saw should be used. Mr. President, the Senate, Democrats and Republicans need to wake up to this crisis. It is a disaster waiting to happen. I urge my Republican colleagues: Are you all fine with this? Are you all

comfortable letting Elon Musk and a bunch of inexperienced people bulldoze their way through Social Security benefits?

Mark my words: If DOGE's chain-saw approach leads to people missing their checks, the uproar from people back home will make all of Washington, DC, go deaf. Let's not kid ourselves: This is all part of the plan for Donald Trump. Donald Trump, Elon Musk, and DOGE are coming for people's Social Security benefits. They want to hide behind the boogymen of fraud we all know doesn't exist in order to justify stealing people's checks. They are already doing it.

Cutting 7,000 employees from SSA is a benefit cut. Closing field offices and eliminating customer service staff is a benefit cut, and I am alarmed this only might be the beginning.

I yield the floor.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, 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. BARRASSO. 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 majority whip.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, the American people know our government is too big, and it spends too much. The American people want to see an end to this wasteful Washington spending. They want Washington to work for them, not for Washington.

President Trump shares those views, and he wants government to work both efficiently and effectively. He is putting a stop to waste, to fraud, and to abuse. Democrats in this body are now, believe it or not, threatening a shutdown—a shutdown of the Government of the United States.

Shutting down the government is not an outcome that President Trump wants. It is not an outcome that any of the Republicans want. It costs money to shut down the government; and then it costs even more money to open the government again.

These shutdown-Democrats are acting irresponsibly. Why are they doing it? Because they want to defend the wasteful Washington spending that has gotten the American people so upset. What kind of waste have people been finding?

Let me point out, Mr. President, what we have been seeing that President Trump and those working with him have been able to find in terms of government waste:

\$2 million to develop sustainable recycle models in the Balkans; \$19 million on biodiversity conversations—conversations on biodiversity in Nepal; \$47 million to improve learning outcomes in Asia; \$1.5 million on “voter confidence” in Liberia, Africa; \$21 million for voter turnout in India.

That is why the Democrats want to shut down the government. They want to continue this reckless Washington spending. They want to stop Republicans from rooting out the waste, the fraud, and the abuse.

This government runs out of money in 8 days. We need to pass legislation to get beyond that, but more and more Democrats in this Congress are calling for a shutdown as this deadline nears. Here is a headline from Politico this past week: “Democrats are serious about a shutdown.”

Here is another from The Hill this past week:

Democrats digging in against full-year CR as shutdown deadline ticks closer.

Senator ANDY KIM of New Jersey said:

Yes, Democrats would shut down the government.

Senator CORY BOOKER of New Jersey who is a member of the leadership of the Democratic Party said:

Democrats will use every possible tool to stop President Trump.

Senator JEFF MERKLEY from Oregon, what did he say? He said he is open to shutting down the government.

Democrats in House leadership also refused to come to the table and negotiate a spending deal.

The Senate should reject these reckless efforts. A shutdown strains Border Patrol agents. A shutdown strains our military because we know, Mr. President, Border Patrol agents and our troops will have to work regardless, and they won't get paid during the shutdown. They get paid later, but not during the shutdown. It makes very difficult to make ends meet if the paycheck isn't there at the end of the week.

These brave men and women should not have to pay the price because Democrats hate President Trump. These people make enough sacrifices on behalf of keeping our Nation safe and secure. Congress should be willing to make sure that they get a paycheck, not get caught in political games.

Make no mistake, Mr. President, the American people want President Trump's urgent action. They want it to continue. President Trump is doing exactly what the American people voted for.

Democrats calling for a shutdown are failing the American taxpayers. They are failing our servicemembers, and they are failing our Border Patrol agents. They sat on their hands during President Trump's inspiring address to the Nation the other evening. They oppose the commonsense changes that Americans voted for.

If there is a shutdown, Mr. President, it will be driven by and directed by the Democrats. Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic whip.

TRUMP EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, it is my understanding that the new Secretary

of Education Linda McMahon made some money on the professional wrestling business—at least, that is what I was told. If that is true, she clearly is ready to rumble when it comes to cutting money for American schools.

It appears that the formula for greatness, which the President is pushing, includes reducing Federal aid to education and cutting medical research. How can you build a greater nation by reducing investment in schools for kids and closing down laboratories that are developing cures for diseases? For my way of thinking, that is exactly the opposite of what we should be doing as a nation.

Of course, I want to stop waste, fraud, abuse, and inefficiency. We are all signed up for that. But eliminating the Department of Education? Press reports that people in this administration are jubilant with the idea of closing down a whole Federal Agency. What are the impacts of that closure? What about the money that is going to school districts in Illinois and across the Nation? If there is a cutback in Federal funds for our school districts—and that would be part of eliminating the Department of Education—that would put more pressure on local property taxpayers to pay more for the schools or to cut back on the salaries of teachers and increase the number of kids in the classroom.

How can that be good for the future of this country? How could you build greatness by closing down schools or increasing the number of kids in a classroom? Penny-wise, pound foolish. It is ridiculous.

It is not the only area. The National Institutes of Health now—I have talked to the researchers in Illinois and across this Nation—they are at their wits end to figure out what to do. This is the leading medical research Agency in the world. And 99 percent of all the new drugs—you know all the drugs you see on television, 99 percent of all these new drugs started at the National Institutes of Health, a Federally supported Agency of researchers who set the standard for the world in medical research. And now they are facing closure of many of their laboratories because of DOGE and Mr. Musk.

So they want to cut money to schools. They want to cut money to medical research. My way of thinking is that is shortsighted as can be. You can't build a great nation that way. That is not the only research.

I want to tell a story about a young lady whose name is Jeannie Klein-Gordon. Jeannie grew up on a dairy farm in Oregon. During her undergraduate years at Oregon State, she became interested in plant pathology or the study of plant diseases and spent time assisting with research at the USDA Agriculture Research Services.

"I really appreciated the environment there," Klein-Gordon said, of working at ARS during her undergrad years. "Everybody was super nice, very passionate about science and agriculture and helping growers."

Then it was on to 5 years of doctoral work at the University of Florida before moving to Michigan State University for two shorter postdoctoral stints. From there, she applied for a position as research plant pathologist at the National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research in Peoria, IL, commonly known as the Ag Lab.

Here is what she said:

I spent 11 and a half years [to get] this position, and I got the position of my dreams. This is my dream job.

Jeannie Klein-Gordon moved her family from Michigan to Peoria in December of 2023 and set out to work on research projects. She recently focused on red crown rot, a disease that appeared in Illinois in 2018 and presents a significant threat to the State's multi-billion-dollar soybean industry. The team's experiments looked to develop products for farmers to fight the disease.

That all ended on Thursday, February 13. Klein-Gordon's employment was terminated by email at 10:05 p.m. She was 15 months into a standard 3-year probationary period for government scientists, and she wasn't alone. Other Ag Labs across the United States lost their researchers as well.

You know what else—this is not unique to this young lady—they put on the termination notice that these employees were terminated for poor performance when exactly the opposite is true. They were receiving awards for achievements that they had witnessed and been part of in a short period of time. They were probationary employees, but they were on the track to become full-scale senior researchers.

And now they have been terminated, and it has been announced it was done for poor performance. Why would Elon Musk and the DOGE group want to put poor performance on this? So it disqualifies the employee from receiving unemployment insurance. Poor performance, when it is not true, is now going to be part of her resume record.

The good news is, the courts have stepped in and said, once again, that the Trump administration has overstepped in closing these jobs down. You know, this Ag Lab may sound—as I describe the projects, they sound so far-fetched you wonder, Would we really miss that? Can't the farmers take care of themselves? Well, the honest answer is they need help in research, good research, and the Ag Lab in Peoria is one of the best. Most people don't know it, but the Ag Lab in Peoria is responsible for one of the dramatic breakthroughs of the 20th century. They helped to develop penicillin during World War II.

Penicillin was known before, but it just wasn't developed to the point where it could be administered when a person needed it. It was the Ag Lab in Peoria that took up that challenge, and as a result of taking it up, penicillin was available for our troops in World War II and saved countless lives.

Is research worth it? I think it is. Whether it is ag research or medical re-

search at the NIH, it is fundamental to our future. And these researchers, they don't make a fortune. This young lady put 11 years-plus into her education so that she would have this opportunity to come to Peoria and the Ag Lab. And as far as DOGE is concerned, she is expendable—just another probationary employee, let her go. And, incidentally, on the way out the door, stamp poor performance on her resume so she has to answer for that for the rest of her applications. Why? To deny her unemployment insurance.

Well, I think that is cruel and I think it is shortsighted and I don't think that it builds greatness.

JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS

Mr. President, they cheered, everybody in the Chamber, Democrats and Republicans, cheered when the President said that the Mexican cartels responsible for fentanyl coming into the United States were now going to be characterized as terrorist organizations. I joined in that cheer because I know what fentanyl is doing to this country.

We have a bill coming before us this morning. It will extend the coverage of fentanyl analogs, which in chemical terms means somewhat related to fentanyl but not directly. They are going to be put in the category of dangerous category, as they should be. We have extended that over the years.

I don't think that is enough to end the Federal crisis. I think we need to do more, but it is a good start to continue this classification. I will support it. I think we should have considered some amendments to this bill in the Judiciary Committee, and that is why I voted against it in the committee. But I have consistently supported extending this definition of "fentanyl" to include analogs, and I will do it again when it comes to the floor.

But that isn't enough. We can't stop the fentanyl crisis simply by repeating what we have been doing for the last 6 years. We have got to be innovative and thoughtful. If you want to stop the cartels, there are lots of ways to do it. Sign me up if you are going after this terrorist organization, and it is a terrorist organization. But don't overlook the fact that we are complicit in arming these cartels with weaponry. Forty percent of the weapons recovered in the many raids in Mexico of the cartels, 40 percent of those weapons come from where? The United States of America.

We are selling deadly weapons to these cartels that they are using to kill police and soldiers in Mexico. If this is truly a terrorist organization, and I believe it is, it should be treated as such. Let us put an end, once and for all, to Americans who are selling these high-powered weapons into Mexico and arming these cartels so that they can fight law enforcement in that country. That is inconsistent with the goal of ending fentanyl in the United States.

It is a real test. The firearms industry is pretty powerful in Congress, but can we say, once and for all, when it

comes to fentanyl and Mexican cartels: We are not going to be the source of the arsenal for them to fight law enforcement around the world. We are going to stop that. We should do it and do it immediately.

The second thing we ought to consider is that 80 percent of the fentanyl is coming through the internet, it may be coming over the border initially, but it gets to our kids and young people through the internet. So what are we going to do with those social media sources when it comes to the sale of drugs and particularly drugs laced with fentanyl? Will they be held responsible? Not under current law.

Section 230 of our Federal law absolves them from any responsibility for this conduct of selling drugs over the internet, even fentanyl, and that has got to end. Section 230 may have made sense 10 or 20 years ago, but it doesn't make any sense any longer. They have to be part of the solution to the problem of fentanyl.

So it isn't just the analogs. It isn't just the support of Mexican cartels. We have got to get serious about social media as a source of selling drugs and particularly drugs laced with fentanyl. They have got to be part of the solution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. COTTON. I ask consent the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

Mr. COTTON. I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled rollcall vote begin immediately.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 25, Troy Edgar, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security.

John Thune, Roger Marshall, Tommy Tuberville, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Tim Sheehy, Katie Boyd Britt, Pete Ricketts, Tom Cotton, Kevin Cramer, John Barrasso, James Lankford, Rick Scott of Florida, Jon Husted, Markwayne Mullin, John R. Curtis, Roger F. Wicker, Bernie Moreno.

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 Troy Edgar, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 107 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Graham	Mullin
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Peters
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Marshall	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tillis
Curtis	McCormick	Tuberville
Daines	Moody	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young
Fischer	Moreno	

NAYS—43

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Schatz
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Schiff
Bennet	Kaine	Schumer
Blumenthal	Kim	Shaheen
Blunt Rochester	King	Slotkin
Booker	Klobuchar	Smith
Cantwell	Lujan	Van Hollen
Coons	Markey	Warner
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Welch
Fetterman	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gallego	Reed	Wyden
Gillibrand	Rosen	
Hassan	Sanders	

NOT VOTING—4

Hirono	Lummis
Kelly	Padilla

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 43.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Alabama.

SUNSHINE PROTECTION ACT

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, well, it is that time again. I think I have given this speech three or four times in the last few years.

This weekend, all of America and my constituents back in Alabama will spring forward to daylight saving time. I am working very hard to make this, hopefully, possibly, the last time that we move our clocks. I recently joined my colleague Senator RICK SCOTT to reintroduce for the third time the Sunshine Protection Act to make daylight saving time permanent at the Federal level.

Out of all the legislative efforts I have been part of in my 4 years here in Congress, the thing I hear about the most from my people in Alabama is their desire to lock the clock.

Daylight saving time should be a thing of the past because it literally is a thing of the past. First introduced as a temporary measure during World War I, daylight saving time was originally

called wartime, and it was a way to help conserve fuel during a very different time in this country.

Following the end of World War I, in 1918, the Standard Time Act was enacted to continue daylight saving time nationally, but individual States continued to spring forward and fall back. Then, during World War II, there was a renewed Federal push for full-time daylight saving time, which then was repealed in 1945.

Finally, in 1966, Congress passed legislation to establish national standards for daylight saving time.

All of this is to say that changes to our clock might have made sense when it first began many, many years ago. For one, the American work culture and lifestyle are vastly different than they were 100 years ago.

Plus, a disruptive time change can have serious consequences on human health. Studies have suggested that the disruption of sleep patterns due to the time changes increases the risk of cardiovascular diseases and physical injuries. Northwestern Medicine found that the fall back and the spring forward are connected to a 6-percent spike in fatal car accidents and a 24-percent higher risk of heart attacks as most people change their sleeping habits.

Additionally, the long-term health effects linked to daylight saving time include weight gain, cluster headaches, and depression. The time switch in the fall increases seasonal affective disorder every single year. A study published in 2017 found that the transition from daylight saving time to standard time increased a number of hospital visits for depression by 11 percent.

By making daylight saving time permanent, Americans would enjoy more sunshine in the evenings. This is so important for many Americans who may not get a chance to get outside during the day. It would allow hard-working Americans to go on a run after work or enable dads to play with their kids outdoors or neighbors to grill and do things together outside—what a thought.

Many studies have proven that extra sunlight in the evening can lead to improvements in mental health, physical fitness, economic growth, and well-being.

As a founding member of the Senate MAHA Caucus, I am very passionate about helping to make Americans healthy again. An important part of this is making sure people get enough sleep and more sunlight.

Did you know that vitamin D from the sun is linked to preventing many diseases, including cancer? It is true. And many Americans don't get nearly enough of vitamin D, especially those who work at desk jobs and are inside for most of the day. And that has increased since the invention of what we call the computer.

Locking the clock is an important first step to helping Americans live healthier lives. It is a simple way we could positively impact the day-to-day life of all Americans.

Our farmers are also greatly affected by daylight saving time, as additional sunshine during working hours means more time to work in the fields, which could translate into a more profitable bottom line for anybody who raises crops. As you know, I am all about helping our great farmers.

More daylight in the evening could also decrease expensive energy consumption on farms by reducing the need for artificial lighting and heating. Back in the 1970s, we had an energy crisis. We kept daylight saving time because it saved millions and millions of gallons of fuel.

Experts believe that the time changed twice a year costs the U.S. economy more than \$434 million in lost productivity annually.

It is clear the evidence points to one conclusion: Make daylight saving time permanent. Nineteen States, including my State of Alabama, have already voted and passed legislation to make daylight saving time permanent. They just need Congress—which means us—to vote for it. If we vote for it, it changes, and we would never have to move the clock again.

President Trump has also expressed support for locking the clock. Congress should listen to the people and pass the Sunshine Protection Act to make daylight saving time permanent.

The change would improve our health, strengthen our economy, and benefit our farmers. This is a no-brainer. It is time for America to move forward and stop falling back.

I am looking forward to working with my Senate colleagues to get it completely across the finish line to lock the clock once and for all.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

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

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak out against the harmful actions taken by the Trump administration and Elon Musk.

What they are doing isn't about government efficiency. They are mass firing the men and women who help provide vital services that countless Nevadans rely on, from Medicaid to food assistance.

This is being felt in nearly every corner of our country. It is impacting our veterans who rely on the VA, our seniors who rely on Social Security and Medicare, our families who rely on Medicaid and CHIP for their children's healthcare, and so many others.

The actions taken by the Trump administration and Elon Musk, an unelected billionaire, are tearing at the fabric of American society. This is no way to run a country, and the people in my State are being hurt in the process.

So, today, I want to focus on a specific aspect of the Trump firings: how

it is impacting veterans, not just veterans across the country but particularly those veterans in Nevada.

Just yesterday, it was reported that Elon Musk and his DOGE tech bros are planning to cut 80,000 employees from the Department of Veterans Affairs—80,000. This is in addition to the 1,000 VA employees they have already laid off, which included people who staffed the Veterans Crisis Hotline.

So maybe Mr. Musk and his team—his team of, as I said, teenybopper tech bros—they don't understand the magnitude of their actions. So let me explain to them what the VA does, what the VA means.

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides critical healthcare to the men and women who were willing to sacrifice their very lives for our Nation and for their families. It provides them with the benefits that they have earned and that they, frankly, deserve. It is quite literally the least that we can, as a nation, do for our veterans.

Firing those employees who work at the VA will hurt our veterans, plain and simple. It will hurt veterans not only because they rely on the VA staff but because many of those who work at the VA are themselves veterans. The VA is the largest employer of veterans in this Nation.

I have heard from so many Nevadans who are feeling the direct impact of these layoffs, and, today, I want to share a couple of stories with you.

Mark Wagstaff, a Marine Corps veteran—a proud Marine Corps veteran—currently lives in Las Vegas. He served our country honorably for 10 years. Even after his service in our military, Mark wanted to still help others, and he transitioned into civilian public service. That is why he recently started working as a lead supply technician at the VA in Las Vegas.

He was proud of his work. He was dedicated to his mission, ensuring that all medical supplies were delivered to the veterans clinics throughout Southern Nevada.

And, Mark, so proud of his job, so happy to be there, did such a great job that he was promoted. When a position in administrative services in North Las Vegas opened up recently, he applied, and he got the job. He was so happy. He was doing meaningful work as a veteran for the veterans. It meant everything to him.

Sadly, this all changed after Donald Trump and Elon Musk started messing with the VA. On February 14, the Valentine's Day present that Mark received from Elon Musk and President Trump was an email informing him that he no longer had a job. Despite receiving an "outstanding" performance review, despite his recent promotion, Mark was being told he was let go due to "poor performance."

By firing him in that way, they also immediately locked him out of all of his work accounts. That means he can't access his termination paperwork. It means he might not even receive his last paycheck.

I want everybody to think about that. Here is a veteran who put his life on the line, proudly served our Nation, was willing to risk everything for all of us, and was fired in the most despicable of ways.

This is beyond shameful. Donald Trump and Elon Musk, who actually don't know a damn thing about service to our Nation, should be ashamed—should be ashamed—on Valentine's Day, no less.

But Mark is not the only one.

Lili Stevenson, a devoted wife of a disabled veteran, who lives in Las Vegas, was also impacted by these unjust layoffs at the VA. She worked at the Henderson Vet Center and recently received feedback in a performance review that indicated she was doing an outstanding job.

For her, this job was more than just a paycheck. She could be working anywhere else and making more money, but she felt a calling to serve her veteran community—our veteran community—a calling that, like Mark, she had answered with passion and commitment.

Despite this, again, on Valentine's Day, she received a termination notice, just like Mark. This firing also falsely claims "poor performance," which does not line up with the facts as Lili knows them.

Lili and her husband—her veteran husband—rely on her income from her job at the VA as their source of income. But now, without a paycheck, she worries about her ability to continue to pay her bills and make ends meet.

Many veterans already face significant challenges in accessing the care and the services that they need. Long wait times for medical appointments, overwhelmed but dedicated staff, and a system already stretched thin have created barriers that delay essential care. But these layoffs—the Trump layoffs—will only worsen an already difficult situation.

The loss of dedicated staff like Mark and Lili and so many others harms the ability of the VA to serve our veterans in a timely, effective, and, I would say, caring and compassionate manner. With these positions being eliminated, there will be fewer hands to process claims, handle scheduling, and make sure that our veterans are getting the care and attention that they deserve. This is going to lead to even longer wait times for veterans and further delays in access to care, resulting in potentially worse health outcomes for our veterans.

It is simply unconscionable that, after years of sacrifice and service, our veterans will suffer due to cuts being made by people like Elon Musk who were never elected by the American people.

So I urge this administration to take immediate action to halt and reverse these unnecessary and, frankly, unjust layoffs.

We must always stand up for our veterans. We must always stand up for the workers who serve them.

God bless our veterans. God bless our troops.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGERTY). The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise to bring attention to the cost-cutting efforts of President Trump and DOGE. A lot has been said about DOGE's work in the media in the last month. The truth is, DOGE is working tirelessly to cancel grants and funding that taxpayers absolutely should not be footing the bill for. I want the American people to know exactly what some of these ridiculous funding items are so here are a few examples from the last couple of weeks.

At NIH, DOGE identified these grants for cancellation this week and last: \$532,000 to "use a mouse model to investigate the effects of cross-sex testosterone treatment"; \$33,000 to test feminizing hormone therapy in the male rat; \$120,000 for personalized 3D avatar tool development focused on gender identities; \$160,000 for researching radicalized sexual discrimination among "young sexual minority men of color"; \$241,000 for an intervention to promote healthy relationships among transgender and gender expansive youth; \$1.3 million for transforming health for gender-diverse young adults.

DOGE also canceled grants at the Inter-American Foundation that included \$903,811 for alpaca farming in Peru; \$364,500 to reduce social discrimination of recyclers in Bolivia; \$813,210 for vegetable gardens in El Salvador; \$323,633 to promote cultural understanding of Venezuelan migrants in Brazil; \$731,105 to improve marketability of mushrooms and peas in Guatemala; \$677,342 to expand fruit and jam sales in Honduras; \$483,345 to improve artisanal salt production in Ecuador; and \$39,250 for beekeeping in Brazil.

DOGE and EPA are cutting ridiculous grants funding at EPA, which includes the Vermont-based Institute for Sustainable Communities, which has yet to receive \$12.4 million of the \$16 million it was promised under two separate Biden-era grants to serve as the National Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center.

Another group losing funding was the San Diego State University Foundation, which was tapped to help bring "environmental justice" to "underserved Tribal, Indigenous, and Pacific island communities" and has yet to receive \$4.2 million of its \$5.1 million in grants.

DOGE is also looking to cut ridiculous DEI programs in the Department of Education. One grant was reportedly funding the training for teachers to "engage in ongoing learning and self-reflection to confront their own biases and racism and develop asset-based anti-racist mindsets."

Additionally, according to DOGE, 4.6 million government credit cards resulted in \$40 billion in spending last year alone.

President Trump and DOGE are saving your taxpayer dollars. Tune back next week for more updates.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, President Trump and Elon Musk and Secretary of Education Linda McMahon have declared war on public education in the United States, plain and simple. They outlined their anti-student, anti-family, anti-educator agenda in Project 2025. Trump vowed to dismantle the Department of Education last month from the Oval Office.

So instead of nominating a Secretary of Education, he picked and Senate Republicans confirmed an executioner of public education. This administration is attempting to dismantle public education in the United States piece by piece.

Well, Trump and Musk and McMahon are about to learn just how important Federal educational funding is to every community in our country. The Department of Education guards the promise of opportunity for future generations. The Department provides \$18 billion a year in funding so that the poorest children in our country can receive the high-quality education to which they are entitled. The Department provides \$15 billion a year in funds and oversight to ensure that students with disabilities across our Nation have meaningful access to quality education. It ensures that teachers are trained, that first-generation students have a chance to go to college, that English learners and rural students receive additional support.

Trump and Musk and McMahon might talk about "efficiency" and "dismantling" the Department of Education, but we know that that is just code for cuts to educational funding for poor children, for disabled children all across our Nation. They don't want to educate; they want to eliminate. They want to loot our country's future which our students depend upon. Children are only 25 percent of our country, but they are 100 percent of our future, and we have to invest in that future, invest in those children.

Ultimately, they want to loot the Department of Education for tens of billions of dollars in order to pay for tax breaks for billionaires and millionaires like Elon Musk. That is what it is all about.

Just last year, the Department of Education provided more than \$720 million to support K through 12 education in Massachusetts alone. And every community across our country receives that funding from the Department of Education.

So who do Trump and Musk and McMahon think will pick up the bill for their cruel and callous cuts? Who do they think is going to pick up the tab? We know who is going to pick up the tab. It is going to be poor communities. It is going to be families with

disabled children. That is who is going to pick up the tab.

And why are they doing it? To get the money from those poor families and to get the money from those families with kids with disabilities to fund tax breaks for billionaires and millionaires. That is what it is all about. It is cruel. It is callous. But it is all about those cuts to education.

And I am hearing from communities who have no idea how they will keep the lights on if this Federal funding disappears. I am hearing from teachers and educators and families who are terrified that if the teachers are laid off, their students will not receive the services they need. I am hearing from parents of those who need this educational funding. They need to ensure that those programs are there.

But at the end of the day, we know what it is all about. It is to get that funding so that they can then voucherize the public school system, take the money from the public schools and put it over in vouchers. And private companies will begin to benefit from all of that funding, and the remainder will just go to the billionaires for the tax breaks.

And Trump and Musk and McMahon's evil plan to lock the promise of education behind an ivory tower, accessible only to those born into the right circumstances, it is just wrong. It is just plain wrong.

Massachusetts is the birthplace of public education. We are the top performer in the country in math and reading because we invest in students, educators, schools, and communities. We do not believe in draconian cuts or in fueling discrimination in schools. Over the Boston Public Library, the inscription reads:

The Commonwealth requires the education of the people as the safeguard of order and liberty.

While Trump tries to destroy order and liberty in this country, we will fight to protect the education of the people.

You want a fight, President Trump? You want a fight, Secretary McMahon? You have got a fight. You are not going to be allowed to dismantle the Department of Education because, with that, you would be dismantling the hope that every family has that their child may fully realize the American dream.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

UKRAINE

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I was glad to see President Zelenskyy clearly express his gratitude to President Trump and the American taxpayer for our support for the country of Ukraine over the last 3 years.

There has been much discussion in international communities and here at home on the war between Russia and Ukraine, which has now been going on for 3 long years. It has cost hundreds of thousands of lives on both sides, with millions of people displaced as a result

of the war. Through it all, the Ukrainian people have demonstrated extraordinary courage and resilience.

But one thing is clear: It is time for the war in Ukraine to end. President Trump is right. But the more difficult question is, How?

Years ago, I recall GEN David Petraeus, the leader of our military and Central Command, heading up our efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan, was asked the question: How does the war end?

He said: You tell me how the war ends. Wars are easy to start and hard to conclude.

This is the most difficult question of all—how does it end?

We should all be grateful to President Trump for taking on the difficult but essential task of brokering a peace agreement to end this devastating war. During the contentious meeting at the Oval Office last week, President Trump commented that he hoped to “be known and recognized as a peacemaker.” Well, this would be no small feat, but it is the right position to take.

It is not hard to look at this incredible devastation—the massive casualties, the human misery and suffering of the last 3 years—and understand that it is time for the bloodshed to end. But it will take both sides, Ukraine and Russia, to accomplish this goal. Ukraine cannot do it on its own.

President Trump was correct to point out to President Zelenskyy last week during this high-intensity meeting in the Oval Office—he said: I have to align myself with both of you in order to make a deal.

President Trump’s skill at making deals is famous, but this would be the crowning achievement of his life if he is able to make this happen.

But the point is, in order to achieve a lasting peace, both sides of the conflict must be willing to sit down and negotiate and make concessions no matter how hard that is.

I am glad to see that President Zelenskyy has indicated a willingness for Ukraine to do so in part through a critical minerals arrangement with the U.S. Government. Such a deal would compensate the United States and its taxpayers for our many years of military and economic support for Ukraine. It would actually be a vested interest that the United States would have every reason to want to protect in the future. Some have called that an implicit security arrangement.

Perhaps most importantly, though, in order to ensure a lasting peace, there must be some real and tangible and enforceable security assurances for Ukraine. To put this in the proper context, we have to consider history, the events that led us up to this point.

In 1994, the United States, Russia, and Britain signed something called the Budapest Memorandum. This was shortly after the fall of the Soviet Union. As the Soviet Union broke up, it turned out that Ukraine, which was

formerly part of the Soviet Union, had the third largest nuclear weapons stockpile in the world.

The Budapest Memorandum was an agreement between the United States, the United Kingdom, and Russia that if Ukraine would give up its nuclear weapons, its territorial integrity and independence would be preserved and respected.

This was a historic point in world history. It was an important step toward nuclear nonproliferation and prevented the rise of a major third nuclear power in Eastern Europe. But, unfortunately, Russia proceeded to violate that same agreement in 2014 with the annexation of the Crimean Peninsula, and then, as we know, the Russian Government, led by Mr. Putin, violated that agreement a second time in February of 2022 with its invasion of Ukraine.

If Russia was unwilling to honor the commitments it made in the Budapest Memorandum in 1994 by its invasion of Crimea in 2014 and its invasion of Ukraine as a nation in 2022, how can Ukraine be assured that Russia will honor a peace agreement brokered in 2025? That, perhaps, is the single most important question that we need to ask.

Given the history and pattern of behavior by Russia, if Zelenskyy does not receive adequate security assurances, will this incentivize him to do other things to protect and preserve his nation—for example, to reacquire a nuclear weapons program against an existential threat? We know that President Zelenskyy himself has floated this as a possibility, and more recently, the newly elected Chancellor of Germany had suggested that both Germany and the United Kingdom would share, perhaps, their nuclear weapons capabilities with Ukraine, which would be a dramatic and dangerous development.

But that is not all. We have to keep in mind that both President Zelenskyy and President Putin are not fighting this war in some sort of vacuum. Allies of the United States and adversaries alike around the world are watching.

Will our actions in Ukraine suggest to allies in South Korea, for example, that they should pursue their own nuclear weapon capability, especially in light of the North Korean nuclear program, which receives Russian assistance?

Will more citizens of Taiwan cast their vote for representatives pushing closer alignment with the People’s Republic of China as the most prudent way for their people to maintain a guarantee against a catastrophic war in the Indo-Pacific?

Seeing that unanswered aggression is awarded, would President Xi be emboldened to seize Taiwan, as he has made clear he intends to do one way or the other?

These are just a few of the unintended consequences that could play out depending on how these peace negotiations transpire and how they develop.

We, the duly-elected representatives of the American people, must ask ourselves: Will a world of unreliable security assurances, of greater prospects of nuclear proliferation, of insufficient deterrence in the face of unprovoked aggression, result in a safer world for our children and grandchildren?

Well, given these difficult but necessary questions, I would once again applaud President Trump for taking the initiative of embracing peace through strength. His approach is the correct one, and he is right that an important piece of this is that our NATO allies—who, in fact, live in Europe, where Ukraine is located—need to increase their contribution to our collective security under the North Atlantic Treaty alliance. It is through strength we can guarantee peace both in Europe and around the world.

The suffering resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine on two occasions—2014 and 2022—has been devastating not only for Ukrainians but also for Russians as well, who have lost hundreds of thousands of casualties in the process.

President Trump pointed out during the meeting with President Zelenskyy that both sides are losing “1,000, 2,000” soldiers a week. “As we sit here and talk, people are being shot and dying on the battlefield.”

What President Trump is doing to secure peace in this dangerous world is an act of moral leadership and I believe divinely inspired.

Jesus said in the Beatitudes:

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

If President Trump is successful in securing a lasting peace, I, for one, think he will have earned the Nobel Peace Prize.

As President Zelenskyy himself said in the Oval Office—he said:

If President Trump [can] bring peace to our country, I think he will be on this wall.

He was, of course, referring to the walls of the Oval Office. They have pictures of historic American Presidents who have done great and important things.

It is my sincere hope that President Zelenskyy and President Putin will both accept the olive branch offered by President Trump by coming to the table and by making the necessary, enforceable concessions to ensure a lasting peace.

I yield the floor.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, 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. CORNYN assumed the Chair.)

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

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

HALT FENTANYL ACT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, last week, I led my colleagues in reporting

a bill that is entitled the “HALT Fentanyl Act.” This bill was reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

This is a battle-tested bipartisan bill that passed the House of Representatives with a supermajority of votes, including 98 Democrats voting in favor of the bill. If you have been involved with this issue over the last 3 or 4 or 5 years, you would know that bipartisan fentanyl legislation has been hard to come by. But I am pleased to see that this bill has seven Democratic cosponsors here in the Senate and had nearly half the Democrats in my committee vote in favor of it.

I want to thank all my Democratic colleagues for working with us on such a vital piece of legislation. I think you all know the statistics: About 70,000 of the 100,000 people that die of drug overdose are dying because of fentanyl.

The HALT Fentanyl Act does three things. First, it makes permanent the class scheduling of fentanyl-related substances. This is the same classwide scheduling that occurred during the first Trump administration and has been continued nine times by Congress on a short-term basis. This legislation would eliminate that from time-to-time scheduling of fentanyl analogs, and that is why permanent legislation is so important.

Second, the bill confirms the sentencing penalties the Federal courts have long applied to fentanyl-related substances. And thirdly, the bill creates a streamline registration process for studying schedule I controlled substances.

Classwide scheduling has been a successful policy. It has been a success in stopping the creation of fentanyl-related substances that would have otherwise killed countless Americans.

If you don't believe me, I would like to have you listen to Dr. Tim Westlake. Dr. Westlake is the inventor of the classwide scheduling system the DEA adopted. He came before my committee and testified:

[T]hese efforts have resulted in shutting down the creation and flow and very existence of new fentanyl related substances into the [United States]. It's why Congress must act to finally make permanent this temporary policy.

I began by saying that bipartisan fentanyl legislation has been very hard to come by. I am proud to lead the HALT Fentanyl Act with Senators HEINRICH and CASSIDY. That is one Democrat and one Republican.

Our bill has the support of the leading law enforcement organizations. These 12 organizations have called on us here in the Congress to “advance this critical legislation without delay or modification.”

Our bill also has the support of an organization called Facing Fentanyl. That is a coalition supported by over 200 family groups impacted by fentanyl. They “stand in full support of the HALT Fentanyl Act as it is currently written, without amendments.”

I have also received over 100 individual letters from parents who have lost their children to fentanyl poisoning.

Our bill also has the support of the medical community.

The HALT Fentanyl Act is truly a bipartisan compromise, bringing together stakeholders and Members from across the spectrum.

During the last 4 years, Senate Democrats couldn't be bothered to bring this bill or any other permanent legislation to schedule fentanyl to the floor for a vote, and that was the situation even after HALT passed the House with 74 Democrats voting in favor and even with the Biden administration's coming out in support of the bill—all taking place in the last Congress.

So the time has surely come. This is long overdue legislation, and I urge my colleagues to move to and support this bill. If we can't come together to pass this battle-tested bipartisan legislation, then we will have failed the American people and made the environment for even more people to die of drug overdoses and fentanyl poisoning. We owe it to the hundreds of thousands of families who have lost loved ones to this very poison. We owe it to our constituents. It is time that we found the will to act, and now is that time to act.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

WAIVING QUORUM CALLS

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls with respect to the cloture votes on the Chavez-DeRemer nomination and the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 18, S. 331, be waived.

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

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we move to begin the vote right now.

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

VOTE ON EDGAR NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Edgar nomination?

Mr. LANKFORD. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA),

and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 108 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Graham	Mullin
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Peters
Britt	Hoeben	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Marshall	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tillis
Curtis	McCormick	Tuberville
Daines	Moody	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young
Fischer	Moreno	

NAYS—43

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Schatz
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Schiff
Bennet	Hirono	Schumer
Blumenthal	Kaine	Shaheen
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Slotkin
Booker	King	Smith
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Van Hollen
Coons	Lujan	Warner
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warnock
Duckworth	Merkley	Warren
Durbin	Murphy	Welch
Fetterman	Murray	Whitehouse
Gallago	Ossoff	Wyden
Gillibrand	Reed	
Hassan	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—4

Kelly	Padilla
Lummis	Sanders

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). 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.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 29, Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor.

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Barrasso, Mike Lee, Katie Britt, Mike Crapo, Bill Hagerty, Steve Daines, Jim Banks, Eric Schmitt, Tommy Tuberville, Chuck Grassley, Ashley B. Moody, Roger Marshall, John R. Curtis, Bernie Moreno.

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 Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 66, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 109 Ex.]

YEAS—66

Banks	Grassley	Ossoff
Barrasso	Hagerty	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Ricketts
Blackburn	Hawley	Risch
Boozman	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Husted	Schiff
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kaine	Shaheen
Cortez Masto	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Lankford	Slotkin
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Marshall	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tillis
Curtis	McCormick	Tuberville
Daines	Moody	Warner
Ernst	Moran	Warnock
Fischer	Moreno	Whitehouse
Gallego	Mullin	Wicker
Graham	Murkowski	Young

NAYS—30

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Paul
Baldwin	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Kim	Sanders
Blunt Rochester	King	Schatz
Booker	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cantwell	Lujan	Smith
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warren
Durbin	Murphy	Welch
Gillibrand	Murray	Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Fetterman	Lummis
Kelly	Padilla

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 66, the nays are 30.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT—Motion to Proceed—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to legislative session to resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 331, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 18, S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 18, S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

John Thune, Roger Marshall, Tommy Tuberville, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Tim Sheehy, Katie Britt, Tom Cotton, Pete Ricketts, Kevin Cramer, John Barrasso, James Lankford, Rick Scott of Florida, Jon Husted, Markwayne Mullin, John R. Curtis, Roger F. Wicker, Bernie Moreno.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 18, S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 82, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 110 Leg.]

YEAS—82

Alsobrooks	Graham	Murray
Baldwin	Grassley	Ossoff
Banks	Hagerty	Paul
Barrasso	Hassan	Peters
Bennet	Hawley	Reed
Blackburn	Heinrich	Ricketts
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Risch
Blunt Rochester	Hoeven	Rosen
Boozman	Husted	Rounds
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Budd	Johnson	Schatz
Cantwell	Justice	Schmitt
Capito	Kaine	Schumer
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kim	Scott (SC)
Coons	King	Shaheen
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Sheehy
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Slotkin
Cotton	Lee	Smith
Crapo	Lujan	Sullivan
Cruz	Marshall	Thune
Curtis	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	McCormick	Tuberville
Durbin	Moody	Whitehouse
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Moreno	Young
Gallego	Mullin	
Gillibrand	Murkowski	

NAYS—12

Booker	Merkley	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Hirono	Schiff	Welch
Markey	Van Hollen	Wyden

NOT VOTING—6

Cramer	Kelly	Padilla
Fetterman	Lummis	Warner

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUDD). On this vote, the yeas are 82, the nays are 12.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I am a big Boston Red Sox fan, and one of the most famous players in Red Sox recent history is Manny Ramirez. Manny Ramirez was a good baseball player, but he had a habit of doing some pretty ridiculous things on the field and off the field that were really detrimental to the team, some really bizarre on-field behavior—cutting off throws from other outfielders before they got to the infield—and bizarre off-the-field behavior. It disrupted the team.

It became so regular that a phrase was adopted amongst the Red Sox fans: “That is just Manny being Manny.” And over the years, it just was accepted that every year, Manny Ramirez was going to do a whole bunch of stuff that was really detrimental to the team, and over time, it just kind of became accepted that that was a fact of life, a way of life with Manny Ramirez. As time went on, people reacted with less hostility. It barely got noticed in some cases when he was engaged in these detrimental forms of conduct.

I tell that story because it stands for kind of a universal concept. When bad behavior gets normalized, it no longer feels like bad behavior even if that behavior is hurting people.

Today, the world is littered with corrupt governments, governments where the leaders and the really rich men who surround the leaders—the oligarchs—they steal from people. That is what they do. The leaders and the leaders' friends just keep a hand constantly in the government treasury, and they steal taxpayer dollars. They rig the rules of the economy in order to make themselves fabulously rich. They hurt the citizens of those countries.

Vladimir Putin, for instance, has never had a job outside of government, but he is reportedly worth \$200 billion. One of his many houses cost \$1.4 billion to build. Supposedly, the landscaping costs on an annual basis for that house are \$2 million alone. That \$1.4 billion house was paid for by money he stole from the Russian treasury. In other words, he stole it from the Russian people.

Putin and his friends have been doing it for so long and doing it so openly and brazenly—Putin, for instance, wears a watch that retails for half a million dollars even though his official

salary is only \$140,000. They have been doing this so openly and brazenly, they are so public in their corruption in Russia, that it is just accepted; it is just mainstream, the fact that Putin and his cronies steal from the Russian people.

That is what is happening in America today. It is heartbreaking for me to say this, but in the first 6 months of the Trump Presidency, Trump and Elon Musk and their billionaire friends have engaged in a stunning rampage of open public corruption. It is not fundamentally different than what happens in Russia. These are efforts to steal from the American people to enrich themselves.

Their strategy is to do it all out in the open, to do it at such a dizzying pace that the country just gets overwhelmed or anesthetized or dulled into a sense that we just all have to accept the corruption or, maybe more charitably, that this is just how government works; that government is just corrupt. So the fact that it is happening out in the open instead of happening secretly—well, it is really nothing new.

But this is not how government works. The things that have happened over the last 6 weeks are unprecedented. The President and his billionaire friends are not supposed to steal from us. They are not supposed to use their power and their access to power, their access to government levers, to rig the rules to enrich themselves. That has always been wrong, it is still wrong, and we do not have to accept this.

So in the next few minutes, I want to try out an exercise. I want to try to lay out for you as quickly as I can just some of the most significant instances of blatantly corrupt activity that have happened in just the first 6 weeks of Trump's Presidency. When you see it all together, there is no way to avoid a simple conclusion: This White House is on its way to being the most corrupt in the history of the country. And just because they are doing it out in the open for everybody to see doesn't mean it is not corrupt.

My hope is that if you see it all in one place, the gravity of this moment may hit you. My hope is that my colleagues and the public choose not to normalize a President or his advisers using the Oval Office as a blunt mechanism to make themselves even wealthier.

It is our decision—our decision—to have zero tolerance for corruption. It is also our decision to just decide to become a place like Russia where our leaders are allowed to routinely steal from us.

So this is a heartbreakingly long list. This is just 20 or so examples of corrupt behavior in the first 6 weeks of the Trump Presidency.

Here it goes. We are going to start on January 17. On January 17, Trump launches the meme coin. This is maybe the most corrupt of all of the acts because—what is the meme coin?—the

meme coin is essentially a mechanism by which Russian oligarchs or corporate CEOs can literally send money privately directly to Donald Trump. Nobody knows who buys the meme coin, but Trump makes money when people buy it. So it is just an open sewer valve that allows for anybody who is trying to influence the Trump administration to be able to secretly funnel money to Donald Trump.

He reserves 80 percent of the coin. He waits to release that coin until the price jumps back up again, which essentially means he is waiting for people who want favors from him to buy a bunch of the coins to inflate the value so that he releases more and makes more money.

It is a disgusting kind of corruption because this is essentially Trump just posting his Venmo for anybody secretly to wire him as much money as they want. We have never seen something like this before, where anybody who has anything to gain from the Trump administration, through a manipulation of the value of Trump's meme coin, can funnel money directly to the President, whisper in his ear: That was me. That was me that purchased all that coin that jumped up the value that allowed you to release new coin. Hey, take care of me on the back end.

On January 20, when he is sworn in, he institutes his new energy agenda. Now, open reporting suggested that during the campaign, he met with the oil and gas industry, and they cut a deal in which the oil and gas industry would give him a billion dollars of campaign contributions in order to receive favorable treatment when Trump was sworn in.

Guess what happens on January 20. Trump unveils his energy strategy. What does it do? It preferences oil and gas, and it punishes oil and gas's competitors. It, for instance, freezes all permits on wind projects, both for the land and the sea. It undercuts permitting processes, not for oil and gas, but for oil and gas's competitors.

Oil and gas got exactly what they asked for. They gave a campaign contribution, and they got the favorable treatment.

Five days later, Trump fires 17 inspectors general. What do inspectors general do? They look for corruption inside of these Agencies. What do you do if you are trying to engage in corruption, if you are trying to steal from the American people, you fire the inspectors general.

Two days later, on January 27, Trump fires Gwynne Wilcox from the NLRB. This is the National Labor Relations Board. When she is fired, the National Labor Relations Board cannot function any longer. Why does this matter? Because the person that has been put in charge of reviewing the hirings and firings of these Agencies is Elon Musk who, by the way, has lots of cases before the NLRB—so do the people that are standing behind Trump

during the inauguration. Almost all of them have active cases before the NLRB. The billionaires supporting Donald Trump now don't have to worry about the NLRB because, on January 27, the NLRB is rendered powerless.

Three days later, on January 30, Trump awards more than \$800,000 worth of stock to several of the board members of the Trump Media & Technology Group. This is the publicly traded company behind his social media platforms.

So now, his Cabinet members, people like Kash Patel and Linda McMahon, are owning equity in Trump's media platform—equity that can be cashed out, sold to people who want to buy them out of their interest at any time. Those people who might want to buy them out—Cabinet members—could be individuals with issues before the Department of Education, before the FBI—yet another avenue in which people who have influence, who want to gain influence inside the Trump administration have a conduit to be able to move cash from their pocketbooks, from their treasury, from their bank accounts into the bank accounts of Trump Cabinet members.

Shortly thereafter, we start to see the weaponization of the DOJ. On February 23, a civil complaint from DOJ that had been pending against SpaceX, Elon Musk's signature company, is dropped. Eight days later, the DOJ drops a case against a Republican Congressman.

On February 19, 2 or 3 weeks later, the DOJ opens up something called Operation Whirlwind, which seeks to target anyone who dares to try to obstruct or criticize the work of Elon Musk and DOGE.

Over the course of the first few weeks, the DOJ has turned into an entity that drops cases against those who are loyal to Donald Trump and pursues aggressively investigations against those who are trying to criticize Donald Trump.

On February 1, Trump fires the Director of the CFPB and announces plans to shut down—to shutter—the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Again, very much like the NLRB, this is an Agency that was, at the moment that it was rendered powerless, investigating Elon Musk and many of the biggest financial backers of Donald Trump. So, once again, those that have access to Donald Trump, the billionaires that are close to him, now don't have to worry about labor violations being investigated by the NLRB. Now, they don't have to worry about consumer actions being taken against them by the CFPB.

On February 4, there is the first of two extraordinary meetings in the White House in which Donald Trump convenes his business partners—his business partners—the Saudi golf league and the PGA, to try to negotiate a solution to the dispute between those two golf leagues. Why? Because Trump has a business interest in that

dispute being resolved. The Saudi golf league plays tournaments at Trump's courses in the United States. And so, if the White House, using its official power, can try to negotiate a settlement between those two groups, Trump stands to make money.

On February 6, something absolutely stunning happens. Pam Bondi, the AG, issues a memorandum in which she proposes to dull the criminal enforcement of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

If you are representing a foreign government before the United States, you have to register so that we know if you are acting on behalf of American interests or you are acting on behalf of foreign interests.

In the prior Trump administration, Trump officials got in big trouble for secretly working for and getting paid by foreign governments without registering.

Well, what has Trump announced? That they are going to limit the applicability of the enforcement of that statute, making it much easier for Trump's friends, for his MAGA crowd, for the people who show up to Mar-a-Lago to get paid quietly by foreign governments in order to influence Donald Trump.

On February 10, maybe aside from the meme coin, the most stunning act of corruption—the Eric Adams quid pro quo, in which Eric Adams, indicted for corruption, is let off the hook. His charges are dismissed in exchange for the mayor's pledge of political loyalty to Donald Trump. They literally went on TV and announced the deal—that they were getting rid of the charges against Eric Adams as long as the mayor pledges political loyalty to the President.

That was so corrupt that six or seven DOJ officials resigned because they refused to withdraw those charges. But the deal went through because the seventh or the eighth or the ninth official finally filed the withdrawal.

And now, in America, it is 100 percent clear, if you want to get away with corruption, if you want to steal from your constituents and you are an elected official in this country, all you have to do is just sign up for political loyalty to Donald Trump, and he will instruct the Department of Justice to let you get away with it.

On February 10, Donald Trump directs the DOJ to pause enforcement of U.S. laws that prohibit companies from paying bribes overseas. Come on—like come on. He instructs the DOJ to pause enforcement of U.S. laws that prohibit companies from paying bribes overseas.

Here is an example. Goldman Sachs was engaged in outright bribery. They were paying bribes to Malaysian officials so that they could get a contract to manage the resources of the Malaysian sovereign wealth fund.

American companies should not be overseas bribing foreign governments. That compromises America's reputation and America's national security.

But now, you are going to pause enforcement of the laws that stop American companies from bribing foreign governments because corruption is now being normalized.

This is what you do if you want to normalize corruption; it is that you make it legal for American companies to engage in corruption overseas. That makes it easier for Trump to get away with corruption here.

Two days later, on February 12, the announcement comes out that the State Department is going to buy \$400 million in armored Teslas.

OK, so now it is getting even more blatant. It is getting even more brazen. The State Department is just going to buy a whole bunch of product from Elon Musk—product that they were not previously scheduled to buy.

It is true that the Biden administration had a blueprint that it was going to buy some electric vehicles, but it was around \$483,000 worth of vehicles. Trump revises that blueprint of spending so that now the Federal Government is going to spend \$400 million on armored Teslas from Elon Musk.

Let's see. That is February 12. That same day, Elon Musk's people infiltrate the Department of Labor, and reporting suggests that, during that infiltration, Elon Musk's personal representatives get access to enforcement information at OSHA, not only against Elon Musk's companies—and, by the way, SpaceX has an employee injury rate that is nine times higher than the industry average—but, also, workplace safety violations against Elon Musk's competitors.

Here is the message: If you are close to Donald Trump personally, if you support him politically, you can get secret access to enforcement data against your companies and your companies' competitors. That is what happens on February 12.

Three days later, there is some suspicious firings at the FDA—again, related to Elon Musk's personal financial interests. Elon Musk owns a medical device company called Neuralink. It is currently being reviewed by the FDA. And guess what. On February 15 and 16, all over a weekend, there are 20 people fired from the FDA's Office of Neurological and Physical Medicine Devices—fired by DOGE, run by Elon Musk.

Clear message: You are going to get fired if you aren't on the right side of Elon Musk's application.

Now, whether that was explicit or not, if the guy who is firing you has a pending application before your Department, aren't you going to think twice? Aren't you going to think twice about ruling against his interests?

This is why this is unprecedented. It feels normal because it has been happening every day. But never before in American history have we allowed someone who has a pending application for approval of a medicine or a medical device to be able to personally decide who gets hired and who gets fired at

the regulatory Agency making the decision over that medical device.

But, now, this stuff is happening every day because, on February 15, as well, that same weekend, there is an announcement that the FDA cuts are going to be even deeper, perhaps as big as 50 percent. That means that hundreds of drugs and devices won't get approved at the FDA.

And you know who benefits from that? The folks that are selling the snake oil products.

And guess who is selling the snake oil products? The people who work for Donald Trump selling "vita gummy scams." The Director of FBI is selling vaccine reversal pills. When the FDA gets gutted, it is the people who sell those unregulated products who stand to gain.

On February 19, 4 days later, we find out that the IRS is going to be cut by 7,000 people, and the biggest chunk of the folks who are going to be laid off are the people who do the audits of the billionaires and the millionaires and the corporations.

So, once again, Elon Musk and the people standing behind Donald Trump on inauguration day are going to get off because the IRS just had its enforcement powers—its audit powers—absolutely gutted.

That same day, on February 19, we start to receive word that advertising on Elon Musk's platform is starting to grow again. And the reporting on February 19 indicates that American companies have come to the collective decision that they need to keep advertising on Elon Musk's platform because Elon Musk has so much regulatory power inside the Federal Government that they need to make sure that they are paying Musk through Twitter and through X, so that if they ultimately need something from the Federal Government, they can get it.

This, again, is why we have never, ever in the history of this country allowed for the richest man in the world, somebody who controls major companies, to also have an official position inside the government, because, of course—of course—it opens up these clear avenues where people are going to do business with him privately to try to curry favor with him publicly.

I am not done. It just keeps going. The next day, on February 20, the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices' monthly meeting is canceled and not rescheduled.

So we were very worried that Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., who makes money off of his attacks on vaccines, would continue those attacks when he took over HHS because, if faith in vaccines continues to plummet, it is very likely that RFK, Jr., will make money. Why? Because the not-for-profit that he will likely return to—the company that he will return to after he leaves—makes money as vaccine misinformation spreads, and he also continues to collect fees for referring cases to a company that handles claims of personal injury due to vaccines.

And so when the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices is canceled, it is a clear indication that, yes, this campaign of assault on vaccines is going to continue, which—not surprisingly—is likely to make RFK, Jr., even more money.

On February 26, we see Trump's MAGA hats that are for sale on his website displayed in the Oval Office. And it is just a reminder that so many people inside Trump's universe continue to sell merchandise on the side in order to make money.

Donald Trump has always done this, and we have just kind of accepted it, even though it is a kind of corruption in and of itself. But Kash Patel, the Director of the FBI, is still selling Kash-branded merchandise, even while he is going to run the FBI. Elon Musk and others are selling DOGE merchandise.

So as they trumpet their brand inside the government, they are making money off their brand outside of the government. On February 26, maybe the third most significant brazen corruption happens. News breaks that Elon Musk is just going to have the FAA cancel a contract with Verizon that has been in the works for years and instead just substitute in Starlink for Verizon. Just extraordinary that this is happening in plain view of everybody.

Elon Musk takes his private company, uses his access to government to just shove out of the way his competitors and instead insert himself and his company. Again, we have never seen this ever before in American history, and now it is happening on a daily basis.

And now we get to this week. This week, Wired reports that guests are paying millions of dollars to dine with Donald Trump at Mar-a-Lago, and business leaders are being targeted with advertisements that sell access to a one-on-one meeting with the President of the United States for \$5 million.

Come on, like seriously, there are advertisements that say if you are a business CEO and you pay \$5 million to Donald Trump, you can get a meeting with him. Like, this isn't OK. And yet because it happens every single day, every single day, they are asking for us to pretend that this is normal.

This is just 6 weeks. It is just 6 weeks, and the last thing on the list is an offer to meet with the President for a million dollars or \$5 million. If any previous President had sent out an advertisement suggesting that you could meet with them for a payment to them of a million to \$5 million, in and of itself, we would deem that to be unacceptable.

But Donald Trump and Elon Musk believe that because they have arranged this dizzying pace of corruption in which not a day goes by in which something doesn't happen inside our government in which Elon Musk or Donald Trump use their power in order to rig the rules to enrich themselves,

that we are all going to feel that it is normal.

This is how democracies die. Democracies die when the very powerful people steal from us so regularly, so openly, so unapologetically that we come to believe that it is normal.

And listen, I understand that many Americans may think that all of this stuff just used to happen quietly, and the only difference is that Trump and Musk are just putting it all out in the open. And I am not saying that there haven't been instances of corruption. Democrats and Republicans in this body have been accused of and convicted of acts of corruption.

It has been a fact of life in American politics for a long time, but never before has the corruption happened this openly or this frequently. And so I lay it all out for you this afternoon in the hopes that it is not too late for us to decide to stand up as a body and as a nation to say that this isn't OK.

The Trump meme coin is not OK. It is not OK for people who have interests before the Federal Government to be able to anonymously funnel money to the President of the United States. It is not OK for Elon Musk to have access to the Department of Labor enforcement data against him or his competitors that nobody else gets access to.

It is not OK to just cancel contracts that were going to Musk's competitors and substituting his own business just because he has the ability to do it as a friend of Donald Trump. The rule of law matters. Doing things by the rules matter.

This level of corruption was not occurring behind the scenes prior. It is not just that the cover got pulled off of it all, and it is our decision as a body and as a country to decide not to normalize this scale of corruption.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUSTED). The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 26.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Steven Bradbury, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 26, Steven Bradbury, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation.

John Thune, Jim Justice, Bill Cassidy, Mike Rounds, Ted Budd, Tom Cotton, Jon Husted, Tim Sheehy, Deb Fischer, Ron Johnson, John Kennedy, Markwayne Mullin, Steve Daines, Ashley Moody, Ted Cruz, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Eric Schmitt.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 28.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Abigail Slater, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 28, Abigail Slater, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

John Thune, Jim Justice, Bill Cassidy, Mike Rounds, Ted Budd, Tom Cotton, Jon Husted, Tim Sheehy, Deb Fischer, Ron Johnson, John Kennedy, Markwayne Mullin, Steve Daines, Ashley Moody, Ted Cruz, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Eric Schmitt.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

RECOGNIZING FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, since he took office, President Trump, his unelected billionaire buddy Elon Musk, and their DOGE bros have begun to systematically dismantle the Federal Government. In their efforts to root out so-called “government waste,” President Trump and Elon are targeting and illegally terminating the Federal workforce, the employees who make our country run.

These are the air traffic controllers who make sure your flights land safely, the workers responsible for sending Social Security checks out the door for millions of older Americans, the national security experts who keep our Nation safe from threats. These people are not loyal to any party or President. They are career civil servants devoted to serving Americans and answering to the Constitution. And they are being abruptly and illegally fired from critical positions across the government.

Today, I will share the stories of four Federal employees with ties to Illinois who have been terminated in the President's DOGE rampage.

One of my constituents has devoted his career to transit safety. He dreamed of working for the Federal Government. After working for a decade to make the Illinois transit system safer, he landed a job with the Federal Transit Administration in safety assurance, where he was hired to start a program that looked into transit safety hazards across the Nation.

But after President Trump took office, he started to receive strange emails about his job. He was still on probation, but his performance was excellent, and even his managers did not know who was sending the emails. That was until February 14, when he was emailed that he had been terminated for poor performance, despite there being zero documentation suggesting lackluster work and glowing appraisals from his managers.

He was given no severance or benefits. He was gutted. He had never been fired from a job before, and he loved his work. And more importantly, he worries about how he will take care of his two children—both of whom have autism.

We need Federal employees to ensure our public transportation systems are safe. But now, his job investigating transport hazards sits vacant. Public transport is less safe as a result.

How will firing transportation safety experts make America greater?

If you live in Chicago, you will remember last July's derecho, when a record-breaking 32 tornadoes ripped through the Chicagoland area. Eric Carothers remembers it well. At the time, he was an intern for the National Weather Service in Chicago under their Pathways student program, which al-

lowed him to gain experience at the National Weather Service while he was earning his graduate degree in meteorology.

Eric has long been passionate about public service and meteorology. A career at the National Weather Service was a dream come true for him, and he expected to join its staff full-time after graduating from school this spring. That is until he was terminated last week—without cause.

Americans rely on the National Weather Service for everything from knowing when to pack an umbrella to avoid being caught in a thunderstorm to staying safe during tornado clusters. Eric explained that meteorologists at the National Weather Service are already understaffed and overworked. He fears for what the terminations of younger staff will mean for expertise when more senior forecasters retire. Without passionate, dedicated, trained meteorologists, Americans' lives and property are at risk.

How will firing workers in charge of warning the public of weather emergencies make America greater?

Few of the President's actions have been as repulsive as putting veterans in the crosshairs of so-called “government waste.” I want to share the story of one employee, a woman who worked at the Marion VA Medical Center in southern Illinois. Every year, this facility serves 43,000 veterans.

Like many VA employees, she received an email in the middle of the night informing her that she was fired from her logistical job that ensured the rural hospital's lab had what it needed for patient care. Her supervisor had no idea this was coming. Her coworkers were shocked. Her role was valuable to the lab, and she did good work. According to the cookie-cutter email, she, too, was being fired for “poor performance.” But how could that be true when she had just received an outstanding performance evaluation? It made no sense. And get this: She is a veteran. And her spouse is Active-Duty Army.

Not only does this senseless firing hurt someone who so bravely served our Nation, but it will impact the ability of other veterans to receive the healthcare and benefits they need, earned, and deserve.

How will firing veterans responsible for caring for other veterans make America greater?

Last, I want to reiterate that what we do here at home reverberates around the world. One of my constituents spent 10 years dedicating his life to U.S. foreign policy at the State Department and USAID. He was already among the last staffers at USAID, where rounds of firings have hollowed out the Agency.

But despite working for years to improve food security in countries of need around the world and despite exemplary performance reviews, he was fired. Further, he was posted overseas with a fellow public servant spouse.

Now, he is essentially stranded abroad, fearing for his livelihood and future of his family.

How will firing and abandoning Americans dedicated to helping others make America greater?

Our Federal workforce is the backbone of this Nation. And their indiscriminate, unjust firings not only hurts them, but all Americans who rely on the government for critical services.

It seems that Donald Trump and Elon Musk have mistaken the Federal Government for Silicon Valley. The old adage “move fast and break things” might ring true in the tech industry. But, in Washington, “moving fast and breaking things” leads to chaos that everyday Americans bear the brunt of and suffer from.

100TH ANNIVERSARY PASSAGE OF THE FEDERAL PROBATION ACT OF 1925

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today we honor the 100th anniversary of the Federal Probation Act of 1925, the pivotal law that established our Federal probation system, thereby helping to reduce unnecessary detention and crime. This is a prime example of criminal justice reform designed to make our communities safer and allow offenders a second chance to reintegrate into society.

Probation, like many other criminal justice reforms, did not happen overnight. Some Federal judges were in favor of a probationary system, seeing it as an alternative to the sometimes-harsh penalties they felt constrained to impose. Other Federal judges were against probation, believing it too lenient. Congress could not reach agreement on a national plan. While the first Federal probation bills were introduced in Congress in 1909, it was not until 1925—after more than 30 bills had been introduced—that the Federal Probation Act came to fruition.

Since passage, we have seen the life-changing effects of probation as an alternative to prison. This is especially true for past offenders suffering from substance abuse and mental health challenges. Our probation system provides these individuals with structured supervision and access to treatment programs that offer the tools they need to lead productive lives.

In the United States alone, approximately 90,700 dedicated probation officers and correctional treatment specialists work every day to reduce recidivism and promote public safety. I want to thank them for their hard work and dedicated service.

Last December, on the sixth anniversary of the First Step Act, another landmark piece of criminal justice reform legislation, I highlighted that most people who are incarcerated will ultimately be released, so we must prepare them for a successful reentry. The First Step Act is bipartisan criminal justice reform legislation designed to make our justice system fairer and our

communities safer by changing sentencing laws and providing opportunities for incarcerated people to prepare to reenter society successfully.

I was proud to champion this landmark legislation alongside Senators GRASSLEY, BOOKER, and LEE. It took months of bipartisan negotiation and compromise. But the result was a historic victory that significantly improved our justice system.

I can safely say that the Federal Probation Act laid the groundwork 100 years ago for legislation like the First Step Act.

Today, we are all responsible for advancing this work through the passage of fair and effective criminal justice reforms. And I would like to thank the Administrative Office for the Courts' Office of Probation and Pretrial Services and the Federal Probation and Pretrial Services Officers Association for their continued partnership in leading this work. It is an honor to celebrate 100 years of this pivotal law.

HALT FENTANYL ACT

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I voted today to oppose cloture on the motion to proceed to the HALT Fentanyl Act. Our Nation and my State of Maryland are experiencing a crisis with synthetic opioids like fentanyl and related drugs, and I strongly support action to combat drug trafficking and prevent overdoses. We need public health solutions that will help American families and our communities, but instead, the bill before us could lead to harmful unintended consequences, including limiting the potential for less addictive pain therapies and treatments like Naloxone that could prevent and reverse overdose. It also expands mandatory minimums, which increase incarceration but do not reduce crime, and applies them to a broad class of drugs regardless of their actual physiological effects, so that someone could be incarcerated for a decade or more for drugs that are effectively harmless.

It is my hope that we will have the opportunity to amend this legislation, including with amendments put forward by my colleague Senator BOOKER. However, as we have no guarantee that amendments will be permitted by the majority despite the urgency of the issue before us, I voted against cloture today. I urge my colleagues to work to improve the bill in the coming days in order to address the possible unintended consequences of this legislation so, instead, the bill focuses on tackling dangerous drugs and allows for life-saving research and development of potential treatments.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I was absent for one rollcall vote on March 6, 2025.

On March 6, had I been present, I would have voted nay on the motion to

invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 29, Troy Edgar, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, rollcall vote No. 107.

CONFIRMATION OF LINDA McMAHON

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I was absent from the Senate on March 3, 2025. Had I been present for rollcall vote No. 99 on the nomination of Linda McMahon, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education, I would have voted no. As Secretary, Mrs. McMahon will be a rubberstamp on President Trump's agenda to dismantle the Department of Education. President Trump has even said that he hopes that Mrs. McMahon "puts herself out of a job."

The Department of Education is responsible for distributing funds to K-12 schools and administering Pell grants, the Federal Student Loan Program, and programs that help support students with disabilities. Already, the Trump administration has cut funding contracts within the Department that support data collection, learning tools, and programs to increase test scores.

Mrs. McMahon does not have the experience required to support the more than 62 million students in their elementary to postsecondary education across the country. Mrs. McMahon has no experience teaching or working in a school. Her experience does not lend her the tools the Secretary of Education needs to address the complex needs of our Nation's students, who are struggling with rising mental health issues.

I do not have confidence that, under Mrs. McMahon's leadership, the Department of Education will continue to perform its core duties and support students across the country, in all stages of their education.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I was absent from the Senate on March 3, 2025. Had I been present for rollcall vote No. 100 on S.9, I would have voted no. This legislation is a gross overreach of Federal authority on mandating State action. It does not in fact protect women and girls in sports, nor does it create competitive fairness. Rather, it is an effort to marginalize an already targeted community. Instead of investing in and removing barriers for women and girls to participate in sports, this bill threatens women's sports by creating harmful Federal gender verification standards that impede on the privacy and dignity of women and girls.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO PETE BUNCE

• Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today, I want to recognize Pete Bunce, the president and CEO of the General Avia-

tion Manufacturers Association, GAMA, who is retiring next month. Pete is a dedicated leader and a stalwart in the aviation industry. He has done a remarkable job advocating for the interests of general aviation manufacturers, many of which call Kansas home.

I first met Pete during my time in the House of Representatives, when he was the Director of the U.S. Air Force Congressional Budget and Appropriations Liaison in the House. We worked together on military, veterans, and transportation issues. When he went over to GAMA, I knew the association would be in good hands, and he has taken it to new heights during his illustrious 20 years at the helm.

Throughout his storied career, Pete has engaged regulators, policymakers, and elected officials to promote general aviation. As part of his legislative affairs efforts, he led GAMA during the passage and implementation of the Small Airplane Revitalization Act, which modernized the certification standards and methods for small aircraft. He and his team have also provided valuable industry insights through numerous FAA reauthorizations, including the latest bill passed last Congress. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Pete and his team strongly advocated for the Aviation Manufacturing Jobs Protection (AMJP) program, which I helped successfully manage through Congress to strengthen the aviation industry's fragile supply chain and keeping highly skilled workers in the industry.

Pete and his GAMA team were also was intimately involved with consideration and passage of the Advanced Air Mobility and Coordination Act. I hope that report, which should be delivered by the administration in the near term, will help lay the foundation for this critical industry and the innovations it will bring.

Pete has been recognized for his noteworthy service to the general aviation industry with many accolades including being named the 2007 Aviation Industry Leader of the Year by the Living Legends of Aviation, awarded the ICAS Sword of Excellence in 2009, inducted as one of the 70 Living Legends of Aviation in 2010, inducted into the Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame, presented with the NAA Wesley L. McDonald Distinguished Statesman of Aviation Award in 2022, and bestowed with the EAA's Freedom of Flight Award in 2024.

Pete has done so much to advance the welfare of the general aviation industry, one which he has loved and cherished since first learning to fly as a teenager and working at his local airport.

Thank you, Pete, for your steadfast service to the general aviation industry, especially within the great State of Kansas. I wish you "Blue Skies and Tailwinds" during your well-earned retirement. I hope you enjoy retirement and spending more time with your lovely wife Patty.●

RECOGNIZING JONES HERITAGE REALTY

• Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today, I want to recognize Jones Heritage Realtors of Pittsburg, KS, as they celebrate 120 years in the real estate business.

Jones Heritage Realtors was founded in 1905 by Frank A. Jones in Pittsburg. In 1908, Frank's brother Ernest joined the business, and together, they established their family business selling real estate and insurance.

Paul S. Jones joined his father Frank in 1946, and a few years later, Frank's daughter Ruth Jones Sherman joined the family business in 1953. Ruth was the first female realtor in the city of Pittsburg and worked for the agency for 34 years.

Brian K. Jones, Paul's son, joined the business in 1979 and purchased his father's interest in the agency in 1985. Even after transferring his share of the company to his son, Paul remained active in the management of the family operation for several years.

As the leader of Jones Heritage Realtors, Brian has served his community numerous ways, serving as a member of the local Rotary club, Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce, Pittsburg Land Bank Board of Trustees, Crawford County Mental Health Board, Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Family and Children Together, Explore Crawford County, and the Pittsburg Board of Realtors.

He is active in the National Association of Realtors and served as its director and region 9 vice president in 2015. As a member of the Kansas Association of Realtors, Brian served as the 2010 president, the chairman of Real Estate Business Resources, the Associations for Profit Company, and is on the board of directors and executive committee. Brian was also awarded the 2002 Kansas Realtor of the Year and 2013 Distinguished Service Award.

Brian has invested his time and resources into his community, and individuals in Pittsburg have expressed their gratitude for Brian and Jones Heritage Realtors. Blake Benson, the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce President said, "Jones Heritage Realtors is among Kansas' most notable corporate citizens. From its beginning in 1905 through today, the company has always prioritized community involvement among its brokers and realtors and our region has benefitted greatly from their support. We look forward to continuing this relationship well into the future."

Kim Froman, city of Pittsburg Director of Community Development and Housing, said, "Brian's extensive knowledge and experience with real estate has made him an ideal advocate for housing initiatives within the City of Pittsburg. He dedicated nine years of service to the Pittsburg Land Bank Board of Trustees, including three years as chairperson, while also holding multiple other positions on community boards. All of this combined experience has greatly impacted the

housing market and community within the City of Pittsburg, and we look forward to continuing to work together in the future."

Today, Jones Heritage Realtors is an integral component of the growth and economic development of the Pittsburg community. The firm has handled numerous commercial, industrial and residential transactions and has developed several residential and commercial areas throughout the city.

With 120 years and three generations of knowledge and experience in the Pittsburg community, Jones Heritage Realtors has a prominent influence in the local real estate industry and will continue their legacy of excellence for years to come.

Congratulations to Brian and his team on this milestone.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING A NATIONAL EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO HALT EFFORTS BY THE INTER- NATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT TO INVESTIGATE, ARREST, DETAIN, OR PROSECUTE PERSONS IN AMERICA AND OUR CLOSE ALLY ISRAEL THROUGH BLATANT LAWFARE—PM 13

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:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (8 U.S.C. 1182(f)), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I hereby report that I have exercised my authority to declare a national emergency in order to halt efforts by the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute persons in America and our close ally Israel through blatant lawfare. I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

The ICC has, without basis, asserted jurisdiction over and opened investigations into personnel of the United States and certain of its allies, including Israel, and has further abused its power by issuing baseless arrest warrants targeting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Former Minister of Defense Yoav Gallant. The ICC

has no jurisdiction over the United States or Israel, as neither country is party to the Rome Statute or a member of the ICC. Neither country has ever recognized the ICC's jurisdiction, and both nations are thriving democracies with militaries that strictly adhere to the laws of war. The ICC's recent actions against Israel and the United States set a dangerous precedent, directly endangering current and former United States personnel, including active service members of the Armed Forces, by exposing them to harassment, abuse, and possible arrest. This malign conduct in turn threatens to infringe upon the sovereignty of the United States and undermines the critical national security and foreign policy work of the United States Government and our allies, including Israel.

Pursuant to the national emergency that I have declared, the United States will impose tangible and significant consequences on those responsible for the ICC's transgressions, including by blocking property and assets, and suspending entry into the United States of ICC officials, employees, and agents, as well as their immediate family members. I have directed the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, to identify and sanction any foreign person found to have, among other things, directly assisted in any ICC efforts to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute a protected person without consent of that person's country of nationality.

I have further determined that the unrestricted immigrant and non-immigrant entry into the United States of any covered alien found to have participated in any ICC efforts to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute a protected person, as well as immediate family members of such aliens, or aliens determined by the Secretary of State to be employed by, or acting as an agent of, the ICC, would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, as immigrants or non-immigrants, and therefore have suspended such immigration except where the Secretary of State determines that the entry of the person into the United States would not be contrary to the interests of the United States.

In addition, I have determined that donations of articles specified in section 203(b)(2) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702(b)(2)) by, to, or for the benefit of any person whose assets are blocked, would impair my ability to address the national emergency I declared. I have therefore prohibited such donations.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 5, 2025.

NOTICE OF CERTAIN ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS THE SYNTHETIC OPIOID SUPPLY CHAIN IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE FLOW OF ILLEGAL DRUGS ACROSS OUR NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN BORDERS THAT ARE AN EXPANSION OF THE SCOPE OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED IN PROCLAMATION 10886 OF JANUARY 20, 2025—PM 14

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 Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with applicable law, including the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621) and the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701), I am providing notice of certain actions I have taken to address the synthetic opioid supply chain in the People's Republic of China and the flow of illicit drugs across our northern and southern borders. As reflected in the Executive Orders described below, the sustained influx of illicit opioids and other drugs has profound consequences on our Nation, endangering lives and putting a severe strain on our healthcare system, public services, and communities. These actions are an expansion of the national emergency I declared in Proclamation 10886 of January 20, 2025 (Declaring a National Emergency at the Southern Border of the United States).

Executive Order 14193, as amended by Executive Orders 14197 and 14226, and Executive Order 14194, as amended by Executive Orders 14198 and 14227, expand the scope of the aforementioned national emergency to "cover the threat to the safety and security of Americans, including the public health crisis of deaths due to the use of fentanyl and other illicit drugs" and the failure of Canada and Mexico to arrest, seize, detain, or otherwise intercept drug trafficking organizations, other drug and human traffickers, criminals at large, and illicit drugs. Furthermore, Executive Order 14195, as amended by Executive Orders 14200 and 14228, expands the scope of the same national emergency declared in Proclamation 10886 to cover the failure of the People's Republic of China to arrest, seize, detain, or otherwise intercept chemical precursor suppliers, money launderers, transnational criminal organizations, criminals at large, and drugs. To combat these problems, I have determined that ad valorem tariffs on articles that are products of these countries are in order.

My Administration will continue to consult with the Congress on our efforts to address the influx of illegal drugs into our communities. As described in these Executive Orders, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of the

Treasury, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Commerce, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, and the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security, are authorized to submit recurring and final reports to the Congress on this national emergency.

I am enclosing copies of the Executive Orders I have issued.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 5, 2025.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:55 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 joint resolution, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 11. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management relating to "Protection of Marine Archaeological Resources".

The message further announced that the House has passed the following joint resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 42. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Certification Requirements, Labeling Requirements, and Enforcement Provisions for Certain Consumer Products and Commercial Equipment".

H.J. Res. 61. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Rubber Tire Manufacturing".

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. Res. 191. Resolution relative to the death of the Honorable Sylvester Turner, a Representative from the State of Texas.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. SCOTT, of South Carolina, for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*William Pulte, of Florida, to be Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency for a term of five years.

*Stephen Miran, of New York, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

*Jeffrey Kessler, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security.

*Jonathan McKernan, of Tennessee, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection for a term of five years.

By Mr. CASSIDY for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

*Keith Sonderling, of Florida, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and tes-

tify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MORENO, Mr. MCCORMICK, and Mr. BANKS):

S. 875. A bill to curtail the political weaponization of Federal banking agencies by eliminating reputational risk as a component of the supervision of depository institutions; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

S. 876. A bill making continuing appropriations for military pay in the event of a Government shutdown; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 877. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the life and legacy of Roberto Clemente; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 878. A bill to amend the Combat-Injured Veterans Tax Fairness Act of 2016 to apply to members of the Coast Guard when the Coast Guard is not operating as a service in the Department of the Navy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 879. A bill to expand medical, employment, and other benefits for individuals serving as family caregivers for certain veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 880. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit institutions of higher education participating in Federal student assistance programs from giving preferential treatment in the admissions process to legacy students or donors; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RICKETTS (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 881. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to include fuel for ocean-going vessels as additional renewable fuel for which credits may be generated under the renewable fuel program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 882. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to assure pharmacy access and choice for beneficiaries under prescription drug plans and MA-PD plans and to establish requirements of pharmacy benefit managers under Medicare part D; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. BRITT, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 883. A bill to amend the Natural Gas Act to allow the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to approve or deny applications for the siting, construction, expansion, or operation of facilities to export or import

natural gas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. SHEEHY, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 884. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to establish an administrative relief process for individuals whose applications for transfer and registration of a firearm were denied, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 885. A bill to establish a permanent rural housing preservation and revitalization program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mr. BUDD):

S. 886. A bill to amend the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 to strengthen oversight over foreign investment in the United States agricultural industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. CURTIS):

S. 887. A bill to provide for a memorandum of understanding to address the impacts of a certain record of decision on the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 888. A bill to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas, to withdraw certain land located in Curry County and Josephine County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. KAINE, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 889. A bill to support State, Tribal, and local efforts to remove access to firearms from individuals who are a danger to themselves or others pursuant to court orders for this purpose; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. MORAN, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 890. A bill to increase the number of landlords participating in the Housing Choice Voucher program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 891. A bill to extend expiring health provisions and improve health care delivery; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. GALLEGOS, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 892. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the repayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of benefits misused by a fiduciary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 893. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to remove the overtime wages exemption for certain employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. REED, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 894. A bill to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to protect civil rights and otherwise prevent meaningful harm to third parties, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 895. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the standard charitable mileage rate for delivery of meals to elderly, disabled, frail, and at-risk individuals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 896. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to co-locate renewable energy projects on certain existing Federal leased areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KING, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 897. A bill to prohibit the sale and distribution of expanded polystyrene food service ware, expanded polystyrene loose fill, and expanded polystyrene coolers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 898. 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 Relations.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 899. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to modify limitations on amounts of farm ownership loans and operating loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 900. A bill to require certain flags of the United States to be made in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. TILLIS:

S. 901. A bill to amend the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to increase the maximum loan amount for certain loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SHEEHY (for himself and Mr. KIM):

S. 902. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to establish a standard for the response time to wildfire incidents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 903. A bill to amend the Defense Production Act of 1950 to require the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States to review and prohibit certain transactions relating to agriculture; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 904. A bill to improve disaster assistance programs of the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. COTTON):

S. 905. A bill to require the establishment within the Department of Defense of a pilot program on arsenal workload sustainment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 906. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a pilot program to support evidence-based mental health peer support activities for students; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 907. A bill to amend the Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 to make technical corrections; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROUNDS:

S. 908. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the United States Trade Representative, to develop and finalize a vaccination strategy for poultry; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAMER, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S.J. Res. 31. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Review of Final Rule Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. Res. 116. A resolution celebrating the extraordinary accomplishments and vital role of women business owners in the United States; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. Res. 117. A resolution providing for members on the part of the Senate of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MOODY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. Res. 118. A resolution designating March 6, 2025, as "National Slam the Scam Day" to raise awareness about pervasive scams and to promote education to prevent government

imposter scams and other types of scams; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself and Mr. MARKEY):

S. Res. 119. A resolution memorializing those lost to the COVID-19 pandemic; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 94

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 94, a bill to award 3 Congressional Gold Medals to the members of the 1980 United States Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team, in recognition of their extraordinary achievement at the XIII Olympic Winter Games where, being comprised of amateur collegiate players, they defeated the dominant Soviet ice hockey team in the historic "Miracle on Ice", revitalizing morale in the United States at the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations, and transforming the sport of ice hockey in the United States.

S. 128

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 128, 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. 138

At the request of Mr. SHEEHY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 138, a bill to require each enterprise to include on the Uniform Residential Loan Application a disclaimer to increase awareness of the direct and guaranteed home loan programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 160

At the request of Mr. SHEEHY, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 160, a bill to amend the Wildfire Suppression Aircraft Transfer Act of 1996 to reauthorize the sale by the Department of Defense of aircraft and parts for wildfire suppression purposes, and for other purposes.

S. 199

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 199, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide special rules for the taxation of certain residents of Taiwan with income from sources within the United States.

S. 289

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a

cosponsor of S. 289, a bill to ban the sale of products with a high concentration of sodium nitrate to individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 331

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 339, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of multi-cancer early detection screening tests.

S. 373

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 373, a bill to prohibit discrimination based on political affiliation in granting disaster assistance.

S. 400

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 400, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the paid family and medical leave credit, and for other purposes.

S. 424

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 424, a bill to amend the Federal securities laws to enhance 403(b) plans, and for other purposes.

S. 522

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KANE) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 522, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modify the frequency of board of directors meetings, and for other purposes.

S. 696

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 696, a bill to provide temporary Ukrainian guest status for eligible aliens, and for other purposes.

S. 699

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 699, a bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to address liability for payment of charges or costs associated with the provision of purchased/referred care services, and for other purposes.

S. 789

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 789, a bill to require reports on critical mineral and rare earth element resources around the world and a strategy for the development of advanced mining, refining, separation, and processing technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 846

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 846, a bill to implement or strengthen programs that increase the supply of quality child care services by enhancing the wages of child care workers, and for other purposes.

S. 847

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 847, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the employer-provided child care credit and the dependent care assistance exclusion.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 877. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the life and legacy of Roberto Clemente; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 877

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 "Roberto Clemente Commemorative Coin Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Roberto Clemente Walker was born on August 18, 1934, to Don Melchor Clemente and Luisa Walker in Barrio San Antón, Carolina, Puerto Rico, as the youngest of 7 children.

(2) Clemente excelled in athletics as a youngster and, at the age of 17, was playing for the Santurce Cangrejeros "Crabbers" of the Puerto Rican Baseball League.

(3) In 1954, the Pittsburgh Pirates selected Clemente in the first round of the Major League Baseball Rule 5 draft.

(4) Pirates center fielder Earl Smith wore jersey number 21 until he parted ways with the team in April 1955, and Clemente wore number 13 until then.

(5) In 1955, Clemente made his Major League debut as he went on to play for the Pittsburgh Pirates, starting as a right fielder.

(6) When the team traveled to Richmond, Virginia, for games or Florida for spring training, Clemente encountered Jim Crow

laws for the first time when the Black players had to stay at a separate, inferior hotel and were refused the option to dine with their White counterparts.

(7) Clemente was known for being a proud Afro-Latino and protested the discrimination that Latin and Black ball players encountered.

(8) Clemente was known for defending the rights of Black and Brown people, both on the field and in the streets.

(9) After the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1968, Clemente and his teammates refused to play until after the funerals and even wrote a public statement showing their respect for Dr. King.

(10) Clemente became a union leader in the incipient Major League Baseball Players Association and defended players' rights to demand better working conditions and benefits.

(11) In every city where the Pirates played, Clemente visited sick children in hospitals.

(12) Clemente established training clinics, providing baseball lessons and fun for boys and girls in Pittsburgh, his home island of Puerto Rico, and throughout Latin America.

(13) In 1958, Clemente enlisted in the United States Marine Corps Reserve after the 1958 season and spent 6 months on active duty at Parris Island, South Carolina, and Camp LeJeune, North Carolina.

(14) Clemente served until 1964 and was inducted into the Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame in 2003.

(15) By the end of his career, Clemente had joined the exclusive 3,000-hit club, was selected to 15 All-Star teams, and won 12 Gold Gloves, 2 World Series, and a National League MVP award.

(16) In Clemente's 18 seasons with Pittsburgh he won 4 batting titles, hit 240 home runs, and posted a lifetime .317 batting average.

(17) In late 1972, a 6.3 magnitude earthquake ravaged Managua, Nicaragua, and killed 5,000 people.

(18) In his philanthropic spirit, Clemente sent shipments of humanitarian aid to the country.

(19) After learning that 3 previous shipments had been diverted by corrupt Somoza Government officials, Clemente decided to accompany one of the aid shipments.

(20) The four-engine DC-7 plane Clemente chartered for a flight on New Year's Eve crashed in the Atlantic Ocean immediately after takeoff from the coast of Isla Verde, Puerto Rico.

(21) On December 31, 1972, Clemente died in the plane crash at the age of 38 years young.

(22) Since 1973, Major League Baseball gives out the Roberto Clemente Award to one player in the league who "best exemplifies the game of baseball, sportsmanship, community involvement and the individual's contribution to his team".

(23) In 2002, Major League Baseball declared the first annual Roberto Clemente Day.

(24) In 2021, Major League Baseball announced September 15 would be the permanent date of Roberto Clemente Day to coincide with the beginning of Hispanic Heritage month.

(25) Clemente was the first Latino player to accomplish many feats in Major League Baseball.

(26) Clemente was the first Puerto Rican, and first person of Latino heritage, to win a World Series as a starter, be named league MVP, be named World Series MVP, and be elected to the Hall of Fame.

(27) Clemente was posthumously elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1973, being the first National League baseball player to receive the mandatory 5-year waiting period waiver.

(28) Clemente was a legend in life and death, a baseball star, a humanitarian activist, and a symbol of Latin American pride.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 8.359 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and
- (C) contain not less than 90 percent gold.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (C) contain not less than 90 percent silver.

(3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

- (A) weigh 11.34 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and
- (C) be minted to the specifications for half-dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The designs of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the life of Roberto Clemente, including his human rights activism and baseball stardom legacy. At least 1 obverse design shall bear the image of Roberto Clemente.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act, there shall be—

- (A) an inscription of Roberto Clemente;
- (B) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (C) an inscription of the year "2027"; and
- (D) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(b) SELECTION.—The designs for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

- (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Roberto Clemente Foundation, Roberto Clemente's living family members, and the Commission of the Fine Arts; and
- (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins under this Act only during the 1-year period beginning on January 1, 2027.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (1) the face value of the coins;
- (2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with respect to such coins; and
- (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include—

- (1) a surcharge of \$35 per coin for the \$5 coins;
- (2) a surcharge of \$10 per coin for the \$1 coins; and
- (3) a surcharge of \$5 per coin for the half-dollar coins.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be paid to the Roberto Clemente Foundation to be used for general expenses associated with the fulfillment of the mission of the Roberto Clemente Foundation, including for costs associated with educational, youth sports, and disaster relief historic preservation.

(c) AUDITS.—The Roberto Clemente Foundation, shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, shall be disbursed to any recipient designated in section 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself,
Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr.
BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, and
Mr. WYDEN):

S. 893. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to remove the overtime wages exemption for certain employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Guaranteeing Overtime for Truckers Act, which I introduced today.

America's truckdrivers are on the frontlines of keeping goods and our economy moving. More than 70 percent of goods across the United States are shipped by truck.

Unfortunately, longstanding challenges persist for truckers, including long hours away from home and time spent waiting—often unpaid—to load and unload at congested ports, warehouses, and distribution centers.

Our Nation has made historic investments in our port and supply chain infrastructure through the bipartisan infrastructure law, but we should also improve wages and working conditions for critical workers and ensure they are paid for all of the hours they work.

However, for more than 80 years, Federal law has denied truckers guaranteed overtime pay benefits that are afforded to nearly all other professions. This means that if a truckdriver experiences delays due to congestion or weather, they are often not paid even though they are working. Requiring overtime will create an incentive for the shippers, receivers, and carriers to get cargo loaded and unloaded, keeping truckers and our supply chain moving.

The motor carrier exemption exacerbates trucking workforce challenges. In fact, a February 2022 freight and logistics supply chain assessment by the U.S. Department of Transportation urged Congress to repeal this exemption. Additionally, research suggests that when truck labor rates are fair, there is less driver fatigue, fewer regulatory violations, and lower crash rates.

That is why I am proud to introduce this bill to repeal the overtime exemption for motor carriers.

I want to thank Senator MARKEY for coleading this bill with me, and I hope our colleagues will join us to ensure that trucker compensation reflects the fact that these jobs are essential.

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

S. 904. A bill to improve disaster assistance programs of the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 904

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 “Livestock Disaster Assistance Improvement Act of 2025”.

SEC. 2. EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—Title IV of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 is amended by inserting after section 402B (16 U.S.C. 2202b) the following:

“SEC. 402C. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM.

“(a) ELIGIBILITY OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LAND USERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An agricultural producer eligible to receive payments under sections 401 and 402 includes a person that—

“(A) holds a permit from the Federal Government to conduct agricultural production or grazing on Federal land; or

“(B) leases land from a State or unit of local government to conduct agricultural production or grazing on that land.

“(2) EFFECT.—Nothing in this subsection authorizes the Secretary to make a payment

under section 401 or 402 to a State or unit of local government.

“(b) PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS.—Emergency measures eligible for payments under sections 401 and 402 include—

“(1) new permanent measures, including permanent water wells and pipelines; and

“(2) replacement or restoration of existing emergency measures with permanent measures, including permanent water wells and pipelines.

“(c) STREAMLINING APPLICATION PROCESS.—

“(1) WAIVER OF PUBLIC COMMENT.—During a drought emergency, as determined by the Secretary, the 30-day public comment period required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) shall be waived with respect to an application to carry out emergency measures under section 401 or 402 on land administered by the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Secretary of the Interior’).

“(2) ACCEPTANCE OF NRCS REVIEWS.—With respect to an application to carry out emergency measures under section 401 or 402 on land administered by the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of the Interior may accept—

“(A) during a drought emergency, as determined by the Secretary, an archeological review conducted by the Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, for purposes of an archeological review required to be conducted;

“(B) an environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) conducted by the Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, for purposes of such an environmental review required to be conducted; and

“(C) a review under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) conducted by the Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, for purposes of such a review required to be conducted.”.

(b) EMERGENCY FOREST RESTORATION PROGRAM.—Section 407 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2206) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (3) as paragraphs (3) through (5), respectively;

(B) by inserting before paragraph (3) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible entity’ means—

“(A) with respect to nonindustrial private forest land, an owner of the nonindustrial private forest land;

“(B) with respect to Federal land, a person that holds a permit from the Federal Government to conduct agricultural production or grazing on the Federal land; and

“(C) with respect to land owned by a State or a unit of local government, a person that leases land from the State or unit of local government to conduct agricultural production or grazing on that land.

“(2) ELIGIBLE LAND.—The term ‘eligible land’ means—

“(A) nonindustrial private forest land;

“(B) Federal land; and

“(C) land owned by a State or unit of local government.”; and

(c) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “nonindustrial private forest land” and inserting “eligible land”; and

(II) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subclauses (I) and (II), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(iii) in the matter preceding clause (i) (as so redesignated), by striking “The term” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term”; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term ‘emergency measures’ includes—

“(i) new permanent measures described in subparagraph (A), including permanent water wells and pipelines; and

“(ii) replacement or restoration of existing emergency measures with permanent measures described in subparagraph (A), including permanent water wells and pipelines.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking “an owner of nonindustrial private forest land who” and inserting “an eligible entity that”; and

(B) by striking “restore the land” and inserting “restore eligible land”; and

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking “owner must” and inserting “eligible entity shall”; and

(B) by striking “nonindustrial private forest land” and inserting “eligible land”; and

(4) in subsection (d), by striking “an owner of nonindustrial private forest land” and inserting “an eligible entity”; and

(5) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (g); and

(6) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) STREAMLINING APPLICATION PROCESS.—

“(1) WAIVER OF PUBLIC COMMENT.—During a drought emergency, as determined by the Secretary, the 30-day public comment period required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) shall be waived with respect to an application to carry out emergency measures under this section on land administered by the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Secretary of the Interior’).

“(2) ACCEPTANCE OF NRCS REVIEWS.—With respect to an application to carry out emergency measures under this section on land administered by the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of the Interior may accept—

“(A) during a drought emergency, as determined by the Secretary, an archeological review conducted by the Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, for purposes of an archeological review required to be conducted;

“(B) an environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) conducted by the Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, for purposes of such an environmental review required to be conducted; and

“(C) a review under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) conducted by the Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, for purposes of such a review required to be conducted.

“(f) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section authorizes the Secretary to make a payment under this section to a State or unit of local government.”.

(c) CLERICAL IMPROVEMENTS.—

(1) REPEAL.—Section 406 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201 note; Public Law 95-334) is repealed.

(2) HEADING FORMAT CORRECTIONS.—

(A) Section 402 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2202) is amended—

(i) by striking the section designation and all that follows through “authorized” and inserting the following:

“SEC. 402. WATER CONSERVATION AND WATER ENHANCING MEASURES DURING SEVERE DROUGHT.”

“The Secretary is authorized”; and
(ii) by striking “during” and all that follows through “of” and inserting “during a period of”.

(B) Section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2203) is amended by striking the section designation and all that follows through “authorized” in subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“SEC. 403. EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROGRAM.”

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized”.

(C) Section 405 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2205) is amended by striking the section designation and all that follows through “authorized” and inserting the following:

“SEC. 405. REGULATIONS.”

“The Secretary is authorized”.

(3) REORDERING.—Title IV of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is amended—

(A) by redesignating sections 402C (as added by subsection (a)), 403, 404, 405, and 407 (as amended by subsection (b)) as sections 403, 405, 407, 408, and 406, respectively, and moving the sections so as to appear in numerical order;

(B) in section 402B (16 U.S.C. 2202b), by striking the section designation and heading and all that follows through “maximum” and inserting the following:

“(d) MAXIMUM PAYMENT.—The maximum”; and

(C) by moving that subsection (d) (as so redesignated) so as to appear after subsection (c) of section 402A (16 U.S.C. 2202a).

(4) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—Section 402A of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2202a) (as amended by paragraph (3)(C)) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b), by striking “2279” and inserting “2279”);

(B) in subsection (c), in the subsection heading, by striking “LIMITATION” and inserting “TOTAL PAYMENT FOR SINGLE EVENT”;

(C) by striking the section designation and heading and inserting the following:

“SEC. 404. COST-SHARE REQUIREMENT; MAXIMUM PAYMENT.”; and

(D) by moving that section 404 (as so redesignated) so as to appear after section 403 (as redesignated by paragraph (3)(A)).

(5) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1241(f)(9)(B) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(f)(9)(B)) is amended by striking “403” and inserting “405”.

SEC. 3. LIVESTOCK FORAGE DISASTER PROGRAM.

Section 1501(c)(3)(D)(ii)(I) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081(c)(3)(D)(ii)(I)) is amended—

(1) by striking “at least 8 consecutive” and inserting the following: “not less than—

“(aa) 4 consecutive weeks during the normal grazing period for the county, as determined by the Secretary, shall be eligible to receive assistance under this paragraph in an amount equal to 1 monthly payment using the monthly payment rate determined under subparagraph (B); or
“(bb) 8 consecutive”; and

(2) in item (bb) (as so designated), by striking “1 monthly payment” and inserting “2 monthly payments”.

SEC. 4. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR LIVESTOCK, HONEY BEES, AND FARM-RAISED FISH.

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 1501(d) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “drought,” after “adverse weather.”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “to reduce losses” and all that follows through the pe-

riod at the end and inserting “to reduce losses caused by feed or water shortages (including transportation costs for feed, water, livestock, and honey bees), disease, adverse weather, drought, or other factors, as determined by the Secretary, including inspections of cattle tick fever.”;

(3) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking “In the case” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) REQUIREMENTS FOR HONEY BEES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of eligible producers of honey bees, the payment rate under subparagraph (A) shall incorporate per-hive and per-colony rates of loss, subject to clause (ii).
“(ii) DETERMINATION OF COLONY LOSSES.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of clause (i), in determining honeybee colony losses eligible for assistance under this subsection, the Secretary shall—
“(aa) review the normal mortality rate used for the calculation of that assistance; and
“(bb) adjust the normal mortality rate described in item (aa) as necessary to exclude losses caused by colony collapse disorder, as determined by the Secretary.

“(II) INSUFFICIENT DATA.—In the absence of sufficient data to establish the adjusted mortality rate described in subclause (I)(bb), the Secretary shall use the normal mortality rate for honey bees applied for the first fiscal year for which emergency relief was provided to eligible producers of honey bees under section 531(e) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1531(e)).”; and
(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) DOCUMENTATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any requirements for the submission of documentation by an eligible producer to receive a payment under this subsection shall be consistent nationwide.

“(B) PRODUCERS OF HONEY BEES.—The Secretary, in consultation with eligible producers of honey bees, shall establish a standard, for purposes of this subsection, for—
“(i) collecting data; and
“(ii) setting an annual rate for replacing colonies and hives of honey bees.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY TO PRODUCERS OF HONEY BEES.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall apply the amendments made by subsection (a) to producers of honey bees such that there is no limit on the size of a beekeeping operation with respect to those amendments.

SEC. 5. DROUGHT MONITOR INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall establish an interagency working group (referred to in this section as the “working group”) to improve the availability of consistent, accurate, and reliable data for use in producing the United States Drought Monitor in accordance with section 12512 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 5856).

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The working group shall consist of not fewer than—

(1) 3 representatives from the Department of Agriculture, including 1 representative from each of—

(A) the Office of the Chief Economist, who shall serve as the Chair of the working group;

(B) the Forest Service; and

(C) the Farm Service Agency;

(2) 4 representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including 1 representative from each of—

(A) the Climate Prediction Center;

(B) the National Centers for Environmental Information;

(C) the National Integrated Drought Information System; and

(D) the National Mesonet Program;

(3) 1 representative from the National Drought Mitigation Center;

(4) 1 representative from the Department of the Interior;

(5) 1 representative from the Cooperative Institute for Research to Operations in Hydrology of the University of Alabama; and

(6) 3 representatives from mesonet programs in States—

(A) that have experienced severe drought, as determined by the United States Drought Monitor, in not less than 5 calendar years during the period of calendar years 2012 through 2023; and

(B) more than 50 percent of the land area of which is designated by the Economic Research Service as a Level 1 frontier and remote area.

(c) DUTIES.—The working group shall—

(1) develop a means for the inclusion of additional in-situ data into the process of developing the United States Drought Monitor, including—

(A) determining minimum requirements for data to be included in the United States Drought Monitor;

(B) identifying data available from other government agencies, including through portals managed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

(C) identifying gaps in coverage and determining solutions to address those gaps;

(2) identify and address potential barriers to the use of existing data, including—

(A) identifying Federal datasets that would be of immediate use in developing the United States Drought Monitor where access is restricted to some or all authors of the United States Drought Monitor; and

(B) developing proposed accommodations, modifications to contractual agreements, or updates to interagency memoranda of understanding to allow for incorporation of datasets identified under subparagraph (A);

(3) develop an open and transparent methodology for vetting data products developed using remote sensing or modeling;

(4) if determined appropriate by the working group, develop a methodology for inclusion of data that may otherwise be excluded from the United States Drought Monitor due to shorter periods of record; and

(5) identify and address any other issues relating to data availability and quality, as determined appropriate by the Chair of the working group.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the working group shall submit a report containing recommendations for changes in policies, regulations, guidance documents, or existing law to meet the objectives described in subsection (c) to—

(1) the Secretary of Agriculture;

(2) the Secretary of Commerce;

(3) the Secretary of the Interior;

(4) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

(5) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(6) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives; and

(7) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

(e) ACTION BY SECRETARY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of submission of the report under subsection (d), the Secretary of Agriculture, in coordination with the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior, shall incorporate, to the extent practicable, the recommendations of the working group to improve the United States Drought Monitor in accordance with section 12512 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 5856).

(f) **TERMINATION.**—The working group shall terminate on the date that is 90 days after the date on which the report is submitted under subsection (d).

SEC. 6. ALIGNMENT OF FARM SERVICE AGENCY AND FOREST SERVICE DROUGHT RESPONSE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of submission of the report under section 5(d), the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency and the Chief of the Forest Service shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to better align drought response activities of the Farm Service Agency and the Forest Service (referred to in this section as the “agencies”).

(b) **CONTENTS.**—The memorandum of understanding entered into under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a commitment to better align practices of the agencies with respect to determining the severity of regional drought conditions;

(2) a strategy for amending those determinations to ensure consistent policy with respect to drought response in cases where the agencies are making inconsistent determinations within the same spatial scale;

(3) an agreement to utilize, to the extent practicable, the United States Drought Monitor in making those determinations; and

(4) an agreement to provide consistent information to grazing permittees, operators, and other stakeholders affected by determinations relating to drought.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. COTTON):

S. 905. A bill to require the establishment within the Department of Defense of a pilot program on arsenal workload sustainment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 905

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 “Arsenal Workload Sustainment Act”.

SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM ON ARSENAL WORKLOAD SUSTAINMENT.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States has a long and proud history of manufacturing defense products.

(2) Factories and arsenals of the Department of the Army that are owned and operated by the United States Government are a critical component of the organic industrial base.

(3) The first ever National Defense Industrial Strategy released in 2024 recognized the need of the Department of Defense to more strategically utilize the organic industrial base in order to maintain a competitive military advantage.

(4) Sufficient workload at arsenals of the Department of the Army that are owned and operated by the United States Government ensure cost efficiency and technical competence in peacetime, while preserving the ability to provide an effective and timely response to mobilizations, national defense contingency situations, and other emergency requirements.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of De-

fense shall establish a pilot program to be known as the “Arsenal Workload Sustainment Pilot Program” (in this section referred to as the “pilot program”).

(c) **DURATION.**—The pilot program shall be conducted for a period of five years.

(d) **PREFERENCES FOR PROCUREMENT ACTIONS OR SOLICITATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out the pilot program, the Secretary of Defense shall give a preference described in paragraph (2) for any procurement action or solicitation by a non-public partner who has entered into a public-private partnership with the Secretary in the source selection process if such non-public partner uses an arsenal of the Department of the Army that is owned and operated by the United States Government as a partner in any type of contractual agreement with the United States Government.

(2) **PREFERENCE DESCRIBED.**—A preference described in this paragraph is the addition of 20 percent to the price of any offer by a non-public partner that does not use an arsenal of the Department of the Army that is owned and operated by the United States Government as a partner in its bid for the same procurement action or solicitation described in paragraph (1).

(3) **FURTHER PREFERENCE.**—In selecting non-public partners under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall give preference to non-public partners that—

(A) utilize the Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence of the Army; and

(B) ensure not less than 25 percent of the activities under the partnership are performed by employees of the Department of Defense.

(e) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the activities carried out under the pilot program, including a description of any operational challenges identified.

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A breakout, by relevant budget accounts, of workload at an arsenal of the Department of the Army that is owned and operated by the United States Government that was achieved in the prior fiscal year, whether directly or through public-private partnerships under the pilot program.

(B) An assessment of relevant budget accounts where such an arsenal can be utilized to meet future procurement needs of the Department of Defense, irrespective of cost.

(C) An outlook of expected workload at each such arsenal during the period covered by the future-years defense program submitted to Congress under section 221 of title 10, United States Code.

(D) The capital investments required to be made at each such arsenal to ensure compliance and operational capacity.

(f) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services and the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services and the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) **NON-PUBLIC PARTNER.**—The term “non-public partner” means a corporation, individual, university, or nonprofit organization that is not part of the United States Government.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 116—CELEBRATING THE EXTRAORDINARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND VITAL ROLE OF WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 116

Whereas there are over 14,500,000 women-owned businesses in the United States; and

Whereas women-owned businesses—

(1) employ more than 12,900,000 people in the United States;

(2) generate \$3,300,000,000,000 in revenue annually;

(3) have grown at nearly twice the national average; and

(4) have grown from 4.6 percent to 39.2 percent of all businesses in the United States between 1972 and 2024: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the vital role of women-owned businesses to the economy of the United States;

(2) commends the exceptional entrepreneurial spirit of women business owners in the United States; and

(3) celebrates women entrepreneurs in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 117—PROVIDING FOR MEMBERS ON THE PART OF THE SENATE OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY

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

S. RES. 117

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and they are hereby, elected members of the following joint committees of Congress:

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING: Mr. McConnell, Mrs. Fischer, Mr. Hagerty, Mr. Padilla, and Mr. Merkley.

JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY: Mr. McConnell, Mrs. Fischer, Mrs. Hyde-Smith, Mr. Padilla, and Ms. Klobuchar.

SENATE RESOLUTION 118—DESIGNATING MARCH 6, 2025, AS “NATIONAL SLAM THE SCAM DAY” TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT PERVASIVE SCAMS AND TO PROMOTE EDUCATION TO PREVENT GOVERNMENT IMPOSTER SCAMS AND OTHER TYPES OF SCAMS

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MOODY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 118

Whereas hundreds of thousands of individuals in the United States are targeted by government imposter scams each year, including government imposter scams related

to Social Security, Medicare, the United States Postal Service, and the Internal Revenue Service;

Whereas scams cost United States consumers billions of dollars annually, disproportionately affecting older adults;

Whereas, in 2023, the Federal Trade Commission reported losses totaled over \$10,000,000,000, which is \$1,000,000,000 more than those reported in 2022, and the highest losses ever reported to the agency;

Whereas 1 in 4 people in the United States reported losing money to scams, with a median loss of \$500 per person;

Whereas, since 2013, the fraud hotline of the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate has received more than 12,300 complaints from individuals in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico regarding possible government imposter scams;

Whereas, according to the Federal Trade Commission, in 2023, older adults reported larger median individual losses as a result of government imposter scams than younger adults;

Whereas government imposter scams involve scammers contacting individuals in the United States and claiming to resolve a government-related problem or impersonating employees of government agencies, such as the Social Security Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services, the United States Postal Service, and the Internal Revenue Service, to demand payment or personal information, which defrauds the people of the United States and erodes trust in the government agencies that the scammers impersonate; and

Whereas increased awareness of, and education about, government imposter scams help to thwart government imposter scammers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 6, 2025, as “National Slam the Scam Day”;

(2) recognizes National Slam the Scam Day as an opportunity to raise awareness and amplify the messaging about scams that involve individuals impersonating government employees by any means, including by mail, telephone, text message, electronic mail, social media, or internet websites (referred to in this resolution as “government imposter scams”);

(3) recognizes that law enforcement agencies, consumer protection groups, telephone companies, area agencies on aging, and financial institutions all play vital roles in—

(A) preventing government imposter scams from targeting the people of the United States; and

(B) educating the people of the United States about government imposter scams;

(4) encourages—

(A) the implementation of policies and programs to prevent government imposter scams; and

(B) the improvement of measures to protect the people of the United States from government imposter scams;

(5) encourages members of the public to—

(A) ignore solicitations from individuals falsely claiming to represent government agencies;

(B) share information about government imposter scams with family and friends; and

(C) report government imposter scams to—

(i) the corresponding agency, such as the Office of the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration;

(ii) the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration; or

(iii) the Federal Trade Commission; and

(6) honors the commitment and dedication of the individuals and organizations that work tirelessly to fight against government imposter scams.

SENATE RESOLUTION 119—MEMORIALIZING THOSE LOST TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Ms. WARREN (for herself and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 119

Whereas the first Monday in March is recognized as “COVID-19 Victims Memorial Day”;

Whereas SARS-CoV-2 is a coronavirus that causes COVID-19 disease;

Whereas, in late 2019, COVID-19 emerged and began to spread throughout the world, creating a pandemic that has had a catastrophic impact on human life, communities, and the economy of the United States;

Whereas, in March 2020, communities in the United States began to experience increased death due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and families lost parents, siblings, children, friends, and neighbors to the virus;

Whereas, beginning in 2020, many across the United States were, and continue to be, personally impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including mourning their loved ones or suffering from the unknown long-term health implications of the virus;

Whereas, by the end of February 2025, there had been more than 103,000,000 known cases of COVID-19 in the United States, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that more than 1,220,000 individuals tragically lost their lives due to illness related to COVID-19;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that between October 1, 2024 and February 15, 2025, there were 6,400,000 to 11,500,000 known cases of COVID-19 in the United States;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on low-income communities and communities of color, individuals with disabilities, individuals with weakened immune systems, individuals with other risk factors, such as physical or mental comorbidities, and individuals living in congregate settings, such as long-term care facilities and prisons;

Whereas frontline and essential workers and health care and public health professionals have taken selfless actions to protect their neighbors and communities, support struggling local economies, and find innovative ways to provide services;

Whereas local, State, Tribal, and Federal Government entities have provided critical support to businesses, communities, and the people of the United States in need; and

Whereas each life lost to the COVID-19 pandemic and each sacrifice made shall never be forgotten: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) will memorialize those lost to the COVID-19 pandemic;

(2) recognizes the suffering of those who contracted the SARS-CoV-2 virus and those who continue to struggle with the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(3) expresses support for the annual designation of the first Monday in March as “COVID-19 Victims Memorial Day”.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1231. Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related

substances, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1232. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1233. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1234. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1235. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1236. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1231. Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. ACCESS TO DRUG TESTING TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) LIFE-SAVING DRUG TESTING TECHNOLOGIES.—The term “life-saving drug testing technologies” means devices, including test strips, that can detect the presence of fentanyl, xylazine, or other adulterants in drug samples prior to use.

(2) STATE.—The term “State” means a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, and any commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States.

(b) ACCESS TO DRUG TESTING TECHNOLOGIES.—A State—

(1) shall not prohibit an individual from obtaining, possessing, distributing, or using life-saving drug testing technologies; and

(2) shall not prosecute an individual solely for obtaining, possessing, distributing, or using life-saving drug testing technologies.

SA 1232. Ms. HASSAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE II—SUPPORT ACT REAUTHORIZATION

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025”.

Subtitle A—Prevention

SEC. 211. PRENATAL AND POSTNATAL HEALTH.

Section 317L(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b-13(d)) is amended by striking “such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting “\$4,250,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029”.

SEC. 212. MONITORING AND EDUCATION REGARDING INFECTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH ILLICIT DRUG USE AND OTHER RISK FACTORS.

Section 317N(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b-15(d)) is amended by striking “fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting “fiscal years 2025 through 2029”.

SEC. 213. PREVENTING OVERDOSES OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 392A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b-1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “and associated risks” before the period at the end; and

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking “opioids” and inserting “substances causing overdose”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “, and associated risk factors,” after “such overdoses”;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “coding” and inserting “monitoring and identifying”;

(C) in subparagraph (E)—

(i) by inserting a comma after “public health laboratories”; and

(ii) by inserting “and other emerging substances related” after “analogues”; and

(D) in subparagraph (F), by inserting “and associated risk factors” after “overdoses”.

(b) ADDITIONAL GRANTS.—Section 392A(a)(3) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b-1(a)(3)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “and Indian Tribes—” and inserting “and Indian Tribes for the following purposes:”;

(2) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

“(A) To carry out innovative projects for grantees to detect, identify, and rapidly respond to controlled substance misuse, abuse, and overdoses, and associated risk factors, including changes in patterns of such controlled substance use. Such projects may include the use of innovative, evidence-based strategies for detecting such patterns, such as wastewater surveillance, if proven to support actionable prevention strategies, in a manner consistent with applicable Federal and State privacy laws.”; and

(3) in subparagraph (B), by striking “for any” and inserting “For any”.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 392A(e) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b-1(e)) is amended by striking “\$496,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting “\$505,579,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029”.

SEC. 214. SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IMPACTED BY FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part O of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280f et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

“PART O—FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME PREVENTION AND SERVICES PROGRAM

“SEC. 399H. FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND SERVICES DELIVERY PROGRAM.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish or continue activities to support a comprehensive fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (referred to in this section as ‘FASD’) education, prevention, identification, intervention, and services delivery program, which may include—

“(1) an education and public awareness program to support, conduct, and evaluate the effectiveness of—

“(A) educational programs targeting health professions schools, social and other supportive services, educators and coun-

selors and other service providers in all phases of childhood development, and other relevant service providers, concerning the prevention, identification, and provision of services for infants, children, adolescents and adults with FASD;

“(B) strategies to educate school-age children, including pregnant and high-risk youth, concerning FASD;

“(C) public and community awareness programs concerning FASD; and

“(D) strategies to coordinate information and services across affected community agencies, including agencies providing social services such as foster care, adoption, and social work, agencies providing health services, and agencies involved in education, vocational training and civil and criminal justice;

“(2) supporting and conducting research on FASD, as appropriate, including to—

“(A) develop appropriate medical diagnostic methods for identifying FASD; and

“(B) develop effective culturally and linguistically appropriate evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions and appropriate supports for preventing prenatal alcohol exposure, which may co-occur with exposure to other substances;

“(3) building State and Tribal capacity for the identification, treatment, and support of individuals with FASD and their families, which may include—

“(A) utilizing and adapting existing Federal, State, or Tribal programs to include FASD identification and FASD-informed support;

“(B) developing and expanding screening and diagnostic capacity for FASD;

“(C) developing, implementing, and evaluating targeted FASD-informed intervention programs for FASD;

“(D) providing training with respect to FASD for professionals across relevant sectors; and

“(E) disseminating information about FASD and support services to affected individuals and their families; and

“(4) an applied research program concerning intervention and prevention to support and conduct service demonstration projects, clinical studies and other research models providing advocacy, educational and vocational training, counseling, medical and mental health, and other supportive services, as well as models that integrate and coordinate such services, that are aimed at the unique challenges facing individuals with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome or Fetal Alcohol Effect and their families.

“(b) GRANTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award grants, cooperative agreements and contracts and provide technical assistance to eligible entities to carry out subsection (a).

“(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant, or enter into a cooperative agreement or contract, under this section, an entity shall—

“(A) be a State, Indian Tribe or Tribal organization, local government, scientific or academic institution, or nonprofit organization; and

“(B) prepare and submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including a description of the activities that the entity intends to carry out using amounts received under this section.

“(3) ADDITIONAL APPLICATION CONTENTS.—The Secretary may require that an eligible entity include in the application submitted under paragraph (2)(B)—

“(A) a designation of an individual to serve as a FASD State or Tribal coordinator of activities such eligible entity proposes to carry

out through a grant, cooperative agreement, or contract under this section; and

“(B) a description of an advisory committee the entity will establish to provide guidance for the entity on developing and implementing a statewide or Tribal strategic plan to prevent FASD and provide for the identification, treatment, and support of individuals with FASD and their families.

“(c) DEFINITION OF FASD-INFORMED.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘FASD-informed’, with respect to support or an intervention program, means that such support or intervention program uses culturally and linguistically informed evidence-based or practice-based interventions and appropriate resources to support an improved quality of life for an individual with FASD and the family of such individual.

“SEC. 399I. STRENGTHENING CAPACITY AND EDUCATION FOR FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, as the Secretary determines appropriate, to public or nonprofit private entities with demonstrated expertise in the field of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (referred to in this section as ‘FASD’). Such awards shall be for the purposes of building local, Tribal, State, and nationwide capacities to prevent the occurrence of FASD by carrying out the programs described in subsection (b).

“(b) PROGRAMS.—An entity receiving an award under subsection (a) may use such award for the following purposes:

“(1) Developing and supporting public education and outreach activities to raise public awareness of the risks associated with alcohol consumption during pregnancy.

“(2) Acting as a clearinghouse for evidence-based resources on FASD prevention, identification, and culturally and linguistically appropriate best practices to help inform systems of care for individuals with FASD across their lifespan.

“(3) Increasing awareness and understanding of efficacious, evidence-based screening tools and culturally and linguistically appropriate evidence-based intervention services and best practices, which may include improving the capacity for State, Tribal, and local affiliates.

“(4) Providing technical assistance to recipients of grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts under section 399H, as appropriate.

“(c) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under this section, an entity shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

“(d) SUBCONTRACTING.—A public or private nonprofit entity may carry out the following activities required under this section through contracts or cooperative agreements with other public and private nonprofit entities with demonstrated expertise in FASD:

“(1) Resource development and dissemination.

“(2) Intervention services.

“(3) Training and technical assistance.

“SEC. 399J. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part \$12,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029.”.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report containing—

(1) a review of the activities carried out pursuant to sections 399H and 399I of the

Public Health Service Act, as amended, to advance public education and awareness of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (referred to in this section as “FASD”);

(2) a description of—

(A) the activities carried out pursuant to such sections 399H and 399I to identify, prevent, and treat FASD; and

(B) methods used to evaluate the outcomes of such activities; and

(3) an assessment of activities carried out pursuant to such sections 399H and 399I to support individuals with FASD.

SEC. 215. PROMOTING STATE CHOICE IN PDMP SYSTEMS.

Section 399O(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g-3(h)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) PROMOTING STATE CHOICE.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the Secretary to require States to use a specific vendor or a specific interoperability connection other than to align with nationally recognized, consensus-based open standards, such as in accordance with sections 3001 and 3004.”.

SEC. 216. FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING PROGRAM.

Section 546 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee-1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “tribes and tribal” and inserting “Tribes and Tribal”;

(2) in subsections (a), (c), and (d)—

(A) by striking “approved or cleared” each place it appears and inserting “approved, cleared, or otherwise legally marketed”; and

(B) by striking “opioid” each place it appears;

(3) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking “approved or cleared” each place it appears and inserting “approved, cleared, or otherwise legally marketed”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “opioid”;

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “opioid and heroin” and inserting “opioid, heroin, and other drug”; and

(ii) by striking “opioid overdose” and inserting “overdose”; and

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking “opioid and heroin”; and

(4) in subsection (h), by striking “\$36,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting “\$56,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029”.

SEC. 217. DONALD J. COHEN NATIONAL CHILD TRAUMATIC STRESS INITIATIVE.

(a) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The second part G of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290kk et seq.), as added by section 144 of the Community Renewal Tax Relief Act (Public Law 106-554), is amended—

(1) by redesignating such part as part J; and

(2) by redesignating sections 581 through 584 as sections 596 through 596C, respectively.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Section 582 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290hh-1) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “VIOLENCE RELATED STRESS” and inserting “TRAUMATIC EVENTS”;

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “tribes and tribal” and inserting “Tribes and Tribal”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “and dissemination” after “the development”;

(3) in subsection (b), by inserting “and dissemination” after “the development”;

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking “The NCTSI” and inserting the following:

“(1) COORDINATING CENTER.—The NCTSI”;

and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) NCTSI GRANTEEES.—In carrying out subsection (a)(2), NCTSI grantees shall develop

trainings and other resources, as applicable and appropriate, to support implementation of the evidence-based practices developed and disseminated under such subsection.”;

(5) in subsection (e)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(B) in subparagraph (A), as so redesignated, by inserting “and implementation” after “the dissemination”;

(C) by striking “The NCTSI” and inserting the following:

“(1) COORDINATING CENTER.—The NCTSI”;

and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) NCTSI GRANTEEES.—NCTSI grantees shall, as appropriate, collaborate with other such grantees, the NCTSI coordinating center, and the Secretary in carrying out subsections (a)(2) and (d)(2).”;

(6) by amending subsection (h) to read as follows:

“(h) APPLICATION AND EVALUATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (a), a public or nonprofit private entity or an Indian Tribe or Tribal organization shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information and assurances as the Secretary may require, including—

“(1) a plan for the evaluation of the activities funded under the grant, contract, or agreement, including both process and outcomes evaluation, and the submission of an evaluation at the end of the project period; and

“(2) a description of how such entity, Indian Tribe, or Tribal organization will support efforts led by the Secretary or the NCTSI coordinating center, as applicable, to evaluate activities carried out under this section.”; and

(7) by amending subsection (j) to read as follows:

“(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

“(1) \$93,887,000 for fiscal year 2025;

“(2) \$95,000,000 for fiscal year 2026;

“(3) \$97,000,000 for fiscal year 2027;

“(4) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2028; and

“(5) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2029.”.

SEC. 218. PROTECTING SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE FROM CYBERSECURITY INCIDENTS.

(a) NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE PROGRAM.—Section 520E-3(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-36c(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) taking such steps as may be necessary to ensure the suicide prevention hotline is protected from cybersecurity incidents and eliminates known cybersecurity vulnerabilities.”.

(b) REPORTING.—Section 520E-3 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-36c) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) CYBERSECURITY REPORTING.—

“(1) NOTIFICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The program’s network administrator receiving Federal funding pursuant to subsection (a) shall report to the Assistant Secretary, in a manner that protects personal privacy, consistent with applicable Federal and State privacy laws—

“(i) any identified cybersecurity vulnerabilities to the program within a rea-

sonable amount of time after identification of such a vulnerability; and

“(ii) any identified cybersecurity incidents to the program within a reasonable amount of time after identification of such incident.”.

“(B) LOCAL AND REGIONAL CRISIS CENTERS.—Local and regional crisis centers participating in the program shall report to the program’s network administrator identified under subparagraph (A), in a manner that protects personal privacy, consistent with applicable Federal and State privacy laws—

“(i) any identified cybersecurity vulnerabilities to the program within a reasonable amount of time after identification of such vulnerability; and

“(ii) any identified cybersecurity incidents to the program within a reasonable amount of time after identification of such incident.”.

“(2) NOTIFICATION.—If the program’s network administrator receiving funding pursuant to subsection (a) discovers, or is informed by a local or regional crisis center pursuant to paragraph (1)(B) of, a cybersecurity vulnerability or incident, within a reasonable amount of time after such discovery or receipt of information, such entity shall report the vulnerability or incident to the Assistant Secretary.

“(3) CLARIFICATION.—

“(A) OVERSIGHT.—

“(i) LOCAL AND REGIONAL CRISIS CENTERS.—Except as provided in clause (ii), local and regional crisis centers participating in the program shall oversee all technology each center employs in the provision of services as a participant in the program.

“(ii) NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR.—The program’s network administrator receiving Federal funding pursuant to subsection (a) shall oversee the technology each crisis center employs in the provision of services as a participant in the program if such oversight responsibilities are established in the applicable network participation agreement.

“(B) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—The cybersecurity incident reporting requirements under this subsection shall supplement, and not supplant, cybersecurity incident reporting requirements under other provisions of applicable Federal law that are in effect on the date of the enactment of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025.”.

(c) STUDY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct and complete a study that evaluates cybersecurity risks and vulnerabilities associated with the 9-8-8 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline; and

(2) submit a report on the findings of such study to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 219. BRUCE’S LAW.

(a) YOUTH PREVENTION AND RECOVERY.—Section 7102(c) of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-7a(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)(A)(i), by inserting “, which may include strategies to increase education and awareness of the potency and dangers of synthetic opioids (including drugs contaminated with fentanyl) and, as appropriate, other emerging drug use or misuse issues” before the semicolon; and

(2) in paragraph (4)(A), by inserting “and strategies to increase education and awareness of the potency and dangers of synthetic opioids (including drugs contaminated with fentanyl) and, as appropriate, emerging drug use or misuse issues” before the semicolon.

(b) INTERDEPARTMENTAL SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS COORDINATING COMMITTEE.—Section 7022 of the SUPPORT for Patients and

Communities Act (42 U.S.C. 290aa note) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (g) and inserting the following:

“(g) **WORKING GROUPS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Committee may establish working groups for purposes of carrying out the duties described in subsection (e). Any such working group shall be composed of members of the Committee (or the designees of such members) and may hold such meetings as are necessary to carry out the duties delegated to the working group.

“(2) **ADDITIONAL FEDERAL INTERAGENCY WORK GROUP ON FENTANYL CONTAMINATION OF ILLEGAL DRUGS.**—

“(A) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary, acting through the Committee, shall establish a Federal Interagency Work Group on Fentanyl Contamination of Illegal Drugs (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘Work Group’) consisting of representatives from relevant Federal departments and agencies on the Committee.

“(B) **CONSULTATION.**—The Work Group shall consult with relevant stakeholders and subject matter experts, including—

“(i) State, Tribal, and local subject matter experts in reducing, preventing, and responding to drug overdose caused by fentanyl contamination of illicit drugs; and

“(ii) family members of both adults and youth who have overdosed by fentanyl contaminated illicit drugs.

“(C) **DUTIES.**—The Work Group shall—

“(i) examine Federal efforts to reduce and prevent drug overdose by fentanyl-contaminated illicit drugs;

“(ii) identify strategies to improve State, Tribal, and local responses to overdose by fentanyl-contaminated illicit drugs;

“(iii) coordinate with the Secretary, as appropriate, in carrying out activities to raise public awareness of synthetic opioids and other emerging drug use and misuse issues;

“(iv) make recommendations to Congress for improving Federal programs, including with respect to the coordination of efforts across such programs; and

“(v) make recommendations for educating youth on the potency and dangers of drugs contaminated by fentanyl.

“(D) **ANNUAL REPORT TO SECRETARY.**—The Work Group shall annually prepare and submit to the Secretary, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, a report on the activities carried out by the Work Group under subparagraph (C), including recommendations to reduce and prevent drug overdose by fentanyl contamination of illegal drugs, in all populations, and specifically among youth at risk for substance misuse.”; and

(2) by striking subsection (i) and inserting the following:

“(i) **SUNSET.**—The Committee shall terminate on September 30, 2029.”.

SEC. 220. GUIDANCE ON AT-HOME DRUG DISPOSAL SYSTEMS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, shall publish guidance to facilitate the use of at-home safe disposal systems for applicable drugs.

(b) **CONTENTS.**—The guidance under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) recommended standards for effective at-home drug disposal systems to meet applicable requirements enforced by the Food and Drug Administration;

(2) recommended information to include as instructions for use to disseminate with at-home drug disposal systems;

(3) best practices and educational tools to support the use of an at-home drug disposal system, as appropriate; and

(4) recommended use of licensed health providers for the dissemination of education, instruction, and at-home drug disposal systems, as appropriate.

SEC. 221. ASSESSMENT OF OPIOID DRUGS AND ACTIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the ‘Secretary’) shall publish on the website of the Food and Drug Administration (referred to in this section as the ‘FDA’) a report that outlines a plan for assessing opioid analgesic drugs that are approved under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355) that addresses the public health effects of such opioid analgesic drugs as part of the benefit-risk assessment and the activities of the FDA that relate to facilitating the development of nonaddictive medical products intended to treat pain or addiction. Such report shall include—

(1) an update on the actions taken by the FDA to consider the effectiveness, safety, benefit-risk profile, and use of approved opioid analgesic drugs;

(2) a timeline for an assessment of the potential need, as appropriate, for labeling changes, revised or additional postmarketing requirements, enforcement actions, or withdrawals for opioid analgesic drugs;

(3) an overview of the steps that the FDA has taken to support the development and approval of nonaddictive medical products intended to treat pain or addiction, and actions planned to further support the development and approval of such products; and

(4) an overview of the consideration by the FDA of clinical trial methodologies for analgesic drugs, including the enriched enrollment randomized withdrawal methodology, and the benefits and drawbacks associated with different trial methodologies for such drugs, incorporating any public input received under subsection (b).

(b) **PUBLIC INPUT.**—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide an opportunity for public input concerning the regulation by the FDA of opioid analgesic drugs, including scientific evidence that relates to conditions of use, safety, or benefit-risk assessment (including consideration of the public health effects) of such opioid analgesic drugs.

SEC. 222. GRANT PROGRAM FOR STATE AND TRIBAL RESPONSE TO OPIOID USE DISORDERS.

The activities carried out pursuant to section 1003(b)(4)(A) of the 21st Century Cures Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee–3a(b)(4)(A)) may include facilitating access to products used to prevent overdose deaths by detecting the presence of one or more substances, such as fentanyl and xylazine test strips, to the extent the purchase and possession of such products is consistent with Federal and State law.

Subtitle B—Treatment

SEC. 231. RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAM FOR PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM WOMEN.

Section 508 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(1)(C), by striking “providing health services” and inserting “providing health care services”;

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) by inserting “a plan describing” after “will provide”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: “Such plan may include a description of how

such applicant will target outreach to women disproportionately impacted by maternal substance use disorder.”; and

(3) in subsection (s), by striking “\$29,931,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting “\$38,931,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029”.

SEC. 232. IMPROVING ACCESS TO ADDICTION MEDICINE PROVIDERS.

Section 597 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 29011) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting “diagnosis,” after “related to”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by inserting “addiction medicine,” after “psychiatry.”.

SEC. 233. MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANTS.

Section 756(f) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 294e–1(f)) is amended by striking “fiscal years 2023 through 2027” and inserting “fiscal years 2025 through 2029”.

SEC. 234. LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT WORKFORCE.

Section 781(j) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 295h(j)) is amended by striking “\$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting “\$40,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029”.

SEC. 235. DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF MODEL TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PATIENT RECORDS.

Section 7053 of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd–2 note) is amended by striking subsection (e).

SEC. 236. TASK FORCE ON BEST PRACTICES FOR TRAUMA-INFORMED IDENTIFICATION, REFERRAL, AND SUPPORT.

Section 7132 of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (Public Law 115–271; 132 Stat. 4046) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraph (CC) as subparagraph (DD); and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (BB) the following:

“(CC) The Administration for Community Living.”;

(2) in subsection (d)(1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “, developmental disability service providers” before “, individuals who are”; and

(3) in subsection (i), by striking “2023” and inserting “2029”.

SEC. 237. GRANTS TO ENHANCE ACCESS TO SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT.

Section 3203 of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (21 U.S.C. 823 note) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b); and

(2) by striking “(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary” and inserting the following: “The Secretary”.

SEC. 238. STATE GUIDANCE RELATED TO INDIVIDUALS WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS AND CHILDREN WITH SERIOUS EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE.

(a) **REVIEW OF USE OF CERTAIN FUNDING.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the ‘Secretary’), acting through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, shall conduct a review of State use of funds made available under the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant program under subpart I of part B of title XIX of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300x et seq.) (referred to in this section as the ‘block grant program’) for first episode psychosis activities. Such review shall consider the following:

(1) How States use funds for evidence-based treatments and services according to the standard of care for individuals with early serious mental illness and children with a serious emotional disturbance.

(2) The percentages of the State funding under the block grant program expended on early serious mental illness and first episode psychosis, and the number of individuals served under such funds.

(b) REPORT AND GUIDANCE.—

(1) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the completion of the review under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report describing—

(A) the findings of the review under subsection (a); and

(B) any recommendations for changes to the block grant program that would facilitate improved outcomes for individuals with serious mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbance.

(2) **GUIDANCE.**—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the report is submitted under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall update the guidance provided to States under the block grant program on coordinated specialty care and other evidence-based mental health care services for individuals with serious mental illness and children with a serious emotional disturbance, based on the findings and recommendations of such report.

SEC. 239. REVIEWING THE SCHEDULING OF APPROVED PRODUCTS CONTAINING A COMBINATION OF BUPRENORPHINE AND NALOXONE.

(a) **SECRETARY OF HHS.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall, consistent with the requirements and procedures set forth in sections 201 and 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 811, 812)—

(1) review the relevant data pertaining to the scheduling of products containing a combination of buprenorphine and naloxone that have been approved under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355); and

(2) if appropriate, request that the Attorney General initiate rulemaking proceedings to revise the schedules accordingly with respect to such products.

(b) **ATTORNEY GENERAL.**—The Attorney General shall review any request made by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under subsection (a)(2) and determine whether to initiate proceedings to revise the schedules in accordance with the criteria set forth in sections 201 and 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 811, 812).

Subtitle C—Recovery

SEC. 241. BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF RECOVERY.

Section 547(f) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee-2(f)) is amended by striking “\$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting “\$16,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029”.

SEC. 242. PEER SUPPORT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER.

Section 547A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee-2a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(4), by striking “building; and” and inserting the following: “building; such as—

“(A) professional development of peer support specialists; and

“(B) making recovery support services available in nonclinical settings; and”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (e) and (f), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) **REGIONAL CENTERS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may establish one regional technical assistance center (referred to in this subsection as the

‘Regional Center’), with existing resources, to assist the Center in carrying out activities described in subsection (b) within the geographic region of such Regional Center in a manner that is tailored to the needs of such region.

“(2) **EVALUATION.**—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025, the Secretary shall evaluate the activities of the Regional Center and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the findings of such evaluation, including—

“(A) a description of the distinct roles and responsibilities of the Regional Center and the Center;

“(B) available information relating to the outcomes of the Regional Center under this subsection, such as any impact on the operations and efficiency of the Center relating to requests for technical assistance and support within the region of such Regional Center;

“(C) a description of any gaps or areas of duplication relating to the activities of the Regional Center and the Center within such region; and

“(D) recommendations relating to the modification, expansion, or termination of the Regional Center under this subsection.

“(3) **TERMINATION.**—This subsection shall terminate on September 30, 2029.”; and

(4) in subsection (f), as so redesignated, by striking “\$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting “\$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029”.

SEC. 243. COMPREHENSIVE OPIOID RECOVERY CENTERS.

Section 552 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee-7) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “and in such manner” and inserting “, in such manner, and containing such information and assurances, including relevant documentation.”; and

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “is capable of coordinating with other entities to carry out” and inserting “has the demonstrated capability to carry out, through referral or contractual arrangements”;

(2) in subsection (h)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (4) as subparagraphs (A) through (D), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(B) by striking “With respect to” and inserting the following:

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—With respect to”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) **ADDITIONAL REPORTING FOR CERTAIN ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.**—An entity carrying out activities described in subsection (g) through referral or contractual arrangements shall include in the submissions required under paragraph (1) information related to the status of such referrals or contractual arrangements, including an assessment of whether such referrals or contractual arrangements are supporting the ability of such entity to carry out such activities.”; and

(3) in subsection (j), by striking “2019 through 2023” and inserting “2025 through 2029”.

SEC. 244. YOUTH PREVENTION AND RECOVERY.

Section 7102(c) of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-7a(c)) (as amended by section 210(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in clause (i)—

(I) by inserting “, or a consortium of local educational agencies,” after “a local educational agency”; and

(II) by striking “high schools” and inserting “secondary schools”; and

(ii) in clause (vi), by striking “tribe, or tribal” and inserting “Tribe, or Tribal”;

(B) by amending subparagraph (E) to read as follows:

“(E) **INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.**—The terms ‘Indian Tribe’ and ‘Tribal organization’ have the meanings given such terms in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).”;

(C) by redesignating subparagraph (K) as subparagraph (L); and

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (J) the following:

“(K) **SECONDARY SCHOOL.**—The term ‘secondary school’ has the meaning given such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).”;

(2) in paragraph (3)(A), in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(A) by striking “and abuse”; and

(B) by inserting “at increased risk for substance misuse” after “specific populations”;

(3) in paragraph (4)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Indian tribes” and inserting “Indian Tribes”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and abuse”; and

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “peer mentoring” and inserting “peer-to-peer support”;

(4) in paragraph (5), by striking “tribal” and inserting “Tribal”;

(5) in paragraph (6)(A)—

(A) in clause (iv), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(vi) a plan to sustain the activities carried out under the grant program, after the grant program has ended; and”;

(6) in paragraph (8), by striking “2022” and inserting “2027”; and

(7) by amending paragraph (9) to read as follows:

“(9) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—To carry out this subsection, there are authorized to be appropriated—

“(A) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2025;

“(B) \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 2026;

“(C) \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2027;

“(D) \$14,000,000 for fiscal year 2028; and

“(E) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2029.”.

SEC. 245. CAREER ACT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 7183 of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee-8) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by inserting “; TREATMENT, RECOVERY, AND WORKFORCE SUPPORT GRANTS” after “CAREER ACT”;

(2) in subsection (b), by inserting “each” before “for a period”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “the rates described in paragraph (2)” and inserting “the average rates for calendar years 2018 through 2022 described in paragraph (2)”;

(B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) **RATES.**—The rates described in this paragraph are the following:

“(A) The highest age-adjusted average rates of drug overdose deaths for calendar years 2018 through 2022 based on data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, including, if necessary, provisional data for calendar year 2022.

“(B) The highest average rates of unemployment for calendar years 2018 through 2022 based on data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“(C) The lowest average labor force participation rates for calendar years 2018 through 2022 based on data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.”;

(4) in subsection (g)—

(A) in each of paragraphs (1) and (3), by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (3) as subparagraphs (A) through (C), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(C) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) (as so redesignated), by striking “An entity” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An entity”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.—An entity receiving a grant under this section may use not more than 5 percent of the funds for providing transportation for individuals to participate in an activity supported by a grant under this section, which transportation shall be to or from a place of work or a place where the individual is receiving vocational education or job training services or receiving services directly linked to treatment of or recovery from a substance use disorder.

“(3) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not require an entity to, or give priority to an entity that plans to, use the funds of a grant under this section for activities that are not specified in this subsection.”;

(5) in subsection (i)(2), by inserting “, which shall include employment and earnings outcomes described in subclauses (I) and (III) of section 116(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141(b)(2)(A)(i)) with respect to the participation of such individuals with a substance use disorder in programs and activities funded by the grant under this section” after “subsection (g)”;

(6) in subsection (j)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “for grants awarded prior to the date of enactment of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025” after “grant period under this section”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “2 years after submitting the preliminary report required under paragraph (1)” and inserting “September 30, 2029”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “(g)(3)” and inserting “(g)(1)(C)”; and

(7) in subsection (k), by striking “\$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023” and inserting “\$12,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029”.

(b) REAUTHORIZATION OF THE CAREER ACT; RECOVERY HOUSING PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 8071 of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (42 U.S.C. 5301 note; Public Law 115–271) is amended—

(A) by striking the section heading and inserting “**CAREER ACT; RECOVERY HOUSING PILOT PROGRAM**”;

(B) in subsection (a), by striking “through 2023” and inserting “through 2029”;

(C) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act” and inserting “not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025”; and

(ii) in paragraph (2)(B)(i)—

(I) in subclause (I)—

(aa) by striking “for calendar years 2013 through 2017”; and

(bb) by inserting “for calendar years 2018 through 2022” after “rates of unemployment”;

(II) in subclause (II)—

(aa) by striking “for calendar years 2013 through 2017”; and

(bb) by inserting “for calendar years 2018 through 2022” after “participation rates”; and

(III) by striking subclause (III) and inserting the following:

“(III) The highest age-adjusted average rates of drug overdose deaths for calendar years 2018 through 2022 based on data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, including, if necessary, provisional data for calendar year 2022.”; and

(D) in subsection (f), by striking “For the 2-year period following the date of enactment of this Act, the” and inserting “The”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subtitle F of title VIII of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (Public Law 115–271; 132 Stat. 4095) is amended by striking the subtitle heading and inserting the following: “**Subtitle F—CAREER Act; Recovery Housing Pilot Program**”.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (Public Law 115–271; 132 Stat. 3894) is amended—

(1) by striking the item relating to section 7183 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 7183. CAREER Act; treatment, recovery, and workforce support grants.”;

(2) by striking the item relating to subtitle F of title VIII and inserting the following:

“Subtitle F—CAREER Act; Recovery Housing Pilot Program”; and

(3) by striking the item relating to section 8071 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 8071. CAREER Act; Recovery Housing Pilot Program.”.

SEC. 246. ADDRESSING ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE IMPACTS OF THE OPIOID CRISIS.

Section 8041(g)(1) of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (29 U.S.C. 3225a(g)(1)) is amended by striking “2023” and inserting “2029”.

Subtitle D—Miscellaneous Matters

SEC. 251. DELIVERY OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE BY A PHARMACY TO A PRESCRIBING PRACTITIONER.

Section 309A(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 829a(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) the controlled substance is a drug in schedule III, IV, or V to be administered—

“(A) by injection or implantation for the purpose of maintenance or detoxification treatment; or

“(B) subject to a risk evaluation and mitigation strategy pursuant to section 505–1 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355–1) that includes elements to assure safe use of the drug described in subsection (f)(3)(E) of such section, including a requirement for post-administration monitoring by a health care provider.”.

SEC. 252. REQUIRED TRAINING FOR PRESCRIBERS OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (m)(1) of section 303 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823), as so redesignated by section 3 of this Act, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in clause (iv)—

(i) in subclause (I)—

(I) by inserting “the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Podiatric Medical Association, the Academy of General Dentistry, the American Optometric Association,” before “or any other organization”;

(II) by striking “or the Commission” and inserting “the Commission”; and

(III) by inserting “, or the Council on Podiatric Medical Education” before the semicolon at the end; and

(ii) in subclause (III), by inserting “or the American Academy of Family Physicians” after “Association”; and

(B) in clause (v), in the matter preceding subclause (I)—

(i) by striking “osteopathic medicine, dental surgery” and inserting “osteopathic medicine, podiatric medicine, dental surgery”; and

(ii) by striking “or dental medicine curriculum” and inserting “or dental or podiatric medicine curriculum”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) by inserting “the American Pharmacists Association, the Accreditation Council on Pharmacy Education, the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, the American Academy of Nursing, the American Academy of Family Physicians,” before “or any other organization”; and

(ii) by inserting “, the American Academy of Family Physicians,” before “or the Accreditation Council”; and

(B) in clause (ii)—

(i) by striking “or accredited school” and inserting “, an accredited school”; and

(ii) by inserting “, or an accredited school of pharmacy” before “in the United States”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Notwithstanding the redesignation made by section 3(a)(1), the amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if enacted on December 29, 2022.

SA 1233. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2034 for—

(1) prevention and harm reduction activities, especially those activities that address the demand side of addiction and the overdose crisis;

(2) children’s mental health; and

(3) policies, programs, and practices that aim to minimize the health, social, and economic consequences of substance abuse.

SA 1234. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In subsection (e) of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)), as added by section 2, strike paragraph (2) and insert the following:

“(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), except as provided in paragraph (3), the term ‘fentanyl-related substance’ means any substance that—

“(A) is an opioid mu receptor agonist with potential for misuse or abuse, as demonstrated by binding studies and functional assays; and

“(B) is structurally related to fentanyl by 1 or more of the following modifications:

“(i) By replacement of the phenyl portion of the phenethyl group by any monocycle,

whether or not further substituted in or on the monocycle.

“(ii) By substitution in or on the phenethyl group with alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, hydroxyl, halo, haloalkyl, amino, or nitro groups.

“(iii) By substitution in or on the piperidine ring with alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, ester, ether, hydroxyl, halo, haloalkyl, amino, or nitro groups.

“(iv) By replacement of the aniline ring with any aromatic monocycle whether or not further substituted in or on the aromatic monocycle.

“(v) By replacement of the N-propionyl group with another acyl group.

SA 1235. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . ANNUAL REPORTING.

(a) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term “fentanyl-related substance” has the meaning given that term under subsection (e) of schedule I of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)), as added by this Act.

(b) **REPORTING.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report that, for the year before the year during which the report is submitted—

(1) indicates the number of fentanyl-related substances identified by the Attorney General and lists the scientific names of each newly identified fentanyl-related substance;

(2) describes the extent of scientific and medical evaluation by the Attorney General or the Secretary of Health and Human Services, if any, of each substance that was determined to be a fentanyl-related substance;

(3) identifies any fentanyl-related substance for which results of the scientific and medical evaluation, if any, by the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or a practitioner conducting research found the fentanyl-related substance to have some accepted medical use or a lower potential for abuse than substances included in Schedule I of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) and, for each such fentanyl-related substance, the control status of the substance; and

(4) for each fentanyl-related substance, indicates the number of criminal cases in which an offense involving the fentanyl-related substance was charged.

SA 1236. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . AMENDING THE 21ST CENTURY CURES ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF FUNDS FOR DEVICES FOR USE IN THE DETECTION OF FENTANYL, XYLAZINE, AND OTHER EMERGING ADULTERANT SUBSTANCES.

Section 1003 of the 21st Century Cures Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee-3a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(4), by adding at the end the following:

“(G) Providing assistance for expenses relating to the acquisition or use of adulterant substance detection devices.”; and

(2) in subsection (h)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (4) as paragraphs (2) through (5), respectively; and

(B) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as so redesignated), the following:

“(1) **ADULTERANT SUBSTANCE DETECTION DEVICE.**—The term ‘adulterant substance detection device’ means a device, including a test strip, that can detect the presence of an adulterant, such as fentanyl, xylazine, or another adulterant in a drug sample prior to use of a controlled substance.”.

SEC. ____ . AMENDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF FUNDS FOR DEVICES FOR USE IN THE DETECTION OF FENTANYL, XYLAZINE, AND OTHER EMERGING ADULTERANT SUBSTANCES.

Part A of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290aa et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 506B. USE OF FUNDS FOR DEVICES FOR USE IN THE DETECTION OF FENTANYL, XYLAZINE, AND OTHER EMERGING ADULTERANT SUBSTANCES.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Expenses relating to the acquisition or use of adulterant substance detection devices shall be allowable expenses under any grant, contract, or cooperative agreement entered into by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration under this Act.

“(b) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term ‘adulterant substance detection device’ has the meaning given such term in section 1003(h)(1) of the 21st Century Cures Act.”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have seven requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 11 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in open session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to receive testimony.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 11 a.m., to consider nominations.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at

10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to consider a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

PROVIDING FOR MEMBERS ON THE PART OF THE SENATE OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 117, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 117) providing for members on the part of the Senate of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library.

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

Mr. THUNE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to 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 resolution (S. Res. 117) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

NATIONAL SLAM THE SCAM DAY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 118, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 118) designating March 6, 2025, as “National Slam the Scam Day” to raise awareness about pervasive scams and to promote education to prevent government imposter scams and other types of scams.

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

Mr. THUNE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 118) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 64, adopted March 5, 2013, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 119th Congress: the Honorable DEB FISCHER of Nebraska, Administrative Co-Chair; the Honorable JONI ERNST of Iowa, Co-Chair; the Honorable JAMES LANKFORD of Oklahoma, Co-Chair; the Honorable BILL HAGERTY of Tennessee, Co-Chair; the Honorable ROGER WICKER of Mississippi; the Honorable LINDSEY GRAHAM of South Carolina; the Honorable JAMES RISCH of Idaho; the Honorable PETE RICKETTS of Nebraska; and the Honorable TIM SHEEHY of Montana.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: The nomination on the Secretary's desk in the Coast Guard; that the nomination be confirmed; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then immediately resume legislative session.

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

IN THE COAST GUARD

*PN10 COAST GUARD nomination of Samuel B. Hafensteiner, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of January 8, 2025.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025

Mr. THUNE. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, March 10; 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, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of Executive Calendar No. 29, the Chavez-DeRemer nomination; further, that the Senate

vote on confirmation of the nomination at 5:30 p.m.; further, following disposition of the Chavez-DeRemer nomination, the Senate resume legislative session and resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 18, S. 331, and the Senate vote on adoption of the motion; finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Monday's session of the Senate, the motions to reconsider are 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 3 P.M. MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025

Mr. THUNE. 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 4:31 p.m., adjourned until Monday, March 10, 2025, at 3 p.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate March 6, 2025.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

TROY EDGAR, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

IN THE COAST GUARD

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF SAMUEL B. HAFENSTEINER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DAVID COOKE'S RETIREMENT AS CITY MANAGER OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS

HON. CRAIG A. GOLDMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. David Cooke in his retirement as City Manager of Fort Worth. Mr. Cooke is the longest-tenured City Manager in Fort Worth's history and celebrated his 10-year anniversary last October.

During his tenure as City Manager, Mr. Cooke oversaw a \$2.6 billion budget and managed approximately 8,100 employees. Among his numerous accomplishments, Mr. Cooke lowered the property tax rate, stabilized the pension fund, and passed the city's largest budget. In the Fort Worth community, he helped foster public and private partnerships with organizations, including Dickies Arena, Fort Worth Stockyards, Texas A&M School of Law, and Fort Worth Botanic Garden.

Fort Worth has experienced significant growth, growing by approximately 20,000 new residents every year. As a result, Fort Worth is now the 12th largest city in the United States and a beacon of economic and social prosperity, with an historically rich culture that is still prevalent today.

On behalf of Texas' 12th Congressional District, I would like to recognize Mr. David Cooke for his outstanding commitment and service to the city of Fort Worth. I wish the best to him and his family.

HONORING THE BRAVERY AND SACRIFICE OF THE MEN OF U.S. NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY DA NANG, VIETNAM

HON. BRAD FINSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bravery and sacrifice of the men of Naval Support Activity Da Nang, a U.S. Navy logistics support unit stationed in Vietnam from 1965 to 1972.

On February 27, 1969, the North Vietnamese Army launched two rockets into a U.S. Navy storage facility, destroying Landing Craft Utility-1500, and wounding 13 servicemen.

During the ensuing rocket barrage, ammunition on LCU-1500 were detonated, causing an explosion which spread to a nearby harbor utility craft, destroying both vessels and damaging a third.

In total, twenty-two Navy men were killed and thirty-eight wounded, many of whom subsequently died as a result of their injuries.

The men of the U.S. Navy Da Nang Unit gave their all for our Nation that day in 1969,

yet never received recognition for their heroic actions in a time of war.

I am humbled and proud to honor these brave men today for the sacrifices they made for our country fifty-six years ago. They will never be forgotten.

COMMEMORATING THE 20TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF REVEREND DR. DEMETRIUS S. CAROLINA, SR.

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 20th Pastoral Anniversary of Reverend Dr. Demetrius S. Carolina, Sr., a distinguished leader whose contributions have profoundly impacted our community and beyond.

Reverend Dr. Carolina has been serving as the Senior Pastor at First Central Baptist Church, where he has provided spiritual guidance and support to countless individuals. In addition to his pastoral duties, he is the CEO of Dior Consultants LLC, a full-service business that specializes in staff and board training development. His commitment to education and leadership is further exemplified by his role as an Adjunct Professor at St. John's University in the School of Education and at HJ International Graduate School for Peace and Public Leadership.

Prior to his current roles, Reverend Dr. Carolina served as the Executive Director of the Central Family Life Center, which stands as the most prominent black and brown nonprofit in the Borough of Staten Island. In this capacity, he was instrumental in developing corporate, public, and private relationships, overseeing and administering crucial strategies to ensure the operation and sustainability of the Center.

In 2015, Reverend Dr. Carolina was appointed as a Commissioner of Human Rights by Mayor Bill de Blasio, demonstrating his commitment to social justice and equality. He has been recognized for his efforts with numerous awards, including the 2017 New York City Council MLK Community Award. He also served on the Civil Complaint Review Board for New York City until February 2023.

Reverend Dr. Carolina's advocacy efforts are noteworthy, having founded The Staten Island Black History Town Hall Meeting and serving as the lead advocate for the establishment of the nationally recognized Eagle Academy in Staten Island. Furthermore, he has been a driving force in growing nonprofit community partnerships that connect Staten Island with other boroughs.

In terms of academic qualifications, Reverend Dr. Carolina holds a master's degree in educational administration leadership from Temple University and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership/Management from the University of Phoenix.

On a personal note, Reverend Dr. Carolina is married to Josenia Ruiz-Carolina, and together they are the proud parents of four wonderful children: Dior Isaiah, DeLisa Mona, Demetrius Solomon II, and Demetri Rafael Carolina.

Today, as we commemorate this significant milestone in Reverend Dr. Demetrius S. Carolina Sr.'s ministry, I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing his unwavering dedication, impactful leadership, and the positive change he continues to bring to our community.

HONORING WILLIAM P. MILLS, III

HON. CLAY HIGGINS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate William P. Mills, III on being named a 2025 recipient of the Horatio Alger Award. Mr. Mills, the president and owner of MPW Enterprises LLC, is one of only 11 corporate, civic, and cultural leaders across the country who have been recognized with the accolade for 2025.

The Horatio Alger Award is presented annually to individuals of outstanding character. The award acknowledges a commitment to higher education, charitable efforts, and the overcoming of adversity. Recipients exemplify the Association's values and mission to support young men and women as they pursue the American Dream through higher education.

Mr. Mills' life is a testament to hard work and perseverance. He was industrious from a young age, working a paper route, shining shoes, mowing lawns, and bagging groceries. He graduated with degrees in Wildlife Biology and a Master's in Fisheries Biology from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette—paying his way through school by working on Mississippi River dredges each summer.

Mr. Mills went on to work in the energy industry before starting his own businesses conducting environmental research and oil and gas exploration. He expanded his business ventures to include real estate management and property development. Success was not pre-determined for Mr. Mills. It was earned through hard work.

Beyond his achievements in industry and businesses, Mr. Mills has chosen to give back to his community as a philanthropist. He oversees the Mills Family Foundation, serves on the board of the Stuller Family Foundation, and funds a scholarship at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Each of these commitments provides significant public benefit to the South Louisiana community that I'm honored to represent.

Mr. Speaker, Will Mills has also been a trusted friend and counselor for me personally throughout my nine years of service in Congress. His depth of understanding regarding

• 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.

Constitutional issues and his instinctive grasp of the complex details of legislation has been a steady guide as I've endeavored to be worthy of my own responsibility to serve We, the People.

Mr. Mills is highly deserving of the 2025 Horatio Alger Award. I'm fortunate to know him and to call him a friend. I thank him for his commitment to our community, and I congratulate him on this prestigious accomplishment.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REVEREND SAMUEL J. WILLIAMS, JR. OF FARMVILLE, VIRGINIA

HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and enduring legacy of Reverend Samuel J. Williams, Jr. of Farmville, Virginia. Reverend Williams was a devoted father, pastor, educator, historian, and civil rights activist who inspired generations of Virginians to advocate for justice and equality. Throughout his lifetime, he remained a steadfast pillar of his community, dedicating over eight decades to the fight for civil rights and social progress.

A trailblazer in the movement for desegregation, Reverend Williams played a pivotal role in organizing student-led demonstrations aimed at integrating public schools and places of worship. He was a prominent leader in the protests against the segregated school system in Prince Edward County, Virginia, which became a focal point in the national struggle for educational equality.

Notably, Reverend Williams was instrumental in the historic student strike on April 23, 1951, at Robert Russa Moton High School, led by Barbara Rose Johns. Built in 1939 as the first free-standing segregated high school for African American students in Prince Edward County, Moton High was originally designed to accommodate 180 students. However, by 1951, it was overcrowded, serving 477 African American students in inadequate conditions. The strike captured national attention and garnered the support of NAACP attorneys, ultimately contributing to the landmark 1954 Supreme Court case, *Brown v. Board of Education*, which declared segregation in public schools unconstitutional.

Reverend Williams' legacy of activism continued to shape Farmville and beyond. In recognition of his contributions, the Town of Farmville honored him in December 2024 by renaming Watkins Street to Williams Way. This tribute brought the community together to reflect on his unwavering commitment to justice and the transformative impact of his work.

Reverend Williams is remembered as a leader who called attention to injustice, inspired change, and encouraged his community to persevere with faith and determination. He reminded Farmville and the Nation of the timeless words, "We shall overcome, someday." His unwavering dedication to justice not only shaped the course of history but also paved the way for a more equitable future in education and civil rights.

Farmville has embraced his legacy as a champion of change, honoring his courage

and rights commitment to social progress. His life's work continues to inspire future generations to stand against injustice and remain steadfast in the pursuit of equality. Reverend Samuel J. Williams, Jr. will forever be remembered as a man of faith, conviction, and service—one who never wavered in his commitment to his community and the ideals of justice and equality.

HONORING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS JEREMY KERR

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an American and Arizona hero, Sergeant First Class Jeremy James Kerr, who we lost on February 23, 2025.

Sergeant Kerr was born in Buffalo, New York on September 26, 1973, to Joann and Gary Kerr and spent most of his childhood in Columbus, Ohio where he was active on the soccer and wrestling teams in high school. He entered the United States Army in 1992 as an infantryman and joined the elite Army Rangers where he became airborne certified and completed the rigorous Ranger School.

In 1993, Sergeant Kerr deployed to Somalia as part of Operation Gothic Serpent. While there, he was thrust into the forefront of a defining moment of United States military history: the Battle of Mogadishu.

He was honorably discharged from the Army after 5 years of service, and in 2009 he joined the Arizona Army National Guard as an Information Technology Specialist. Shortly after in 2011, he was deployed to Afghanistan where he provided critical support to combat operations for the raid that brought Osama Bin Laden to justice. He deployed to Jordan in 2018 and was a key leader in many Warfighter training exercises.

Sergeant Kerr served with the 158 Maneuver Enhancement Brigade (MEB) from 2012 until his passing and was known for his technical expertise and witty personality. He had a gift for uplifting those around him. Always quick to tell a joke or share trivia, he brightened the darkest moods and kept morale high on long days.

He had a passion for fantasy football and March Madness Brackets, always organizing leagues for his unit, and he enjoyed listening to Eighties and Nineties rap.

Sergeant First Class Jeremy Kerr will be deeply missed by his friends, his wife Heather and his extended family members, and the Arizona National Guard community. We stand with his family in gratitude for his service and sorrow at his loss. His legacy will remain an enduring part of Arizona National Guard history. I thank him, and Ranger that.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I recently gave birth and am unable to travel to D.C. to

vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 58; NAY on Roll Call No. 59; and YEA on Roll Call No. 60.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 58.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, due to the passing of a cherished member of my family, my elder brother and former Member of Congress, the Honorable Lincoln Diaz-Balart, I was unable to vote the week of March 3, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on H.R. 856—Roll Call No. 54; YEA on H.R. 758—Roll Call No. 55; YEA on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 177—Roll Call No. 56; YEA on H.J. RES. 177—Roll Call No. 57; YEA on H.J. RES. 61—Roll Call No. 58; YEA on H.J. RES. 42—Roll Call No. 59; NO on Motion to Table on H. RES. 189—Roll Call No. 60; YEA on S.J. RES. 11—Roll Call No. 61; and YEA on H. RES. 189—Roll Call No. 62.

HONORING ABRAHAM ALEXANDER'S OSCAR NOMINATION FOR BEST ORIGINAL SONG FOR THE FILM SING SING

HON. CRAIG A. GOLDMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Abraham Alexander on his first Oscar nomination for Best Original Song for the film *Sing Sing*. Mr. Alexander grew up in Fort Worth and began his musical career at Niles City Sound, a Fort Worth-based studio. He performed at open mics around the city before releasing his debut album, *Sea/Sons*.

In recent years, Mr. Alexander has achieved numerous musical milestones in Fort Worth. He debuted his album at Bass Hall in 2020, performed at Sundance Square in 2022 before a crowd of over 100,000 people, and played alongside Leon Bridges during a sold-out show at Dickies Arena. He was recently honored at Sundance Square, where he received a City Proclamation from Fort Worth Mayor Mattie Parker.

The nominated song, "Like a Bird," was written and performed by Mr. Alexander and Texas native Adrian Quesada. Mr. Alexander learned of his nomination at his home in Fort Worth and credits the city for fostering his artistic growth. Fort Worth has a rich legacy of artistic innovation, and Mr. Alexander is a proud continuation of this tradition.

On behalf of Texas' 12th Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Mr. Alexander's outstanding achievement and his rich

contribution to the City of Fort Worth. I extend my best wishes to him and have no doubt that

he will continue to create award-winning music in the future.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1587–1617

Measures Introduced: Thirty-four bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 875–908, S.J. Res. 31, and S. Res. 116–119. **Pages S1603–04**

Measures Passed:

Joint Committee on Printing and Joint Committee on the Library: Senate agreed to S. Res. 117, providing for members on the part of the Senate of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library. **Page S1609**

National Slam the Scam Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 118, designating March 6, 2025, as “National Slam the Scam Day” to raise awareness about pervasive scams and to promote education to prevent government imposter scams and other types of scams. **Pages S1609–10**

Measures Considered:

Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances. **Pages S1596–99**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 82 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. 110), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S1596**

Appointments:

Senate National Working Group for the 119th Congress: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 64, adopted March 5, 2013, appointed the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 119th Congress: Senators Fischer (Administrative Co-Chair), Ernst (Co-Chair), Lankford (Co-Chair), Hagerty (Co-Chair), Wicker, Graham, Risch, Ricketts, and Sheehy. **Page S1617**

Message from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order declaring a national emergency in order to halt efforts by the International Criminal Court to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute persons in America and our close ally Israel through blatant lawfare; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–13) **Page S1602**

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of certain actions taken to address the synthetic opioid supply chain in the People’s Republic of China and the flow of illicit drugs across our northern and southern borders that are an expansion of the scope of the national emergency declared in Proclamation 10886 of January 20, 2025; which was referred to the Committee on Finance. (PM–14) **Page S1603**

Chavez-DeRemer Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor. **Pages S1595–96**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 66 yeas to 30 nays (Vote No. EX. 109), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1596**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, March 10, 2025, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; that Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at 5:30 p.m.; and that following disposition of the nomination, Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and vote on adoption of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S1617**

Bradbury Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Steven Bradbury, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation. **Page S1599**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances. **Page S1596**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1596**

Slater Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Abigail Slater, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General. **Page S1596**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Steven Bradbury, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation. **Page S1599**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1599**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1599**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 53 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. EX. 108), Troy Edgar, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security. **Page S1595**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 53 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. EX. 107), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1591**

A routine list in the Coast Guard. **Page S1617**

Messages from the House: **Page S1603**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S1603–04**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S1605**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S1605–09

Additional Statements: **Pages S1601–02**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S1610**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S1616**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—110) **Pages S1591, S1595, S1596**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:31 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, March 10, 2025. (For Senate's program, see the re-

marks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1617.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRE

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Subcommittee on Conservation, Forestry, Natural Resources, and Biotechnology concluded a hearing to examine options to reduce catastrophic wildfire, including H.R. 471, to expedite under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and improve forest management activities on National Forest System lands, on public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and on Tribal lands to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested lands, after receiving testimony from Jonathan Houck, Gunnison County Commissioner, Gunnison, Colorado; Matt Weiner, Megafire Action, Calabasas, California; Frank R. Beum, National Association of Forest Service Retirees, Littleton, Colorado; Tim Vredenburg, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Roseburg, Oregon; and Robert Gordan, American Property Casualty Insurance Association, Washington, D.C.

DEFENSE MOBILIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine defense mobilization in the 21st century, after receiving testimony from David J. Berteau, Professional Services Council; John G. McGinn, George Mason University's Costello College of Business Greg and Camille Baroni Center for Government Contracting; and Christine Michienzi, MMR Defense Solutions.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Stephen Miran, of New York, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Jeffrey Kessler, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security, William Pulte, of Florida, to be Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, and Jonathan McKernan, of Tennessee, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

NOMINATION

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Michael Faulkender, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Keith Sonderling, of Florida, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

NOMINATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Martin Makary, of Virginia, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Cassidy, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 74 public bills, H.R. 1894–1967; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 72–74; and H. Res. 198–201, were introduced.

Pages H1035–39

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H1041

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor Frank Rice, Mount Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Hookerton, North Carolina.

Page H1013

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management relating to “Protection of Marine Archaeological Resources”: The House passed S.J. Res. 11, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management relating to “Protection of Marine Archaeological Resources”, by a yea-and-nay vote of 221 yeas to 202 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 61.

Pages H1014–1019

H. Res. 177, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolutions (H.J. Res. 42), (H.J. Res. 61), and (S.J. Res. 11) was agreed to yesterday, March 6th. Censuring Representative Al Green of Texas: The House agreed to H. Res. 189, censuring Representative Al Green of Texas, by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 198 nays with two answering “present”, Roll No. 62. Subsequently, pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 189, Representative Al Green of Texas presented himself in the well of the House for the purpose of administration of censure by the Speaker of the House. Consideration began yesterday, March 5th.

Page H1019

Recess: The House recessed at 10:32 a.m. and reconvened at 10:57 a.m.

Page H1020

Announcement by the Chair: The Chair announced that the Chair’s earlier announcement regarding roll call number 61 was mistaken. The correct tally was 221 voting “yea,” 202 voting “nay,” and 1 answering “present.”

Page H1020

Electing Members to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library and the Joint Committee on Printing: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Res. 190, electing Members to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library and the Joint Committee on Printing.

Page H1020

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, March 10, 2025 for morning-hour debate.

Page H1020

Presidential Messages: Received a message from the President transmitting a notification declaring a national emergency in order to halt efforts by the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute persons in America and our close ally Israel through blatant lawfare—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 119–23).

Page H1034

Received a message from the President transmitting a notification of an expansion of the national emergency declared in Proclamation 10886 of January 20, 2025, relating to addressing the synthetic opioid supply chain in the People’s Republic of China and the flow of illicit drugs across the northern and southern borders—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 119–24).

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1019–20.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 1156, the “Pandemic Unemployment Fraud Enforcement Act”; and H.J. Res. 25, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Internal Revenue Service relating to “Gross Proceeds Reporting by Brokers That Regularly Provide Services Effectuating Digital Asset Sales”, 4 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, March 10

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor, and vote on confirmation thereon at 5:30 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Lori Chavez-DeRemer, Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and vote on adoption of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, March 10

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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