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No. 44

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 10, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARIANNETTE MILLER-MEEKS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

RECOGNIZING LORIE TUDOR ON HER RETIREMENT

(Mr. HILL of Arkansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise to wish Lorie Tudor, the former director of the Arkansas Department of Transportation, a very healthy and happy retirement.

Lorie was with the Department of Transportation for over four decades and served as the director for the last 5 years.

She began her career at the department as a clerk-typist back in 1982.

After taking time away to earn an engineering degree from the University of Memphis, she returned to the department as a civil engineer in 1998.

In 2014, she was promoted to deputy director and chief operating officer, and she became the agency's first female director in early 2020.

Lorie guided the department through the challenges of COVID-19, played a pivotal role in the Connecting Arkansas Program, which included over 30 State highway construction projects and helped modernize the Natural State's transportation infrastructure.

She has left a lasting mark on the department and our State, and she has proven to be a tireless and effective leader.

I thank Lorie for her lifetime of dedication and her terrific perseverance to accomplish her personal goals and those of the department.

RECOGNIZING AUSTIN BOOTH

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Austin Booth, an exceptional Arkansan who recently completed his service as the director of our Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

A native of Scott, Arkansas, the outdoors and a passion for public service were integral to Austin's upbringing.

After witnessing the 9/11 attacks from his classroom at Catholic High School in Little Rock, Austin was determined to serve his country, ultimately becoming a Marine Corps officer and deploying to Afghanistan.

After his tour in Afghanistan, Austin came to Washington, D.C., where he would go on to work as an advocate for the corps on Capitol Hill and, later, a judge advocate.

He returned to Arkansas to serve in the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs and then as a director of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Under his leadership, the commission launched its strategic 5-year plan and Austin was instrumental in conserva-

tion projects that will benefit hunters, anglers, and conservationists for generations to come.

I thank Austin for his leadership, for our friendship, and for his unwavering commitment to Arkansas' natural treasures, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING BART LIKES, OWNER OF OL' BART SOUTHERN EATS

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bart Likes, the owner of Ol' Bart Southern Eats.

What started as a job at a hunting lodge has become a successful multi-location restaurant and catering business that serves customers across our State. Yet, Bart's contributions to his community are not confined to his successful business.

Since the tragic passing of his mother, he has been serving others in our State, including sponsoring local sports teams, feeding healthcare workers, and providing free meals to victims of domestic abuse.

Bart's story should remind us all that life has twists and turns but following your passions will never steer you wrong. It should also remind us that there is no greater obligation in life than to help those in need.

Madam Speaker, I applaud Bart for his success and thank him for his dedication to helping others.

CELEBRATING JOHN GILL

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a truly remarkable gift to higher education in Arkansas and honor the legacy of John Gill, whose name will now grace the newly renamed prelaw program at Hendrix College in Conway.

Thanks to a generous \$250,000 donation from George and Sallie Gill in honor of their brother and brother-in-law, this endowed program will help prepare Hendrix students for a legal career.

As a former president of the Arkansas Bar Association and member of 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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American College of Trial Lawyers, John Gill has left an indelible mark on our State's legal landscape over his six-decade career.

From serving as a delegate to the 1969 Arkansas Constitutional Convention and shaping the Arkansas Supreme Court's Rules of Civil Procedure, John's legacy is one of integrity and mentorship.

Through this endowment, Hendrix will continue to enhance its already impressive prelaw program, which boasts an 87 percent law school acceptance rate.

Madam Speaker, I commend Hendrix College and the Gill family for their commitment to advancing legal education in Arkansas, and I look forward to seeing those students thrive in law school and beyond.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAINTERLAND SISTERS

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the recipients of this year's Pennsylvania Dairy Innovator Award, Stephanie and Hayley Painter, the visionary founders of Painterland Sisters.

Growing up on their family's fourth-generation farm in Tioga County, Pennsylvania, Stephanie and Hayley were deeply rooted in the traditions of dairy farming. Their upbringing instilled in them a profound appreciation for the land, animals, and the farming community.

This foundation inspired their mission to bridge the gap between consumers and the origins of their food, leading to the creation of the Painterland Sisters brand.

In 2018, they embarked on a journey to transform their vision into reality. By March 2022, their organic skyr yogurt hit the shelves and, today, can now be found in all 50 States, with a production of approximately 270,000 units weekly. This remarkable growth is a testament to their dedication and entrepreneurial spirit.

The Pennsylvania Dairy Innovator Award recognizes an individual or business entity that has provided tremendous innovation to progress Pennsylvania's dairy industry towards a brighter future either by advancing the marketplace or creating new opportunities for innovation on the dairy farm.

This dynamic duo is a shining example of just that. The Painterland Sisters source milk from their farm and partner with 25 other Pennsylvania dairy farms. They ensure that their products are not only of the highest quality but also support local farming practices.

Beyond their product lines, Stephanie and Hayley have positioned themselves as leaders and advocates within the agricultural community. They actively engage with educational pro-

grams, mentor young agriculturalists, and collaborate with organizations such as the Center for Dairy Excellence and the Pennsylvania Organic Center for Excellence.

Their involvement extends to hosting farm tours, participating in community events, and serving on advisory committees. Their efforts have garnered significant recognition.

Along with this year's Pennsylvania Dairy Innovator Award, the sister duo earned a spot on Forbes' "30 under 30—Food & Drink" list in 2023.

Their accolades underscore their impact and the respect that they have earned within the industry. The Painterland Sisters' story is a powerful example of how passion, innovation, and a commitment to core values can drive meaningful change in the dairy industry.

Like many young farmers, the Painter sisters were looking for ways to carry on their family's agricultural legacy while making it their own. The Painter sisters' dedication and passion for their family farm and business have led to tremendous success.

Madam Speaker, the Painterland Sisters' commitment to making a difference sets an inspiring example for the next generation of dairy farmers and entrepreneurs. I congratulate them on this well-deserved recognition and thank them for their contributions to Pennsylvania agriculture.

HONORING THE HON. JAMES FREDRICK HAHN

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS of Iowa was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a dear friend and a former Iowa State Representative, James Fredrick Hahn.

James was a public servant who dedicated his life to bettering his community and the State of Iowa.

James was a true Iowan. He was a farmer in Muscatine County. He was hardworking, principled, honorable, and had impeccable integrity in the likes of John Wayne.

Throughout his time in the Iowa Legislature, James fought for the values that make our rural State great. He was a champion for rural communities, farmers, and agriculture, and supported policies that put Iowans first. His leadership and integrity left a lasting impression and impact on Iowans, and his legacy will never be forgotten.

Beyond his service in office, James was a family man and a friend to many. His kindness, wisdom, and dedication to serving Iowa will be remembered by all.

Mr. Speaker, my prayers are with his family, friends, and everyone mourning his passing. May we honor his memory by continuing to serve with the same commitment and passion that he did.

RECOGNIZING WILL RYAN

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an out-

standing young Iowan, Will Ryan, for his nomination for the Big Ten's prestigious Jackie Robinson Community Service and Impact Award.

Will is not only a standout junior on the University of Iowa's track and field and cross-country teams, but he is also a community leader. Will's commitment to giving back started early by volunteering to feed the homeless as a middle schooler. That spirit of service has not only grown but has continued. Today, when he is not setting records on the track, he is dedicating his time to the University of Iowa's Stead Family Children's Hospital.

His connection to Stead is personal. Having spent a week there in high school, he saw firsthand the incredible care and support that the hospital provides. This experience inspired him to give back, ensuring that other children received the same comfort and encouragement that he once did.

Will embodies what it truly means to be a Hawkeye. Will is determined, compassionate, and committed to making a difference.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the leader he has become, and I can't think of anyone more deserving of this honor. I congratulate Will on receiving this award.

CONGRATULATING FRED MILLER ON HIS BIRTHDAY

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I wish my brother, Fred, a very happy birthday.

Happy birthday to Fred.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Lord, You know those who are Your own. On this day, as we grieve the loss of our brother Representative SYLVESTER TURNER, remind us that You wrote all of his days before the first one came to be.

And in Your providence, You allowed our lives' journeys to share the path of his own for a time, that we would be graced by his generous spirit, his affable presence, his devotion to You, and to the work You set before him.

Guide him now, Your good and faithful servant, to the springs of the water of life, that he may feast at the banquet You have spread before him, seated at table with all the saints.

Wipe every tear from our eyes and grant us the peace in knowing that the gift of Congressman SYLVESTER TURNER's memory will be both a blessing and an inspiration to us as we seek to glorify You, as he did, in the living of these days.

In Your eternal name, we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas 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.

RECOGNIZING ESSENTIAL LEGISLATION THAT SUPPORTS OUR NATION'S VETERANS

(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 essential legislation that supports our Nation's veterans. We must ensure that our veterans are cared for and have the resources they need to thrive so no veteran is left behind.

Currently, too many of our veterans struggle with the difficulties of transitioning back into civilian life and far too many continue to face homelessness or housing instability.

The Department of Veterans Affairs created the Grant and Per Diem program to help address this issue.

Unfortunately, the application process for GPD grants is complex and burdensome, often discouraging participation from groups that can make a real difference.

To correct these inefficiencies, I am introducing the bipartisan Simplifying Veterans Assistance Act, which requires the VA to provide clear guidance and best practices for organizations applying for GPD grants.

By simplifying the GPD application process and enhancing communication between the VA and community organizations, we ensure that those dedicated to serving our veterans have the necessary tools and resources to combat veteran homelessness effectively.

DON'T VOTE FOR A BILL THAT DISMANTLES THE GOVERNMENT

(Ms. JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, the House is soon going to vote on some legislation that guts Medicaid and it slashes healthcare for veterans. It cuts funding from important infrastructure projects and takes food away from families struggling to survive.

We have a choice: We can invest in the people we serve, or we can let Republicans burn it down.

I am fighting for \$2 million to help our Dallas Police Officers tackle violent crime, gangs, and drug trafficking. I am working to secure over \$1 million to upgrade security at Dallas Fort Worth International Airport because keeping Americans safe should not be up for debate.

We can fund these programs, but instead of trying to make government work, Republicans are doing everything they can to break it, stripping away services that millions of people rely on.

I will not vote for a bill that carries out Trump's mission to dismantle our government. I will not vote for a bill that takes healthcare, food, and security from the people who need it most, especially as they work to line the pockets of Trump and his friends on the backs of hardworking Americans.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleague to do what is right and vote "no" on this bill. Let's stand up for the people who sent us here.

HONORING THE 100th BIRTHDAY OF A TRUE AMERICAN HERO, LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JOHN PAUL SURPRENANT

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

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero, Lieutenant Commander John Paul Surprenant, a retired officer in the United States Navy, as we celebrate his upcoming 100th birthday and service to our country.

Paul joined the Navy as a seaman recruit in 1943. He rose through the ranks to become a lieutenant commander over a distinguished 30-year career. He served on 13 Navy vessels, including the USS *Tirante* during World War II, where his crew was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation. He is the last surviving member of that crew.

Beyond his wartime service, his greatest legacy is his family: his wife, Louise, a fellow Navy veteran, and their five children, two of whom served in uniform.

Now retired in my hometown of Melbourne, Florida, Paul remains a proud patriot whose century of life has been dedicated to the service of our country and his family.

Madam Speaker, today, I honor Lieutenant Commander Surprenant. The Nation salutes him.

ENSURE OUR GROWERS HAVE ACCESS TO CUTTING-EDGE PRECISION AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGIES

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise to highlight the Promoting Precision Agriculture Act, legislation I introduced with the gentleman from Kansas, TRACEY MANN.

Agriculture is our top industry in North Carolina. The bill would establish a partnership between the Federal Government and the private sector to create voluntary interconnectivity standards and prioritize the cybersecurity needs for precision agriculture technologies.

Precision agriculture includes robotics, sensors, monitors, and drones to help growers increase efficiency, potentially boosting crop yields while lowering costs for fuel, fertilizer, and other inputs.

It helps our farmers to be successful, profitable, and productive. We must ensure our growers have access to the cutting-edge precision agriculture technologies and broadband services necessary to do what they do best, and that is feed, fuel, and clothe the American people.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BENTZ) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

SUBTERRANEAN BORDER DEFENSE ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 495) to require annual reports on counter illicit cross-border tunnel operations, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 495

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 “Subterranean Border Defense Act”.

SEC. 2. ANNUAL REPORTS ON COUNTER ILLICIT CROSS-BORDER TUNNEL OPERATIONS.

Paragraph (2) of section 7134(a) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263; 6 U.S.C. 257 note) is amended by inserting “and annually thereafter” after “development of the strategic plan”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 495.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 495, the Subterranean Border Defense Act.

The collective failure of the last administration and its refusal to secure our borders allowed transnational criminal organizations to go unchecked in their efforts to infiltrate the United States.

Illicit tunnel pathways into our country have only made it easier for criminals to bring their illegal businesses into the homeland, from human trafficking to drug smuggling deadly fentanyl and other drugs that are being funneled from nations afar, including Communist China. Fortunately, President Trump, border czar Homan, and Secretary Noem have arrived to set the situation right.

H.R. 495 will require DHS to provide annual reports on its efforts to counter illicit tunnel operations at our borders.

I commend the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CRANE) for his leadership on this effort, and I urge strong support for the measure.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in strong support of H.R. 495 because we need more oversight and information on the threat of tunnels going under our border.

It is a fact that tunnels, clandestine tunnels, under our borders have been an issue for not years but decades, and it is time we take action. It is time that Congress be informed of our progress to prevent such tunnels from

happening. That is why I support H.R. 495.

Tunnels are used by transnational criminal organizations looking to make a profit at the expense of our taxpayers. Over the last 30 years, cartels have created illegal and sophisticated tunnels under our border walls to smuggle drugs into our country, as well as money and weapons out of our country.

This bill creates an annual reporting requirement to keep Congress informed on the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to counter illicit cross-border tunnels and hold the bad actors accountable.

This information will help us, Congress, address the issue at the border and let us, as Members of Congress, better respond to the challenges.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CRANE), the author of this bill.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in favor of my bill, the Subterranean Border Defense Act, a bipartisan piece of border security legislation that I have introduced alongside the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA).

Effective border security is created by overlapping deterrents, something we always need at our borders. The Subterranean Border Defense Act would help us address the growing threat of illicit cross-border tunnels by requiring annual reports to Congress on counter-tunneling operations, fortifying our security system at the border.

Put simply, this would help ensure that Congress has the necessary data to forge another much-needed layer of defense.

As transnational criminal organizations continue to grow in both size and sophistication, illicit cross-border tunnels along the southwest border of the United States represent a significant and growing threat to national security. Congress must address this deadly threat and ensure U.S. Customs and Border Protection has the resources needed to acquire counter-tunnel technology.

Since 1990, officials have discovered more than 140 tunnels that have breached the U.S. border, with an 80 percent increase in tunnel activity occurring since 2008.

Over the years, CBP has worked to combat these tunnels as part of their overall strategy. In fact, the United States conducts research, development, and test activities with Israel, which must contend with a vast network of Hamas tunnels originating in the Gaza Strip. This partnership helps us to detect and destroy tunnels in our respective countries.

The FY23 NDAA mandated that CBP submit a one-time report to Congress on a strategic plan to counter illicit cross-border tunnel operations. This

singular report has since led Congress to conduct critical oversight and has enabled CBP to formalize many of the processes, technologies, and resources needed to counteract illicit tunnels under the U.S.-Mexico border.

My bill would expand on this success by mandating a report every year going forward to ensure Congress has sufficient knowledge and oversight regarding this dynamic threat.

With border crossings thankfully going down since January, I think it is safe to assume this will drive threats at our border underground through these tunnels.

I thank Mr. CORREA for co-leading with me, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this legislation for a secure southern border.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this bill is an important step in the right direction. Receiving information from the Department of Homeland Security on an annual basis will improve Congress' efforts to counter illicit cross-border tunnels and hold bad actors accountable. I support this bipartisan piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I again thank both of my colleagues, Mr. CORREA and Mr. CRANE, for putting this together.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 495, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 495.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DHS BIODETECTION IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 706) to improve the biodetection functions of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 706

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 “DHS Biodefense Improvement Act”.

SEC. 2. DHS UTILIZATION OF DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL LABORATORIES AND SITES FOR CERTAIN BIODETECTION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT RELATING TO THE MISSIONS OF THE DHS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall conduct an assessment of how the Department of Homeland Security has utilized Department of Energy national laboratories and sites regarding research and development in carrying out the missions of the Department of Homeland Security, in accordance with section 309 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 189).

(b) STRATEGY ON BIODETECTION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate the assessment required under subsection (a), together with a strategy for how the Department of Homeland Security will conduct research and development in coordination with Department of Energy national laboratories and sites to address biodefense research and development of the Department of Homeland Security, including the following:

(1) Identifying biodefense technologies that can, either individually or together, meet the biodefense mission needs as outlined in Department of Homeland Security capabilities analysis and requirements documents and informed by studies produced by the Comptroller General of the United States, such as the National Re-Assessment of the BioWatch Collector Network to Increase the Fraction of Population Covered, as developed by the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of the Department in November 2021, and other such future studies as applicable.

(2) Developing an acquisition and procurement plan to acquire and provide, in accordance with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department of Homeland Security acquisition and procurement management directives, the biodefense technologies referred to in paragraph (1) to existing BioWatch jurisdictions.

(3) Conducting periodic external evaluations to identify gaps and potential failure points with respect to such biodefense technologies, and recommending contingency plans in the event such biodefense technologies do not perform as expected or intended.

(4) Assisting, as appropriate and in partnership with Federal, State, local, and Tribal governments, institutions of higher education (as such term is defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)), and the private sector, with the development of clearly defined program and technical requirements for future Department of Homeland Security environmental biodefense programs, including any related transformational program of research and development.

(c) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an update of the assessment and strategy required under this section, including any challenges to implementing such strategy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 706.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 706, the DHS Biodefense Improvement Act.

Amidst the vast and evolving threat landscape we face today, our vigilance against biological weapons must remain strong. This bill will direct DHS to address the shortcomings it has faced in acquiring technologies for biodefense.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG) for his work on this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in support of Representative STRONG's bill, H.R. 706, the DHS Biodefense Improvement Act.

This legislation is essential in advancing the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to protect Americans from emerging biological threats. Specifically, it seeks to enhance biodefense capabilities within DHS by requiring the Secretary to assess how the Department can leverage the research and development of the Department of Energy's national laboratories.

Biological threats, including deadly pathogens and bioterrorism agents, represent a constant and emerging danger to the public health and security of our Nation. However, the BioWatch program, which has been the cornerstone of our biodefense efforts, is now outdated.

H.R. 706 takes a crucial step forward by requiring DHS to assess how the Department of Energy's national laboratories can play an even greater role in improving our biodefense capabilities.

These labs are equipped with cutting-edge research and development capabilities that can help modernize our detection system. The national labs have the expertise and technologies necessary to enhance DHS' ability to detect, identify, and respond to biological threats much more effectively. Accessing this valuable research will enable DHS to modernize its biodefense tools and systems.

The bill also directs DHS to establish specific programs and technical requirements essential for advancing biodefense efforts, including vital research and development.

Furthermore, the bill requires the Homeland Security Secretary to submit to Congress a strategy for regular

external evaluations to identify capability gaps and propose contingency plans if biodefense technologies fall short.

As security threats continue to evolve, it is important that Congress support improvements in biodefense capabilities.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG), the author of the legislation.

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GREEN for his support as well as my colleagues who joined me in introducing this legislation, H.R. 706, the DHS Biodefense Improvement Act.

The anthrax attacks of 2001 opened our eyes to a new dimension of national security risks, including the possibilities of bioterrorism. In response to this tragic event, the Department of Homeland Security launched the BioWatch program, a monitoring system that collects and tests air samples for biological agents likely to be used in a bioterrorism attack. This program has played an essential role in keeping us safe, providing valuable data on potential biological threats.

We must do everything we can to ensure that the tools we rely on remain as advanced and effective as possible, providing us with fast, accurate, and reliable data. Unfortunately, DHS has faced continuous challenges in acquiring capabilities to replace BioWatch.

While DHS has the authority to utilize the Department of Energy's national labs to identify and develop new technologies related to biodefense, they have yet to take advantage of this resource.

My legislation will advance America's bioweapon defense posture by directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct an assessment of how, if at all, DHS has utilized this resource to address homeland security needs. It also directs DHS to submit a strategy for how the agency will coordinate with DOE to address biodefense research and development moving forward.

To ensure accountability, H.R. 706 requires DHS to report to Congress on the assessment and strategy no later than 1 year after the date of enactment.

As a first responder, I know there is more work to be done to harden our defenses against bioterrorism, and this legislation will ensure that DHS is utilizing all available resources and tools to do just that.

In the 118th Congress, I was proud to have the support of my colleagues in passing this legislation in the House. I urge my colleagues to join me once again in supporting this commonsense bill to ensure the security of our communities against biological threats.

□ 1615

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

Mr. Speaker, while DHS has made tremendous efforts to enhance its bioterrorism capabilities, we still have a long way to go. That is why it is important to pass this legislation, H.R. 706, which will foster innovation in bioterrorism and ultimately strengthen our ability to protect our communities from biological threats.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I, again, urge my colleagues to support H.R. 706, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 706.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

TSA COMMUTING FAIRNESS ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 862) to reduce commuting burdens on Transportation Security Administration employees, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 862

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 "TSA Commuting Fairness Act".

SEC. 2. FEASIBILITY STUDY ON TSA COMMUTING BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a study on the feasibility of treating as on-duty hours the time Transportation Security Administration employees working at airport locations spend traveling between regular duty locations and airport parking lots and bus and transit stops.

(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In conducting the feasibility study required under subsection (a), the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall consider the following with respect to Transportation Security Administration employees:

(1) The amount of time needed by such employees to travel between regular duty locations and airport parking lots and bus and

transit stops at small hub airports, medium hub airports, and large hub airports (as such terms are defined in section 40102 of title 49, United States Code).

(2) The amount of time such employees spend commuting, on average, exclusive of the time described in paragraph (1).

(3) The potential benefits to such employees and the Administration of treating as on-duty hours the time described in such paragraph.

(4) The feasibility of using mobile phones, location data, and any other means to allow such employees to report their arrival to and departure from the airport parking lots and bus and transit stops concerned.

(5) The estimated costs of treating as on-duty hours the time described in such paragraph, including by considering such hours creditable as basic pay for retirement purposes.

(6) Other considerations determined appropriate by the Administrator.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 862.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 862, the TSA Commuting Fairness Act.

TSA often struggles to adequately employ enough personnel. Given the high cost of housing near airports, travel time to and from work may be an inhibitor for current or future employees. This bill would require the TSA administrator to conduct a feasibility study to address this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the work of the gentleman from New York (Mr. KENNEDY) on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the ability of the TSA, or Transportation Security Administration, to recruit and retain a highly skilled, well-trained workforce is critical to our national security.

Since the agency was created in the aftermath of 9/11, TSA has helped prevent terrorist attacks against U.S. aircraft from happening.

The jobs of TSA employees are difficult, from the Transportation Security officers' perspective who screen millions of passengers a day, to Federal air marshals providing in-flight security, to canine handlers, inspectors, and cybersecurity experts, all helping to secure our air transportation system.

In recent weeks, life has only become harder for this workforce, as proba-

tionary employees have been fired and TSOs' collective bargaining rights have also come under attack.

Thankfully, we have the opportunity today, Mr. Speaker, to make life a bit easier for the hardworking civil servants of TSA.

The TSA Commuting Fairness Act, offered by my colleagues from New York, Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. GARBARINO, would require TSA to study the possibility of allowing employees' shifts to start upon arrival at the airport's parking lot and bus and transit stops.

These employees often face long commutes to get to the airport from the parking lot and then must travel long distances from the airport parking lots and transit stops to get to the TSA checkpoints.

Letting employees clock in using cell phones and location data would help alleviate the stress caused by irregular shuttles and the traffic that is very unpredictable around the airport.

This is a sensible bill, Mr. Speaker, that would address important quality-of-life concerns for a very critical workforce and, ultimately, our national security when it comes to commercial airline security.

I thank my colleagues for working in a bipartisan fashion to advance this measure, and I am glad to support it.

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

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KENNEDY), the author of this measure.

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 862, the TSA Commuting Fairness Act.

Year after year, through holiday seasons and spring breaks, air travel continues to break records. These numbers are at an all-time high and are expected to continue to increase this upcoming spring.

The Transportation Security Administration, or TSA, reported over 3 million travelers on the Sunday after Thanksgiving in 2024, with the 10 busiest days in TSA's history occurring last year.

Each day, we depend on hardworking TSA employees to keep our skies safe. Transportation Security officers, or TSOs, inspect travelers as they move through checkpoints; Federal air marshals ensure in-flight security; and canine handlers enhance the system's security.

However, TSA employees face unique challenges when commuting to work. Many employees find that the housing they can afford is far from airports, leading to long commutes with limited public transit options and heavy traffic. Airport employees often begin their workday by parking or being dropped off in a designated parking lot where they must then wait for inconsistent shuttle service to reach the terminal.

From there, they may face a lengthy trek to the security checkpoint where they officially then clock in for work.

According to the Government Accountability Office, TSOs have reported that just getting from the parking lot to the checkpoint to clock in for work can take as long as 45 minutes to an hour at some airports.

My bill, the TSA Commuting Fairness Act, will help improve conditions for these civil servants by directing TSA to conduct a feasibility study on using mobile location data to allow employees to clock in for work upon arrival at the airport transit stops instead of when they reach that security checkpoint.

Doing so will help reduce commuting costs and improve the quality of life for TSA employees, while allowing agency leadership to manage the workforce appropriately.

This study will also provide important insight for TSA and Congress as we collectively seek innovative ways to recruit and retain top talent to help secure our transportation systems. My bill will help us build the workforce we need to address evolving threats and keep air travel trusted and secure.

Now, more than ever, it is critical that we advance policies like the TSA Commuting Fairness Act to make it clear that we value the critical work of our transportation security workers.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GARBARINO and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for working with me to develop this legislation.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, given the recent attacks against our Federal workers, we must seek innovative ways to compete for the top talent. This bill would require a feasibility study to improve the quality of life for the TSA workforce, while ensuring that TSA leadership retains the ability to manage the workforce appropriately and maintain security standards.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members of Congress to support this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 862, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 862.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STRATEGIC HOMELAND INTELLIGENCE AND ENFORCEMENT LEGISLATION TO DEFEND AGAINST THE CCP ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 708) to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 708

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 “Strategic Homeland Intelligence and Enforcement Legislation to Defend Against the CCP Act” or the “SHIELD Against CCP Act”.

SEC. 2. WORKING GROUP TO COUNTER CERTAIN THREATS POSED TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group (in this section referred to as the “Working Group”), which shall carry out the duties specified in subsection (b) relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(2) DIRECTOR.—

(A) APPOINTMENT.—The head of the Working Group shall be a Director (in this section referred to as the “Director”), who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(B) REPORTING.—The Director shall report to the Secretary of Homeland Security regarding all administrative, operational, and security matters of the Working Group.

(3) STAFFING.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure the Working Group is provided with the following:

(A) A sufficient number of employees to perform required duties.

(B) Not fewer than one employee dedicated to ensuring compliance with privacy laws and regulations.

(4) DETAILEES.—The Working Group may accept and employ detailees with expertise in countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed by the Chinese Communist Party to the United States, or in related fields, from any element of the intelligence community or any other Federal agency the Director determines appropriate, with or without reimbursement, consistent with applicable laws and regulations regarding such employees.

(b) DUTIES.—The Working Group shall carry out the following:

(1) Examine, assess, and report upon efforts by the Department of Homeland Security to counter terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, including efforts to counter the Chinese Communist Party’s—

(A) nontraditional tactics and exploitation of the United States immigration system through—

(i) identity theft;

(ii) the immigrant and nonimmigrant visa processes;

(iii) unlawful border crossings;

(iv) human smuggling; and

(v) human trafficking;

(B) predatory economic and trade practices, including the trafficking of counterfeit and pirated goods, the use of forced labor, labor exploitation for financial gain, customs fraud, and theft of intellectual property and technology;

(C) direct or indirect support for transnational criminal organizations trafficking in fentanyl, illicit drug precursors, or other controlled substances through—

(i) the United States border;

(ii) international mail shipments; or

(iii) express consignment operations; and

(D) support for illicit financial activity by Chinese Money Laundering Organizations, including any repatriation to China or any other country of the proceeds derived from the activities described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

(2) Account for the resources of the Department that are dedicated to programs aimed at countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and any supporting information as to the efficacy of each such program.

(3) Build upon existing or ongoing evaluations and avoid unnecessary duplication by reviewing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of other appropriate working groups, committees, commissions, or entities established by the Department related to efforts to counter terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(4) Identify gaps in policies, processes, and activities of the Department to respond to terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(5) Facilitate cooperation and coordination among offices and components of the Department on a holistic response to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(c) ADDITIONAL DUTY RELATING TO INFORMATION SHARING.—The Working Group shall review, in coordination with the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security, information relating to terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party that is gathered by Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial partners, and the National Network of Fusion Centers, and incorporate such information, as appropriate, into the Working Group’s own information relating to such threats. The Working Group, in coordination with the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, shall also ensure the dissemination to Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial partners, and the National Network of Fusion Centers, of information related to such threats.

(d) ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter for five years, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that assesses terrorist, cybersecurity,

border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party during the immediately preceding 12 months.

(2) **CONTENTS.**—Each assessment under paragraph (1) shall also include the following:

(A) A description of the activities and operations of the Working Group undertaken pursuant to subsection (b).

(B) Any other matters the Secretary of Homeland Security determines relevant.

(3) **FORM.**—Each assessment under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall post on a publicly available website of the Department of Homeland Security the unclassified portion of each assessment.

(4) **BRIEFING.**—Not later than 30 days after the submission of each assessment under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on such assessment and the progress and challenges of the Working Group.

(e) **COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the implementation of this section.

(f) **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Director and the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security, shall, to the extent practicable, carry out research and development, including operational testing, of technologies and techniques for enhancing the Department's security and situational awareness relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(g) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—All activities carried out pursuant to this section—

(1) shall be carried out in accordance with applicable constitutional, privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties protections; and

(2) may not infringe upon the lawful exercise of free speech by United States persons.

(h) **SUNSET.**—The Working Group shall terminate on the date that is seven years after the establishment of the Working Group under subsection (a)(1).

(i) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) in the House of Representatives—

(i) the Committee on Homeland Security;

(ii) the Committee on Ways and Means;

(iii) the Committee on Financial Services;

(iv) the Committee on the Judiciary; and

(v) the Committee on Foreign Affairs; and

(B) in the Senate—

(i) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs;

(ii) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs;

(iii) the Committee on Finance;

(iv) the Committee on the Judiciary; and

(v) the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(2) **FUSION CENTER.**—The term “fusion center” has the meaning given such term in subsection (k) of section 210A of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h).

(3) **INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.**—The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given such term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(4) **NATIONAL NETWORK OF FUSION CENTERS.**—The term “National Network of Fusion Centers” means a decentralized arrangement of fusion centers intended to enhance

individual State and urban area fusion centers' ability to leverage the capabilities and expertise of all such fusion centers for the purpose of enhancing analysis and homeland security information sharing nationally.

(5) **UNITED STATES PERSONS.**—The term “United States person” has the meaning given such term in section 1637(d)(10) of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal year 2015 (50 U.S.C. 1708(d)(10)).

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 708.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 708, the **SHIELD** Against CCP Act.

The Chinese Communist Party continues to increasingly threaten the security of our homeland. We must begin to come up with serious solutions to this serious problem, and this bill is an important start.

This bill would require that DHS establish a working group to take the important step of appropriately addressing and countering these threats. I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG), for his important work on this measure and on this subject.

Mr. Speaker, we must alter our posture to appropriately address the threat posed by the CCP to our homeland. This is not optional.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I think we all agree that the United States' main competitor is China and the Chinese Communist Party who are intent on tilting the global playing field to their benefit, undermining our national standing.

To do this, China is expanding its covert influence, seeking to turn public opinion and effect policies that are more favorable to China and against the United States. Additionally, the CCP seeks to exploit American openness to steal economic secrets and undermine our national security.

This bill would require the Department of Homeland Security to establish a working group to coordinate its efforts to address the threats posed to the homeland by the Chinese Communist Party.

The working group will examine the threats posed by the CCP, identify on-

going Departmental efforts to address those threats, identify any gaps in such efforts, and then facilitate coordination across DHS to holistically address the threats from the CCP.

Mr. Speaker, this bill helps ensure that DHS implements a coordinated and effective response to the Chinese Communist Party's efforts to undermine the United States.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG), the author of this legislation.

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 708, the **SHIELD** Against CCP Act.

I thank Chairman GREEN and each of the Members who have joined me in introducing this bill.

There is no question that the Chinese Communist Party poses a clear and present threat to both the security and democracy of the United States of America.

As detailed in DHS' 2025 Homeland Threat Assessment, the Chinese Government poses a wide array of dangers to our Nation. These threats span across various sectors, including public safety, border and immigration, critical infrastructure, and economic security.

Threats of this nature undermine our global competitiveness and national security, and in some cases, impose a significant financial burden on our economy. It is absolutely essential that the Department of Homeland Security take decisive action to address these complex threats both at home and abroad.

This is why I have reintroduced H.R. 708, the **SHIELD** Against CCP Act. This legislation requires DHS to establish a dedicated working group focused on countering the threats posed by the CCP to our Homeland Security. Specifically, it requires them to examine, assess, and report on DHS' efforts to address these threats.

To ensure accountability, my bill also mandates that DHS provide an annual report to Congress, allowing us to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of their efforts.

□ 1630

As Members of Congress, it is our solemn duty to ensure the safety and well-being of our great Nation. We cannot afford to ignore the increased aggression and influence of China on the global stage.

In the 118th Congress, I was honored to have the backing of my colleagues in advancing this legislation through the House. I now urge all Members to join me once again in supporting the **SHIELD** Against CCP Act to protect our national security and safeguard our interests.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative STRONG for sponsoring this legislation,

but I must acknowledge that over the past few weeks, the Trump administration has taken several alarming actions that work to counter the work we are trying to do today with this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Trump administration to work with Congress and not against Congress' efforts to strengthen America's ability to compete with China like this bill that aims to do exactly that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 708.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESEARCH SECURITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN DHS ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 901) to require the Under Secretary of the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security to develop a Department-wide policy and process to safeguard research and development from unauthorized access to or disclosure of sensitive information in research and development acquisitions, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 901

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 "Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act".

SEC. 2. SAFEGUARDING SENSITIVE RESEARCH IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 302 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 182) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (13), by striking "and" after the semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period and inserting "and"; and

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

"(15) developing, in coordination with appropriate agency officials, a Department-wide policy and process to safeguard research and development from unauthorized access to or disclosure of sensitive information in research and development acquisitions."

(b) GAO REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on how the Department of Homeland Security

has complied with National Security Presidential Memorandum-33 (NSPM-33) and adopted the National Science and Technology Council's 2022 implementation guidance.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall address the following:

(A) How the Department of Homeland Security has complied with disclosure requirements outlined in NSPM-33, and how violations are reported to the relevant executive agencies, including in the intelligence community (as such term is defined in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(B) Coordination and compliance with guidelines established by the National Science Foundation, the National Science Technology Council, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and other executive agencies regarding Federal research security.

(C) The role of the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department regarding establishing a research security framework for research and development projects across the Department.

(c) CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a briefing addressing the development of policies and processes to safeguard Department of Homeland Security research and development in accordance with paragraph (15) of section 302 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 182), as added by subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 901.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 901, the Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act. The Science and Technology Directorate is the principal of research and development for DHS. In 2022, the DHS Office of Inspector General found that S&T failed to safeguard sensitive information in research and development projects.

This bill requires S&T to develop a proper standard for safeguarding sensitive information which has become especially critical given the heightened activity of our adversaries. This bill carried by former Representative Anthony D'Esposito passed the House last Congress, and I thank the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG) for his attention to this issue this Congress.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 901, the Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act. This bill seeks to enhance security measures by directing the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate to establish a comprehensive policy and process to protect research and development activities from unauthorized access or disclosure of sensitive information.

Additionally, this bill would task the Government Accountability Office to assess DHS' adherence to the National Science and Technology Council's 2022 implementation guidance and a 2021 National Security Presidential Memorandum focused on safeguarding U.S. research from foreign interference.

This bill also requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide Congress with a briefing on its implementation.

Time and time again, we have seen bad actors attempt to exploit our sensitive information. This measure strengthens DHS' ability to prevent such threats and protects our national security.

This bill is a critical step in ensuring DHS upholds strong policies and procedures to secure research and development efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 901, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG).

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 901, the Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act.

I understand how important new technologies are in saving lives and protecting the American homeland as threats and challenges evolve.

Whether the Department of Homeland Security is working to prevent a terrorist act, inhibiting drug traffic at the southwest border, or responding to a life-threatening natural disaster, DHS relies heavily on research and development projects to enhance its operational effectiveness.

The critical role that R&D projects and new technologies play in helping protect our homeland cannot be understated. It is no secret that Federal R&D projects are a target for foreign theft, espionage, and influence.

It is our responsibility to safeguard them from malicious actors and prevent the unauthorized access to, or disclosure of, sensitive information.

This is why I reintroduced H.R. 901, the Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act. This legislation requires the Science and Technology Directorate to develop a process that safeguards sensitive information in R&D projects across all components of the Department.

Both the Trump and Biden administrations have made Federal research

security a priority by issuing executive orders and Federal research security guidance for government agencies like DHS to follow.

Despite this, S&T has not demonstrated how it will protect its \$461 million worth of R&D projects from unauthorized access.

Every taxpayer dollar spent on R&D to improve our national security should be safeguarded from foreign and domestic bad actors who seek to do us harm.

This is why H.R. 901 also requires GAO to submit a report on how DHS has complied with existing Federal guidance to safeguard these R&D projects.

I thank Chairman GREEN and all the members who have supported this legislation.

By passing this commonsense bill and protecting sensitive R&D projects throughout the Department, we will improve the effectiveness of DHS' mission, the safety of our Nation's law enforcers, and, ultimately, our national security.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting this vital piece of legislation to better safeguard DHS and the American people.

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

Mr. Speaker, the passage of this legislation is a key step in protecting DHS' research and development capabilities from bad actors.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 901, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 901, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 901.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EMERGING INNOVATIVE BORDER TECHNOLOGIES ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 993) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a plan to identify, integrate, and deploy new, innovative, disruptive, or other emerging or advanced technologies to enhance, or address capability gaps in, border security operations, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 993

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 "Emerging Innovative Border Technologies Act".

SEC. 2. INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING BORDER TECHNOLOGY PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a plan to identify, integrate, and deploy new, innovative, disruptive, or other emerging or advanced technologies that may incorporate artificial intelligence, machine-learning, automation, fiber-optic sensing technology, nanotechnology, optical and cognitive radar, modeling and simulation technology, hyperspectral and LIDAR sensors, imaging, identification, and categorization systems, or other emerging or advanced technologies, to enhance, or address capability gaps in, border security operations.

(b) CONTENTS.—The plan required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Information regarding how CBP utilizes CBP Innovation Team authority under subsection (c) and other mechanisms to carry out the purposes specified in subsection (a).

(2) An assessment of the contributions directly attributable to such utilization.

(3) Information regarding the composition of each CBP Innovation Team, and how each such Team coordinates and integrates efforts with the CBP acquisition program office and other partners within CBP and the Department of Homeland Security.

(4) Identification of technologies used by other Federal departments or agencies not in use by CBP that could assist in enhancing, or addressing capability gaps in, border security operations.

(5) An analysis of authorities available to CBP to procure technologies referred to subsection (a), and an assessment as to whether additional or alternative authorities are needed to carry out the purposes specified in such subsection.

(6) An explanation of how CBP plans to scale existing programs related to emerging or advanced technologies into programs of record.

(7) A description of each planned security-related technology program, including objectives, goals, and timelines for each such program.

(8) An assessment of the privacy and security impact on border communities of security-related technology.

(9) An assessment of CBP legacy border technology programs that could be phased out and replaced by technologies referred to in subsection (a), and cost estimates relating to such phase out and replacement.

(10) Information relating to how CBP is coordinating with the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate to carry out the following:

(A) Research and develop new, innovative, disruptive, or other emerging or advanced technologies to carry out the purposes specified in subsection (a).

(B) Identify security-related technologies that are in development or deployed by the private and public sectors that may satisfy the mission needs of CBP, with or without adaptation.

(C) Incentivize the private sector to develop technologies that may help CBP meet mission needs to enhance, or address capability gaps in, border security operations.

(D) Identify and assess ways to increase opportunities for communication and collaboration with the private sector, small and disadvantaged businesses, intra-governmental entities, university centers of excellence, and Federal laboratories to leverage emerging technology and research within the public and private sectors.

(11) Information on metrics and key performance parameters for evaluating the effectiveness of efforts to identify, integrate, and deploy new, innovative, disruptive, or other emerging or advanced technologies to carry out the purposes specified in subsection (a).

(12) An identification of recent technological advancements in the following:

(A) Manned aircraft sensor, communication, and common operating picture technology.

(B) Unmanned aerial systems and related technology, including counter-unmanned aerial system technology.

(C) Surveillance technology, including the following:

(i) Mobile surveillance vehicles.

(ii) Associated electronics, including cameras, sensor technology, and radar.

(iii) Tower-based surveillance technology.

(iv) Advanced unattended surveillance sensors.

(v) Deployable, lighter-than-air, ground surveillance equipment.

(D) Nonintrusive inspection technology, including non-X-ray devices utilizing muon tomography and other advanced detection technology.

(E) Tunnel detection technology.

(F) Communications equipment, including the following:

(i) Radios.

(ii) Long-term evolution broadband.

(iii) Miniature satellites.

(13) Any other information the Secretary determines relevant.

(c) CBP INNOVATION TEAM AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of CBP is authorized to maintain one or more CBP Innovation Teams to research and adapt commercial technologies that are new, innovative, disruptive, or otherwise emerging or advanced that may be used by CBP to enhance, or address capability gaps in, border security operations and urgent mission needs, and assess potential outcomes, including any negative consequences, of the introduction of emerging or advanced technologies with respect to which documented capability gaps in border security operations are yet to be determined.

(2) OPERATING PROCEDURES, PLANNING, STRATEGIC GOALS.—The Commissioner of CBP shall require each team maintained pursuant to paragraph (1) to establish the following:

(A) Operating procedures that include specificity regarding roles and responsibilities within each such team and with respect to Department of Homeland Security and non-Federal partners, and protocols for entering into agreements to rapidly transition such technologies to existing or new programs of record to carry out the purposes specified in subsection (a).

(B) Planning and strategic goals for each such team that includes projected costs, time frames, metrics, and key performance parameters relating to the achievement of identified strategic goals, including a metric to measure the rate at which technologies described in subsection (a) are transitioned to existing or new programs of record in accordance with subparagraph (A).

(3) REPORTING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of CBP shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate information relating to the activities of CBP Innovation Teams, including information regarding the following:

(A) Copies of operating procedures and protocols under paragraph (2)(A) and planning and strategic goals required under paragraph (2)(B).

(B) Descriptions of the technologies piloted by each such team over the immediately preceding fiscal year, including information regarding which such technologies are determined successful and an identification of documented capability gaps that are addressed.

(C) Information on the status of efforts to rapidly transition technologies determined successful to existing or new programs of record.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 993.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 993, the Emerging Innovative Border Technologies Act.

As the tactics of the cartels evolve, we must ensure that our frontline Border Patrol personnel are equipped with the proper technologies to be prepared.

This bill would position Congress to better equip frontline personnel with the tools and resources necessary to aid President Trump in his mission to secure and protect the United States border.

I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) for his work on this matter.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are here today to consider my legislation, H.R. 993, the Emerging Innovative Border Technologies Act.

With this piece of legislation, the House has the opportunity to improve the Department of Homeland Security's ability to quickly acquire and deploy new and innovative technologies, like artificial intelligence and machine learning, to enhance our border security.

With more innovative technology, we can improve CBP's targeting and our

detection capabilities, which would help officers find and stop more illegal drugs like fentanyl before they reach our communities and harm our communities and children.

My bill requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to create a plan to address capability gaps and integrating innovative technologies into our border security operations.

This bill requires DHS to think strategically about opportunities to work with the private sector and others developing and implementing our latest technologies.

This bill also authorizes CBP's Innovation Team to work with frontline agents and officers to develop pilot programs that help them do their job in keeping America safe.

Their work is another great example of why Federal workers are so important to making our country safe and prosperous.

The innovation team finds and tests new commercial technologies and collaborates with companies to adapt them for use along our border.

These Federal employees also help companies and CBP navigate procurement and other processes that we need to move these technologies as quickly as possible to the front lines.

New technologies don't just help with catching drugs. These technologies also help detect victims of human trafficking or immigrants in need of a rescue. These technologies can also help Border Patrol agents communicate reliably in remote areas. When an agent gets ill or injured or runs across an injured individual, the ability to communicate quickly and effectively can mean the difference between life and death.

Advanced technologies will also help prevent long lines and delays at our ports of entry, and, of course, strengthening our supply chains and reducing travel delays will also be helped.

I am a longtime resident of southern California, Mr. Speaker. I have been at the border many times. I know what long waits are all about. These long lines, these waits, hurt our businesses.

For example, produce will spoil in trucks, rather than reaching our grocery stores. In fact, delays at our ports of entry between California and Mexico costs our economy an estimated \$3.4 billion in economic output and an estimated 88,000 jobs.

Besides this tremendous cost, no one likes to wait in line at airports. I represent Disneyland, and I know many tourists from across the world want to come and hang out with Mickey and Minnie, and they don't want to wait to spend those tourist dollars in my district.

While we need more manpower at our ports of entry, technologies will help get people and goods across our borders quickly and safely.

This bill is just one of many solutions we need to fix the border.

I thank Congressman LUTTRELL and his team for working with us on this legislation.

I look forward to working together on a variety of bills that this Congress has to offer to show the American people that we can work across the aisle to keep them safe and our economy moving forward.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1645

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 993, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 993.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DECOUPLING FROM FOREIGN ADVERSARIAL BATTERY DEPENDENCE ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1166) to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from procuring certain foreign-made batteries, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1166

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 "Decoupling from Foreign Adversarial Battery Dependence Act".

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR PROCUREMENT OF CERTAIN BATTERIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on October 1, 2027, none of the funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Homeland Security may be obligated to procure a battery produced by an entity specified in subsection (b).

(b) ENTITIES SPECIFIED.—The entities specified in this subsection are the following:

- (1) Contemporary Amperex Technology Company, Limited (also known as "CATL").
- (2) BYD Company, Limited.
- (3) Envision Energy, Limited.
- (4) EVE Energy Company, Limited.
- (5) Gotion High tech Company, Limited.
- (6) Hithium Energy Storage Technology company, Limited.

(7) Any entity on any list required under clauses (i), (ii), (iv), or (v) of section 2(d)(2)(B) of Public Law 117-78 (commonly referred to as the "Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act").

(8) Any entity identified by the Secretary of Defense as a Chinese military company pursuant to section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (10 U.S.C. 113 note).

(9) Any entity included in Supplement No. 4 to part 744 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

(10) Any subsidiary or successor to an entity specified in paragraphs (1) through (9).

(c) TREATMENT OF PRODUCTION.—For purposes of this section, a battery shall be treated as produced by an entity specified in subsection (b) if such entity—

(1) assembles or manufactures the final product that uses such battery; or

(2) creates or otherwise provides a majority of the components used in such battery.

(d) WAIVERS.—

(1) RELATING TO ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may waive the prohibition under subsection (a) if the Secretary assesses in the affirmative all of the following:

(A) The batteries to be procured do not pose a national security, data, or infrastructure risk to the United States.

(B) There is no available alternative to procure batteries that are—

(i) of similar or better cost and quality; and

(ii) produced by an entity not specified in subsection (b).

(2) RELATING TO RESEARCH.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may waive the prohibition under subsection (a) if the Secretary determines that the batteries to be procured are for the sole purpose of research, evaluation, training, testing, or analysis.

(3) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 15 days after granting a waiver under this subsection, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a notification relating thereto.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the anticipated impacts on mission and costs on the Department of Homeland Security associated with carrying out this section, including with respect to following components of the Department:

(1) U.S. Customs and Border Protection, including the U.S. Border Patrol.

(2) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, including Homeland Security Investigations.

(3) The United States Secret Service.

(4) The Transportation Security Administration.

(5) The United States Coast Guard.

(6) The Federal Protective Service.

(7) The Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(8) The Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers.

(9) The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1166.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1166, the Decoupling from Foreign Adversarial Battery Dependence Act.

Our world continues to be incredibly reliant on battery technology. Currently, the People's Republic of China produces the vast majority of the world's batteries. Dependence on batteries that are largely manufactured in an adversarial nation presents a serious risk to national security.

H.R. 1166 will prohibit DHS from procuring battery technology from companies with known ties to the Chinese Communist Party.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague from Florida, Mr. GIMENEZ, for his strong work to address this issue, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

My fellow Democrats and I strongly support the intent of this bill, which is to confront our global adversaries and build up an industrial manufacturing base here at home in the United States. We can't give the Communist Party of China any opportunity to undermine our homeland security, and I support the goal of this legislation to prohibit DHS from buying batteries from certain Chinese companies.

Due to a Democratic amendment to this bill in the last Congress, this prohibition was expanded to include any company using Uyghur forced labor or companies identified by the Secretary of Defense as Chinese military companies and those companies engaged in activities contrary to U.S. national security or foreign policy interests against the United States, according to the Department of Commerce.

This bill also includes Democratic language requiring DHS to produce a report on the potential impacts and costs associated with carrying out the intent of this legislation before it becomes effective. That report will help the DHS and Congress manage any unanticipated negative consequences of this legislation.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GIMENEZ).

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1166, the Decoupling from Foreign Adversarial Battery Dependence Act.

As Communist China seeks to gain influence in critical industries around the world, the United States must be at the forefront of combating and decoupling from the CCP. This includes battery technology.

As we become more and more dependent on battery technology, we need to ensure that these batteries are sourced

from nonadversarial countries. As it stands, Communist China produces approximately 80 percent of the world's batteries and roughly 70 percent of the world's lithium ion batteries. This dependence puts U.S. supply chains at risk and threatens our national security.

Our government should not be spending tax dollars to procure batteries from companies that profit from slave labor or provide another avenue for the CCP to expand their surveillance apparatus here in the United States. As an agency tasked with protecting the homeland, the Department of Homeland Security should not be procuring batteries from a geopolitical adversary.

H.R. 1166, the Decoupling from Foreign Adversarial Battery Dependence Act, is a critical first step in addressing this issue. Modeled after previous provisions included in the FY 2024 NDAA, my legislation builds off of these efforts and prohibits the Department of Homeland Security from procuring batteries from companies that have deep ties to the CCP and engage in human rights abuses.

H.R. 1166 helps our Nation take a step forward in advancing our efforts to decouple from the PRC and safeguard critical supply chains from exploitation.

I am proud that this bill passed out of the Committee on Homeland Security in a bipartisan manner last Congress and was passed on the House floor. I look forward to seeing it pass and becoming law in the 119th Congress.

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

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

Before I close, Mr. Speaker, I will note that, in the last Congress, the Senate made further improvements to this measure not reflected in this bill today. I support advancing H.R. 1166 today so that the Senate can continue to work on this measure. I also thank Mr. GIMENEZ for this legislation.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1166, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1166.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Matthew Hanley, one of his secretaries.

PRODUCING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES FOR HOMELAND SECURITY ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1692) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enable secure and trustworthy technology through other transaction contracting authority, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1692

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 “Producing Advanced Technologies for Homeland Security Act” or the “PATHS Act”.

SEC. 2. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACQUISITION PILOT PROGRAM EXTENSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 831 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Until September 30, 2024, and subject to subsection (d)” and inserting “Until September 30, 2028, and subject to subsection (c)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) OTHER TRANSACTION AUTHORITY INVOLVING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Not later than 72 hours after the use or extension of the transaction authority authorized under paragraph (1) involving artificial intelligence technology, the Secretary shall notify the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and offer a briefing explaining the reason for the use or extension.”; and

(2) in subsection (c)(1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “September 30, 2024” and inserting “September 30, 2028”.

(b) REDUCTION IN AMOUNT OF COVERED CONTRACT AWARD.—Subparagraph (A) of section 7113(d)(1) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (6 U.S.C. 112 note; Public Law 117-263) is amended by striking “\$4,000,000” and inserting “\$1,000,000”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 1692.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 1692, the PATHS Act.

DHS other transaction agreement, or OTA, authority is an incredibly important tool in the Department’s limited arsenal of mechanisms to acquire new research and prototypes. This bill reauthorizes the Department’s OTA authority and also includes some common-sense transparency reforms to DHS’ use of OTAs.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST), for his work on this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

H.R. 1692 would once again allow the Department of Homeland Security to use other transaction authority, or OTA, for 3 years.

Despite the efforts of Democrats in the House and Senate, DHS lost its OTA authority last year because one Senator allowed it to lapse. OTA was a vital tool that enabled DHS to work with nontraditional government contractors to more quickly obtain cutting-edge emerging technologies that addressed evolving threats.

Since September 2024, the lapse in OTA, 50 projects have been disrupted, including 1 that led to identifying fraudulent documents, improving passenger screening, and enhancing disaster response.

Furthermore, 26 projects with approximately \$20 million invested in them, taxpayer-invested money, are at the risk of being terminated by OTA at this time. These projects include projects such as border security, cybersecurity, counternarcotic security, and a few others.

The expiration of DHS’ other transaction authority essentially will mean inefficiency and waste, things that will impede the Department’s ability to develop solutions to keep our homeland safe.

It is past time, Mr. Speaker, to advance this legislation and bring back DHS’ ability to develop novel homeland security technologies.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST).

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1692, the Producing Advanced Technologies for Homeland Security Act, which I am proud to have introduced along with Congressman SHRI THANEDAR.

The Department of Homeland Security has a constantly evolving mission. To meet those threats, the Department was previously granted the authority to enter into other transactional agreements, commonly known as OTAs.

These legally binding agreements allowed the Department to engage with nontraditional contractors that would not normally do business with the Federal Government. This includes small business innovators, public universities, and other cutting-edge technological incubators that help meet the

research and development needs of the Department of Homeland Security.

These entities have produced technology that serves as a force multiplier to our Border Patrol agents and include technology that assists agents in cargo and vehicle screening that can detect illegal substances attempting to be smuggled into the United States.

The applicability and usefulness of this authority has been demonstrated recently in my home State of Mississippi, as the University of Southern Mississippi played a leading role in developing sensors for unmanned vehicles for use by both DHS and the United States Coast Guard. Unfortunately, this was allowed to expire on September 30, 2024.

My bill would reauthorize and extend the program’s OTA authority by 3 years, to 2028, while also providing additional safeguards for the American taxpayer.

The bill would also require advanced notification to Congress should the authority be used in advancement of artificial intelligence technology. Given the rapid advancement in AI, it is critical that Congress remain informed and aware of how Federal agencies are utilizing AI to advance their mission.

To ensure greater transparency, the safeguards in this bill would require DHS to report on its website any contract in excess of \$1 million, reducing the amount that was previously required to be reported from \$4 million to \$1 million.

As we look to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse, this legislation has increased transparency requirements to ensure maximum accountability to the American people.

□ 1700

Again, I thank Mr. THANEDAR for his work on this important legislation, and I appreciate Chairman GREEN and the committee staff for their work on this issue. I urge all Members to support H.R. 1692.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives MICHAEL GUEST and SHRI THANEDAR for sponsoring this legislation. I urge all Members to restore other transaction authority to the Department of Homeland Security, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, again, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1692, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1692.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground

that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

SECURING THE CITIES IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1374) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make improvements to the Securing the Cities program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1374

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 “Securing the Cities Improvement Act”.

SEC. 2. STC PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY, METRICS, AND CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT.

Section 1928 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 596b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “high-risk urban areas” and inserting “jurisdictions designated under subsection (c)”;

(2) by amending paragraph (7) of subsection (b) to read as follows:

“(7) establish performance metrics and milestones for the STC program, monitor expenditures for the program, and track the performance against program metrics and milestones; and”;

(3) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “from among high-risk urban areas under section 2003” and inserting “based on the capability and capacity of the jurisdiction relating to preparedness and response, as well as the relative threat to such jurisdiction, vulnerability of such jurisdiction, and consequences for such jurisdiction, regarding terrorist attacks and other high-consequence events utilizing nuclear or other radiological materials”; and

(4) by amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

“(d) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report regarding participation in the STC program, the establishment of metrics and milestones for the STC program, performance against such metrics and milestones, and plans for any changes to the STC program.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 1374.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1374, the Securing the Cities Improvement Act.

Since the inception of DHS’ Securing the Cities program, uncertainty about standards to qualify as a high-risk area and metrics necessary to remain in the program once admitted have been unclear. This bill will direct DHS to establish appropriate performance metrics and milestones.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CARTER from Louisiana for his work on this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are here today to consider Representative CARTER’s bill, H.R. 1374, the Securing the Cities Improvement Act, or STC. This bill is essential for enhancing cities’ security against nuclear and radiological threats.

The STC program was created by the Department of Homeland Security in 2007. It began as a pilot program in high-risk cities to detect nuclear and radiological threats. Since then, it has expanded to include additional cities, offering equipment, training, technological support, and program guidance.

The program supports major events by ensuring cities are prepared for potential threats. However, its reliance on the annual Urban Area Security Initiative, or UASI, designations creates uncertainty for local governments, as the designated high-risk areas can change, and they usually do.

This bill aims to improve the program’s stability and strengthen partnerships with at-risk cities by allowing the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office to select STC cities based on their preparedness capabilities rather than UASI designations.

The bill, Mr. Speaker, also establishes performance metrics, enhances oversight of expenditures, and requires DHS to report to Congress on program participation and any further changes.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Representative CARTER’s leadership on this measure. I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 1374, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER), who is the author of this legislation.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative CORREA for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, the Securing the Cities Improvement Act, a critical piece of legislation designed to help us build and maintain our Nation’s security capabilities.

Specifically, this bill provides participating cities with more reliable

guidance and support from the Department of Homeland Security’s Securing the Cities program, which seeks to reduce the risk of terrorist attacks in high-risk urban areas, like my hometown of New Orleans.

I want to specifically thank Ranking Member BENNIE THOMPSON and Congressman CLAY HIGGINS for their support and for cosponsoring this bill. I also thank LOU CORREA for managing the bill today and Chairman GREEN for his leadership, as well as the Homeland Security Committee staff, especially Lauren McClain, who tirelessly led us through this effort.

The need for this legislation has been tragically underscored by the recent terrorist attacks in the city of New Orleans on New Year’s Day, which claimed 15 lives and left dozens of others injured.

In the early hours of New Year’s Day, a 42-year-old U.S. citizen from Texas drove a rented Ford F-150 pickup truck into a crowd on Bourbon Street in the French Quarter neighborhood during the city’s New Year’s Eve celebration. After crashing, he exited the vehicle and engaged in a shootout with law enforcement before being fatally shot by courageous New Orleans police officers who rushed to the scene, putting themselves in harm’s way to protect our citizens, visitors, and guests.

Prior to the pickup truck’s attack, the terrorist planted two improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, concealed within coolers at separate locations along crowded Bourbon Street. These rudimentary pipe bombs were filled with shrapnel materials, such as nails, screws, and tacks, and were designed for remote detonation using a wireless device found in his vehicle. Luckily, he was not able to detonate these bombs and cause any further carnage.

An ISIS flag was found in the truck, and the FBI confirmed that ISIS had not coordinated with the attacker but, in fact, had inspired him.

This heinous and sick act of cowardice not only shattered the lives of victims and their families but also exposed vulnerabilities in our urban security infrastructure.

While the New Orleans attack did not involve radiological or nuclear materials, it serves as a grim reminder of the evolving tactics of terrorists and the potential for more catastrophic methods used. It also underscores why continued security investments in New Orleans and other highly targeted cities with programs like Securing the Cities are so crucial.

The Department of Homeland Security launched the Securing the Cities initiative in 2007 as a pilot program to assist the New York City metro area in detecting and preventing nuclear or radiological threats. The program has since expanded and currently provides 14 municipal governments nationwide, including the city of New Orleans, with detection equipment, training, exercise support, operational and technological expertise, and programmatic assistance, which makes a huge difference.

However, the program participation criteria has caused uncertainty and inconsistencies for cities that rely on this support. Eligibility for the program is currently restricted to high-risk urban areas as determined by FEMA under the Urban Area Security Initiative program, under which the composition of jurisdictions can vary from year to year. This eligibility criteria led to some jurisdictions being funded and supported by the Securing the Cities program in one year but not the next. The inconsistency has caused great harm.

This bill clears up the eligibility criteria for the program so that it can be a steady, reliable source of support for cities. It removes the statutory requirement restricting participation in the program to areas designated by FEMA. Instead, it requires Homeland Security's Office of Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction to decide which cities to partner with for the program based on the jurisdiction's capability and capacity to prepare and respond to terrorist attacks and other high-consequence events.

This legislation also sets performance metrics and goals for the Department of Homeland Security to report back to Congress.

Through these changes, the Securing the Cities Improvement Act offers a more targeted and effective approach to national security preparedness and response. It ensures that our cities that need support are reliably equipped with advanced detection technologies and will have the infrastructure and training to utilize them ready at hand.

Last Congress, this bill passed the House and the Senate's Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and I hope it will be signed into law this Congress.

Passing this legislation is a proactive step toward safeguarding our citizens from the unimaginable. By enhancing our detection and response capabilities, we deter adversaries from contemplating radiological or nuclear attacks and reassure the public that our commitment to their safety is sound, real, and committed.

In memory of the lives lost in New Orleans and in recognition of ever-present and evolving threats, I urge my colleagues to support the Securing the Cities Improvement Act.

Let's honor the victims by taking decisive action to protect our Nation from future atrocities and future acts of cowardice. We are America. We stand firm in our protection.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1374.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I am prepared to close after the gentleman from California closes.

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

Mr. Speaker, let me start by thanking Mr. CARTER for H.R. 1374. This legislation will play a critical role in en-

suring that our local jurisdictions maintain the ability to detect and respond to chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats.

Without initiatives like this legislation, the STC, efforts to combat these dangers could be significantly hindered or even discontinued, putting the safety and security of our communities, taxpayers, and citizens at risk.

Passage of this legislation is very essential to preserving our national readiness and to strengthen security against emerging threats and those who would do us harm.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 1374, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1374, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1374.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 119-25)

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

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared on March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2025.

The actions and policies of the Government of Iran continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 with respect to Iran and to main-

tain in force comprehensive sanctions against Iran to respond to this threat.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 7, 2025.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 6, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 6, 2025, at 4:42 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 524.

That the Senate passed S.J. Res. 3.

That the Senate passed S.J. Res. 28.

That the Senate agreed to Relative to the death of the Honorable David Lyle Boren, former United States Senator from the State of Oklahoma S. Res. 115.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 495;

H.R. 901; and

H.R. 993.

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

SUBTERRANEAN BORDER DEFENSE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 495) to require annual reports

on counter illicit cross-border tunnel operations, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 402, nays 1, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 63]

YEAS—402

Adams	Crow	Harris (MD)
Aderholt	Cuellar	Harris (NC)
Aguilar	Dauids (KS)	Harshbarger
Alford	Davidson	Hayes
Allen	Davis (IL)	Hern (OK)
Amo	Davis (NC)	Higgins (LA)
Amodei (NV)	De La Cruz	Hill (AR)
Ansari	Dean (PA)	Hinson
Arrington	DeGette	Horsford
Babin	DeLauro	Houchin
Bacon	DelBene	Houlahan
Baird	Deluzio	Hoyer
Balderson	DeSaulnier	Hoyle (OR)
Balint	DesJarlais	Hudson
Barr	Dexter	Huffman
Barragán	Diaz-Balart	Huizenga
Barrett	Dingell	Hurd (CO)
Baumgartner	Donalds	Issa
Bean (FL)	Downing	Ivey
Beatty	Dunn (FL)	Jack
Begich	Edwards	Jackson (IL)
Bell	Elfreth	Jackson (TX)
Bentz	Ellzey	Jacobs
Bera	Emmer	James
Bergman	Escobar	Jayapal
Beyer	Espallat	Jeffries
Bice	Estes	Johnson (GA)
Biggs (AZ)	Evans (CO)	Johnson (LA)
Biggs (SC)	Evans (PA)	Johnson (SD)
Bilirakis	Ezell	Johnson (TX)
Bishop	Fallon	Jordan
Bonamici	Fedorchak	Joyce (OH)
Bost	Feenstra	Joyce (PA)
Boyle (PA)	Fields	Kaptur
Brecheen	Figures	Kean
Bresnahan	Finstad	Keating
Brown	Fischbach	Kelly (IL)
Brownley	Fitzgerald	Kelly (MS)
Buchanan	Fitzpatrick	Kelly (PA)
Budzinski	Fleischmann	Kennedy (NY)
Burchett	Fletcher	Kennedy (UT)
Burlison	Flood	Khanna
Bynum	Fong	Kiggans (VA)
Calvert	Foster	Kiley (CA)
Cammack	Foushee	Kim
Carbajal	Fox	Knott
Carey	Frankel, Lois	Krishnamoorthi
Carson	Franklin, Scott	Kustoff
Carter (GA)	Friedman	LaHood
Carter (LA)	Frost	LaLota
Carter (TX)	Fry	Landsman
Case	Fulcher	Langworthy
Casten	Garamendi	Larsen (WA)
Castor (FL)	Garbarino	Larson (CT)
Castro (TX)	Garcia (IL)	Latimer
Cherfilus-	Garcia (TX)	Latta
McCormick	Gill (TX)	Lawler
Chu	Gillen	Lee (FL)
Ciscomani	Jimenez	Lee (NV)
Cisneros	Golden (ME)	Lee (PA)
Clark (MA)	Goldman (TX)	Leger Fernandez
Clarke (NY)	Gomez	Levin
Cleaver	Gonzales, Tony	Lieu
Cline	Gonzalez, V.	Lofgren
Cloud	Gooden	Lucas
Clyburn	Goodlander	Luna
Clyde	Gosar	Luttrell
Cohen	Graves	Lynch
Cole	Gray	Mace
Collins	Green (TN)	Mackenzie
Comer	Green, Al (TX)	Malliotakis
Conaway	Greene (GA)	Maloy
Correa	Griffith	Mann
Costa	Grothman	Mannion
Courtney	Guest	Massie
Craig	Guthrie	Mast
Crane	Hageman	Matsui
Crank	Hamadeh (AZ)	McBath
Crawford	Harder (CA)	McBride
Crenshaw	Haridopolos	McCaul
Crockett	Harrigan	McClain

McClain Delaney	Perry	Stauber
McClellan	Peters	Stefanik
McClintock	Pettersen	Steil
McCollum	Pfluger	Steube
McCormick	Pingree	Stevens
McDonald Rivet	Pocan	Strickland
McDowell	Pou	Strong
McGarvey	Quigley	Stutzman
McGovern	Ramirez	Subramanyam
McGuire	Randall	Suozzi
McIver	Reschenthaler	Swalwell
Meeks	Riley (NY)	Sykes
Menendez	Rivas	Takano
Messmer	Rogers (AL)	Taylor
Meuser	Rogers (KY)	Tenney
Mfume	Rose	Thanedar
Miller (IL)	Ross	Thompson (CA)
Miller (OH)	Rouzer	Thompson (MS)
Miller (WV)	Roy	Thompson (PA)
Miller-Meeks	Ruiz	Tiffany
Mills	Rulli	Titus
Min	Rutherford	Tokuda
Moolenaar	Ryan	Tonko
Moore (AL)	Salazar	Torres (CA)
Moore (NC)	Salinas	Torres (NY)
Moore (UT)	Sánchez	Trahan
Moore (WV)	Scallise	Tran
Moran	Scanlon	Turner (OH)
Morelle	Schakowsky	Underwood
Morrison	Schmidt	Valadao
Moskowitz	Schneider	Van Drew
Moulton	Scholten	Van Duyne
Mrvan	Schrier	Vargas
Murphy	Schweikert	Vasquez
Nadler	Scott (VA)	Veasey
Neal	Scott, Austin	Velázquez
Neguse	Scott, David	Vindman
Nehls	Self	Walberg
Newhouse	Sessions	Wasserman
Norcross	Sewell	Schultz
Norman	Sherman	Waters
Obornolte	Shreve	Watson Coleman
Ocasio-Cortez	Simon	Weber (TX)
Ogles	Simpson	Webster (FL)
Olszewski	Smith (MO)	Westerman
Omar	Smith (NE)	Whitesides
Onder	Smith (NJ)	Wied
Owens	Smith (WA)	Williams (GA)
Pallone	Smucker	Williams (TX)
Palmer	Sorensen	Wittman
Panetta	Soto	Womack
Pappas	Spartz	Yakym
Pelosi	Stansbury	Zinke
Perez	Stanton	

NAYS—1

Tlaib

NOT VOTING—29

Auchincloss	Hunt	Nunn (IA)
Boebert	Kamlager-Dove	Pressley
Casar	LaMalfa	Raskin
Connolly	Letlow	Sherrill
Doggett	Liccardo	Timmons
Garcia (CA)	Loudermilk	Van Orden
Goldman (NY)	Magaziner	Wagner
Gottheimer	Meng	Wilson (FL)
Grijalva	Moore (WI)	Wilson (SC)
Himes	Mullin	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1851

Mr. CLYBURN changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESEARCH SECURITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN DHS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIMENEZ). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 901) to require the

Under Secretary of the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security to develop a Department-wide policy and process to safeguard research and development from unauthorized access to or disclosure of sensitive information in research and development acquisitions, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 1, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 64]

YEAS—410

Adams	Collins	Golden (ME)
Aderholt	Comer	Goldman (TX)
Aguilar	Conaway	Gomez
Alford	Connolly	Gonzales, Tony
Allen	Correa	Gonzalez, V.
Amo	Costa	Gooden
Amodei (NV)	Courtney	Goodlander
Ansari	Craig	Gosar
Arrington	Crane	Graves
Babin	Crank	Gray
Bacon	Crenshaw	Green (TN)
Baird	Crockett	Green, Al (TX)
Balderson	Crow	Greene (GA)
Balint	Cuellar	Griffith
Barr	Dauids (KS)	Grothman
Barragán	Davidson	Guest
Barrett	Davis (IL)	Guthrie
Baumgartner	De La Cruz	Hageman
Bean (FL)	Dean (PA)	Hamadeh (AZ)
Beatty	DeGette	Harder (CA)
Begich	DeLauro	Harrigan
Bell	DelBene	Harris (MD)
Bentz	Deluzio	Harris (NC)
Bera	DeSaulnier	Harshbarger
Bergman	DesJarlais	Hayes
Beyer	Dexter	Hern (OK)
Bice	Diaz-Balart	Higgins (LA)
Biggs (AZ)	Dingell	Hill (AR)
Biggs (SC)	Doggett	Himes
Bilirakis	Donalds	Hinson
Bishop	Downing	Horsford
Bonamici	Dunn (FL)	Houchin
Bost	Edwards	Houlahan
Boyle (PA)	Elfreth	Hoyer
Brecheen	Ellzey	Hoyle (OR)
Bresnahan	Emmer	Hudson
Brown	Escobar	Huffman
Brownley	Espallat	Huizenga
Buchanan	Estes	Hurd (CO)
Budzinski	Evans (CO)	Issa
Burchett	Evans (PA)	Ivey
Burlison	Ezell	Jack
Bynum	Fedorchak	Jackson (IL)
Calvert	Feenstra	Jackson (TX)
Cammack	Fields	Jacobs
Carbajal	Figures	James
Carey	Finstad	Jayapal
Carson	Fischbach	Jeffries
Carter (GA)	Fitzgerald	Johnson (GA)
Carter (LA)	Fitzpatrick	Johnson (LA)
Carter (TX)	Fleischmann	Johnson (SD)
Casar	Fletcher	Johnson (TX)
Case	Flood	Jordan
Casten	Fong	Joyce (OH)
Castor (FL)	Foster	Joyce (PA)
Castro (TX)	Foushee	Kamlager-Dove
Cherfilus-	Fox	Kaptur
McCormick	Frankel, Lois	Kean
Chu	Franklin, Scott	Keating
Ciscomani	Friedman	Kelly (IL)
Cisneros	Frost	Kelly (MS)
Clark (MA)	Fry	Kennedy (NY)
Clarke (NY)	Fulcher	Kennedy (UT)
Cleaver	Garamendi	Khanna
Cline	Garbarino	Kiggans (VA)
Cloud	Garcia (IL)	Kiley (CA)
Clyburn	Garcia (TX)	Kim
Clyde	Gill (TX)	Knott
Cohen	Gillen	Krishnamoorthi
Cole	Jimenez	Kustoff

LaHood Mrvan
LaLota Murphy
LaMalfa Nadler
Landsman Neal
Langworthy Neguse
Larsen (WA) Nehls
Larson (CT) Newhouse
Latimer Norcross
Latta Norman
Lawler Nunn (IA)
Lee (FL) Obernolte
Lee (NV) Ocasio-Cortez
Lee (PA) Ogles
Leger Fernandez Olszewski
Levin Omar
Liccardo Onder
Lieu Owens
Lofgren Pallone
Loudermilk Palmer
Lucas Panetta
Luna Pappas
Luttrell Pelosi
Lynch Perez
Mace Perry
Mackenzie Peters
Malliotakis Pettersen
Maloy Pfluger
Mann Pingree
Mannion Pocan
Massie Pou
Mast Quigley
Matsui Ramirez
McBath Randall
McBride Raskin
McCaul Reschenthaler
McClain Riley (NY)
McClain Delaney Rivas
McClellan Rogers (AL)
McClintock Rogers (KY)
McCollum Rose
McCormick Ross
McDonald Rivet Rouzer
McDowell Roy
McGarvey Ruiz
McGovern Rulli
McGuire Rutherford
McIver Ryan
Meeks Salazar
Menendez Salinas
Messmer Sánchez
Mfume Scalise
Miller (IL) Scanlon
Miller (OH) Schakowsky
Miller (WV) Schmidt
Miller-Meeks Schneider
Mills Scholten
Min Schrier
Moolenaar Schweikert
Moore (AL) Scott (VA)
Moore (NC) Scott, Austin
Moore (UT) Scott, David
Moore (WI) Self
Moore (WV) Sessions
Moran Sewell
Morelle Sherman
Morrison Shreve
Moskowitz Simon
Moulton Simpson

NAYS—1

Tlaib
NOT VOTING—21

Auchincloss Gottheimer
Boebert Grijalva
Crawford Haridopolos
Davis (NC) Hunt
Fallon Kelly (PA)
Garcia (CA) Letlow
Goldman (NY) Magaziner

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1859

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EMERGING INNOVATIVE BORDER TECHNOLOGIES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 993) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a plan to identify, integrate, and deploy new, innovative, disruptive, or other emerging or advanced technologies to enhance, or address capability gaps in, border security operations, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 406, nays 9, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 65]

YEAS—406

Adams Cline
Aderholt Cloud
Aguilar Clyburn
Alford Clyde
Allen Cohen
Amo Cole
Amodei (NV) Collins
Ansari Comer
Arrington Conaway
Babin Connolly
Bacon Correa
Baird Costa
Balderson Courtney
Balint Craig
Barr Crane
Barragán Crank
Barrett Crawford
Baumgartner Crenshaw
Bean (FL) Crockett
Beatty Crow
Begich Cuellar
Bell Davids (KS)
Bentz Davidson
Bera Davis (IL)
Bergman Davis (NC)
Beyer De La Cruz
Bice Dean (PA)
Biggs (AZ) DeGette
Biggs (SC) DeLauro
Bilirakis DeBene
Bishop Deluzio
Bonamici Desaulnier
Bost DesJarlais
Boyle (PA) Diaz-Balart
Brecheen Dingell
Bresnahan Doggett
Brown Donalds
Brownley Downing
Buchanan Dunn (FL)
Budzinski Edwards
Burchett Elfreth
Burlison Ellzey
Bynum Emmer
Calvert Escobar
Cammack Espallat
Carbajal Estes
Carey Evans (CO)
Carson Evans (PA)
Carter (GA) Ezell
Carter (LA) Fallon
Carter (TX) Fedorchak
Case Feenstra
Casten Fields
Castor (FL) Figures
Castro (TX) Finstad
Cherfilus-Fischer Fischbach
McCormick Fitzpatrick
Chu Fleischmann
Ciscomani Fletcher
Cisneros Flood
Clark (MA) Fong
Clarke (NY) Foster
Cleaver Foushee

Johnson (GA) Mfume
Johnson (LA) Miller (IL)
Johnson (SD) Miller (OH)
Johnson (TX) Miller (WV)
Jordan Miller-Meeks
Joyce (OH) Mills
Joyce (PA) Min
Kamlager-Dove Moolenaar
Kaptur Moore (AL)
Kean Moore (NC)
Keating Moore (UT)
Kelly (IL) Moore (WI)
Kelly (MS) Moore (WV)
Kelly (PA) Moran
Kennedy (NY) Morelle
Kennedy (UT) Morrison
Khanna Moskowitz
Kiggans (VA) Moulton
Kiley (CA) Mrvan
Kim Murphy
Knott Nadler
Krishnamoorthi Neal
Kustoff Neguse
LaHood Nehls
LaLota Newhouse
LaMalfa Norcross
Landsman Nunn (IA)
Langworthy Obernolte
Larsen (WA) Ogles
Larson (CT) Olszewski
Latimer Onder
Latta Owens
Lawler Pallone
Lee (FL) Palmer
Lee (NV) Panetta
Leger Fernandez Pappas
Levin Pelosi
Liccardo Perez
Lieu Perry
Lofgren Peters
Loudermilk Pettersen
Lucas Pfluger
Luna Pingree
Luttrell Pocan
Lynch Pou
Mace Quigley
Mackenzie Randall
Malliotakis Raskin
Maloy Reschenthaler
Mann Riley (NY)
Mannion Rivas
Massie Rogers (AL)
Mast Rogers (KY)
Matsui Rose
McBath Ross
McBride Rouzer
McCaul Ruiz
McClain Rulli
McClain Delaney Rutherford
McClellan Ryan
McClintock Salazar
McCollum Salinas
McCormick Sánchez
McDonald Rivet Scalise
McDowell Scanlon
McGarvey Schakowsky
McGovern Schmidt
McGuire Schneider
McIver Scholten
Meeks Schrier
Menendez Schweikert
Messmer Scott (VA)
Meuser Scott, Austin

NAYS—9

Casar Norman
Dexter Ocasio-Cortez
Lee (PA) Omar

NOT VOTING—17

Auchincloss Grijalva
Boebert Hunt
Fitzgerald Letlow
Garcia (CA) Magaziner
Goldman (NY) Meng
Gottheimer Mullin

□ 1906

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 63; YEA on Roll Call No. 64; and YEA on Roll Call No. 65.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes because of an important family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 63; YEA on Roll Call No. 64; and YEA on Roll Call No. 65.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR A CEREMONY AS PART OF THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 17, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of North Carolina). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 17

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR A CEREMONY AS PART OF THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on April 23, 2025, for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the ceremony described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING JAMES MIN

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

Mr. FONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my chief of staff, James Min. He will be departing Capitol Hill.

James and I met as congressional interns. Over the years, he has become a close friend, mentor, and trusted adviser. On the Hill since 1999, James has held the title "chief of staff" for over 20 years, serving as chief of staff to House Committee on Ways and Means Chairman Bill Thomas; to Speaker Kevin McCarthy as the majority whip, majority leader, Republican leader, and Speaker; and became my chief of staff when I was elected last year.

James has not only dedicated his career to advising some of our top lawmakers but also devoted countless hours to mentoring the next generation of congressional staffers and public servants.

Mr. Speaker, I thank James for his constant support and loyalty. James helped develop and implement policies that made our country stronger. Words cannot describe the positive impact he has had on so many of us, and I am blessed to call him my friend.

HONORING FELICITAS AND GONZALO MENDEZ

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

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, Federal courthouses are usually named after judges, but history and the law are not just shaped by the judges who make the decisions. They are molded by the people who have the courage to challenge unjust laws.

In 1946, Felicitas and Gonzalo Mendez joined with the Guzman, Palomino, Estrada, and Ramirez families to challenge segregation in California public schools and won, which led to California officially banning school segregation.

My bill was signed into law earlier this year to name the Los Angeles Federal courthouse in downtown L.A. in honor of Felicitas and Gonzalo Mendez, the first Federal courthouse to be named after a Latina, which will stand as a monument to the bravery of these families and as a reminder that separate is never equal.

□ 1915

RECOGNIZING JAMES MIN AFTER 25 REMARKABLE YEARS OF SERVICE

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize James Min who will be departing the people's House after 25 remarkable years of service.

Within the California delegation, he served in a variety of roles for three separate Members: Representatives Bill Thomas, Kevin McCarthy, and VINCE FONG.

His unwavering dedication in service to countless Californians over his 25 years in the people's House is extremely admirable, and I know there are many other people who agree.

This institution and the world needs more people like James Min in it.

Mr. Speaker, I thank James for his many years of service to this great institution and for his friendship. May God continue to bless him as he turns the page and begins a new chapter in his life.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

60th ANNIVERSARY OF BLOODY SUNDAY

(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, this past weekend marked the 60th anniversary of Bloody Sunday where a triumphant march in pursuit of equality and justice for all was met with brutality and violence.

As I rise today, I rise thinking about the late John Lewis who crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, arm-in-arm with 600, 700 activists and driven by a conviction to secure the right to vote. I rise thinking about how 60 years later, we are seeing attempts to pull our country back in time, to bring us back to an era of barriers at the ballot box and restrictions on registration.

Mr. Speaker, as I rise today, I rise as a proud supporter of the John Lewis Voting Rights Act. It is a bill that honors the struggle and sacrifices of the civil rights activists who came before us, so that all Oregonians and all Americans will have our voices heard.

HONORING JAMES MIN FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. JACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. James Min for his 25 years of exemplary service to this House of Representatives.

A graduate from Stanford University and Georgetown Law, James served as the chief of staff to VINCE FONG; the 55th Speaker of the House, Kevin McCarthy; and chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Bill Thomas.

In advance of this speech, I consulted with mutual friends of ours asking for stories that best describe James. One of our friends likened him to Jozef de Veuster, later known as Father Damien, who was venerated for his selfless acts in service to humanity. Another equated him to "the Nature Boy," Ric Flair. Others shared wonderful memories from a specific fish market along the Potomac River, but a theme developed across each story.

James Min always puts others first. Hundreds, if not thousands, of folks sought his advice when they first moved to Washington, D.C., the first step in successful careers for many.

Jackie Robinson once said: "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." James Min personifies that statement and sentiment.

Mr. Speaker, we wish James well in his next endeavor as his legacy here lasts for generations to come.

CELEBRATING THE REBUILDING OF THE BRUNTON FAMILY'S DAIRY FARM

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

Mr. DELUZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a Beaver County staple rising from the ashes and rebuilding after a tragedy.

The Brunton family has been milking cows on their Independence Township Dairy Farm for seven generations. They embody western P.A. values of hard work, deep roots in the community, and connection to the land.

That all went up in flames in October 2023 when an electrical failure sparked a barn fire. It was a major loss. Half a dozen cows didn't make it out in time. The family and the entire community was heartbroken, but the Bruntons are western P.A. tough. The community rallied around them to rebuild. Now 15 months after the fire, Brunton Dairy Farm's milking operation is back up and running.

The new barn is packed with state-of-the-art technology and things like robotic milkers and the cows have come home. It is a classic western Pennsylvania story of toughness and resilience. We know these stories. I am so glad to join the Brunton family and all of Beaver County in celebrating their big-time comeback.

OFFERING THANKS AND GRATITUDE TO JAMES MIN

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

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I am glad to offer my thanks and gratitude to James Min, as well.

I appreciate the fact that when I was a brand-new Member of Congress, a while back, that he has always been a great help not just to me but to anyone who asks. I am grateful for his selfless public service. As was said before, I think it will last for generations. I am grateful, and I wish him well.

HONORING THE REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS OF NICOLE POSTAN

(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, this Women's History Month, I rise to honor and celebrate the remarkable achievement of Nicole Postan.

Firefighter Postan has made history as the first full-time female firefighter in the Margaretta Township Fire Department.

A native of Brunswick, Ohio, Nicole's dedication and passion for serving her community have set an inspiring example for all of us. Nicole's journey in public service is a testament to her determination and commitment.

As a certified firefighter and EMT, she has worked tirelessly to protect and serve the people of northwest Ohio. Now, as a full-time firefighter, she continues to exemplify what it means to be a true trailblazer.

Beyond her technical skills, Nicole's compassionate approach to service is evident in her work with children, teaching fire safety in schools. She also is pursuing efforts in education as she trains to become a paramedic.

Nicole's story will undoubtedly inspire future generations of young women in Erie County and beyond to pursue careers as a trailblazer and first responder.

This Women's History Month, I am gratified to tell the story of a brave woman who has broken glass ceilings in our own community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THE LATE FAISON KUESTER, JR.

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

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart to honor the life and memory of the late Faison Kuester, Jr., my friend who passed away peacefully at the age of 79.

A proud patriot, veteran, and fourth-generation Charlottean, he attended Myers Park High School, my alma mater, and UNC-Chapel Hill.

After graduation, Faison enlisted in the U.S. Army and served honorably as a first lieutenant in the 101st Airborne Division during the Vietnam war. As a platoon leader, he earned a Bronze Star for his service to our country.

After returning to Charlotte, Faison began a career in commercial real estate, founded his own firm, and raised a family.

Like his father and grandfather, Faison was dedicated to serving his Charlotte community. He served as chairman of the Civil Service Board, continuing his family's legacy of giving back.

Faison will forever be remembered as a kind, gracious friend and neighbor to all, always leading with his strong and abiding faith.

Mr. Speaker, our hearts and prayers are with Faison's beloved wife, Carol, their three children, and nine grandchildren during this difficult time.

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SHOULD SHOW UP TO WORK WITHOUT PAY DURING A SHUTDOWN

(Mr. VINDMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, as a veteran, I cannot support a budget that would cut \$23 billion from care for veterans exposed to burn pits and toxic substances during their service to our country.

This budget also harms local police by cutting hundreds of millions to COPS grants and justice assistance grants.

The Federal workers I represent know firsthand the disruptions and uncertainty that come when lawmakers fail to govern responsibly. Hard-working Americans understand that if you don't do your job, you don't get paid. Congress should be no different.

I am proud to work with Congressman FITZPATRICK on a bipartisan commonsense bill that forces Members of Congress to show up to work without pay during a shutdown. This would encourage real cooperation, prevent last-minute crises, and ensure that lawmakers are putting the American people first.

This budget is an unserious proposal that guts healthcare programs that Virginians count on. I won't vote for a bill that will lead to kids, veterans, and seniors losing the care they need.

CELEBRATING THE WYOMING VALLEY CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION

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

Mr. BRESNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Wyoming Valley Children's Association and their Cooking for a Cause fundraiser, which was held on Monday, March 3.

This event, hosted by the Brotherhood of Chefs, has raised more than \$250,000 since the cook-off first began in 2012.

The Wyoming Valley Children's Association was originally founded in 1923 to help children impacted by polio and tuberculosis. Today, they provide services ranging from infant and toddler daycare, therapeutic services for speech and hearing, programs for children with developmental disabilities, and more.

The WVCA does so much more for our children, helping to raise our next generation. Northeastern Pennsylvania has a history of coming together to help each other and build strong, vibrant communities.

I am proud to honor the Cooking for a Cause, and I am grateful for everyone in northeastern Pennsylvania who comes together to support our children.

ELON MUSK HAS NO IDEA WHAT HE IS DOING

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

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, we have heard for months now that this administration only hires the very best people.

Really? Let's look at exhibit A. This is the guy? This guy? This is the guy that keeps swinging around his big chainsaw? This is the guy who is going to fix government?

Let me state for the record what millions of Americans can already see with their own eyes and what Trump's own Cabinet can see and what my colleagues across the aisle are hoping nobody will ask them about.

Elon Musk has no idea what he is doing.

He has fired people who guard our nuclear arsenal. He has gone after the people protecting us from bird flu and Ebola. His own emails and directives contradict each other. He erroneously triple counted contracts to inflate the DOGE numbers. He has had to remove faulty claims and replace them with a page saying: Coming soon.

Mr. Speaker, the incompetence is shocking, and it makes us all less safe. From exposing our personal, private information to leaving Americans stranded abroad to kicking our veterans to the curb, we deserve so much better than this.

HONORING JAY BURKE III, GRAND MARSHAL OF THE 201st SAVANNAH ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jay Burke III, the Grand Marshal of the 201st Savannah St. Patrick's Day Parade.

This prestigious role is made even more special as Jay follows in the footsteps of his father, James F. "Jimmy" Burke, Jr., who led the same parade 28 years ago in 1997.

Their legacy is a testament to the deep tradition of this event, one of America's oldest and grandest St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

Jay has long been a dedicated leader in Savannah's Irish community, serving as a parade officer and as chairman. His leadership and his passion have left an indelible mark on our city.

This St. Patrick's Day, Jay will carry forward not just a family tradition but the enduring spirit of our community's Irish heritage that defines this parade.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Jay on this richly deserved role.

□ 1930

CUTS TO MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

(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, I recently met with a group of advocates for children with complex medical needs and disabilities. They all shared stories of their kids with special needs or that they were simply allies.

Their vision is that all children with these complex needs should have the medical care, education, and support they need to thrive. However, this vision will never be achieved by slashing the coverage of children on Medicaid or firing NIH scientists who are responsible for developing treatments and cures for rare diseases.

The plan to severely cut Medicaid and gut NIH funding is a serious threat to the health and stability of so many families across the country like the ones I met with last week. I will continue to fight with these kids for the care that they deserve.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

(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, we will be taking on the continuing resolution soon this week. Although it is the way we don't really like doing business around here, I would much rather we grind through the Appropriations Committee process, which is a lot more open, it is a necessary evil we have to get done in order to keep the government funded and keep things moving forward.

With what President Trump and his team have been laying out for us here, I think it is something that we can certainly deal with and get a good result as we grind through the following fiscal year on appropriations. Again, it is not ideal, but it is the way to keep things operating, and it does have some good pluses in it as well.

I also want to point out, as several colleagues did here tonight, the moving on of a good friend, James Min, who I first knew working in the Kevin McCarthy office when he was whip. He helped our team get up to speed here in this place when I was a new Member and my new staff as well. I really appreciate him and wish him all the best across the street, wherever he is going to be in those endeavors.

I thank James Min a lot for his effort and for just being a good, fun guy. We will see him.

SUPPORT OUR FIREFIGHTERS

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

Mrs. MCCLAIN-DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in defense of the National Fire Academy located in my district in Emmitsburg, Maryland, where courses were eliminated by the administration on Friday, effective immediately.

This academy, renowned nationally, is a place where each year tens of thou-

sands of firefighters and EMS join top experts to train with and share best practices in fire and hazard safety.

Over 90 percent of supervisors say that their firefighters were better prepared to respond to emergencies as a result of their academy training.

With ever-worsening wildfires and other severe national disasters threatening communities across this country, the education and training provided by the NFA has never been more important to strengthen our national preparedness.

While I agree that the government should run more efficiently, jeopardizing our firefighters' personal safety and the safety and well-being of our communities is never the answer. I call on FEMA to reverse this decision, and I urge my congressional colleagues to join me in support of our firefighters.

HONORING LIFE AND LEGACY OF ALICE ROKER

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Alice Roker, a dedicated public servant and a beloved pillar of the Yorktown community.

Alice made history as the first Black woman elected to office in Yorktown, serving as town clerk and a longtime member of the town board. She left an indelible mark, serving with grace, integrity, and an unshakeable commitment to the people she represented.

Alice was a mentor, a problem solver, and a bridge builder, always putting the needs of her community ahead of politics. Even after leaving office, she continued to offer guidance and wisdom to those who followed in her footsteps, ensuring that Yorktown remained a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Her passing is a profound loss, but her impact will live on in the countless lives she impacted. My deepest condolences go out to her family, friends, and the entire Yorktown community. May we honor her memory by carrying forward her dedication to service and kindness.

May Alice Roker rest in peace.

CONSIDERING THE PAINFUL TOLL

(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, this weekend in Yonkers, I met four constituents who have recently been fired from Federal service. Their human stories force us to consider the painful toll created by the cut-and-destroy method of management by this administration.

Departments are being slashed and eliminated and so are the lives of professionals who have devoted their entire careers to public service. Without

any objective assessment, years of work are being trashed with bogus claims of fraud and corruption. The ax falls regardless of skill, merit, or accomplishment. It falls without regard to the human element of people, not merely statistics, who serve the public. It is heartless and cruel.

Most corporations, even when downsizing, take into account the most productive employees and offices. They are strategic to achieve savings.

Every new administration is entitled to look at our Federal agencies and see what efficiencies can be achieved. This execute-first style of management is not that. It creates a stain on America, and it does nothing to make government more efficient. We should be ashamed.

AMERICANS ARE IN FOR A ROUGH RIDE

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today is the fourth worst day on U.S. financial markets since 2022. It appears the American people are in for a rough ride. Buckle your seatbelts.

Prices are rising already, and our financial markets are turbulent in the wrong direction. Economic recession looms ahead. Unemployment is increasing and so is inflation. It wasn't supposed to be this way.

The economic repercussions of the Trump administration's tariffs are far-reaching, and they are biting down already. They threaten to raise prices on everything, including automobiles. I come from an automobile manufacturing center. Increases per car may be \$9,000 to \$12,000 per car. That is unaffordable. Housing is unaffordable now. Now cars, now other commodities like items that everybody uses—gasoline, lumber, road salt, potash, oil, energy.

The U.S. and Canadian economies are interlinked. They are interlinked. These tariffs are propelling prices upwards. We don't want them to go that way. We want to stop the rising prices.

High tariffs impose undue strain across the board, and they make American consumers and businesses alike miserable. The cost of living is climbing already, and the economic stability many workers have worked so hard to achieve is being undermined, as I speak.

Now, today's news that the stock market took a major nosedive across the board is serious. The Dow is down 900 points, the worst market outcome of this year. But it isn't just this year. If you look back, the plummet that happened today is not pretty. Perhaps the President thinks that putting a pause on tariffs will halt this market crash. I mean, his proposals have been like this, but I urge this administration to realize it is uncertainty that the market does not like.

Manufacturers cannot reinvent supply chains one month at a time. This stop-start, stop-start tariffs and tariffing are producing no benefits for America while already-rising prices and crashing workers' 401(k)s. Look what is happening to people's collective wealth in this country.

Close to home where I live, these policies are severely impacting all of the people I represent across the Great Lakes region, the industrial and agricultural heartland.

Trade policy must be targeted carefully, and it should never cause chaos. That is exactly what it is doing, causing chaos. Let me state plainly: Tariffs on our Canadian allies are foolish. The businesses and people of northwest Ohio and all of Ohio and the industrial agricultural Midwest overwhelmingly oppose this careless administration's ill-conceived trade war with Canada.

Canada is our Nation's most fair trading partner. Our accounts balance when you look over a 10-year period of time. Our Nation should stand for free trade among free people, and that is what our trade with Canada does. Imposing tariffs on North American companies already struggling to compete with penny-wage labor abroad will drive our economy backwards off a cliff. Why would anybody want to do that? It makes no sense.

Tariffs will hurt jobs across our region's manufacturing belt, in the automotive industry, in the energy sectors. The significant harm to our economy cannot be undone overnight, and it is happening right now as I speak.

The regions' economies are intertwined across the Great Lakes, with iron ore and steel, auto parts and finished vehicles, crude oil and refined gasoline crisscrossing our northern border numerous times before getting to its final customer. To put it simply, don't hurt North America.

The American people cannot stand idly by while we throw out all the hard-fought gains we have made in American manufacturing since the 1980s; and, boy, believe me, they have been hard fought. Our region lost so many jobs abroad to NAFTA and CAFTA and China PNTR. We fought against those. We knew they wouldn't work, and they didn't. Now, we have had about 10 years where we tried to rebuild our region, and now this just as we are making progress. It is really disgusting.

Who would even think about changing tariff laws through a tweet that the President did at 2 a.m. in the middle of the night? That sounds kind of peculiar to me.

Tariffs and trade policy have to be carefully calibrated. Where is "The Art of the Deal"? This looks more like collapse an economy in 50 days.

Well, we don't want any of it. The American consumers are poised to be in recession. That is where we are headed. I urge, in the strongest possible words, the Trump administration to go back to the drawing board, get

some of the most experienced people—we can recommend some to you—to figure out ways to solve the problem you want to solve, but don't put our people out of work. Don't stop reinvestment in our region. Don't drill down into people's 401(k)s. Don't harm the industries that are producing the real wealth of this country. The train on tariffs at the border is going backwards.

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, we need to redo this Trump tariff regimen and produce a system that creates wealth, doesn't destroy it, that doesn't throw our financial markets into chaos, and allows regions like my own that have struggled so hard for decades to rebuild what was taken away from us.

Make us sound again. Don't do more harm to us.

We have just reached a point where we have to speak out against these dangerous tariffs. They are destroying our livelihoods. People can't afford groceries. Our food banks are crowded with people. These tariffs are already biting down. America needs growth, not recession.

Please, please, folks who hear my voice, urge the administration to redo its tariffs and take off this tourniquet around the whole northern border of our country that we share with Canada so that we can have robust growth again. We have worked so hard for it.

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

SENATE ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled joint resolution of the Senate of the following title:

S.J. Res. 11.—A 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".

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-522. A letter from the Director, Rule-making Operations, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Anthropomorphic Test Devices, HIII 5TH Percentile Female Test Dummy; Incorporation by Reference [Docket No.: NHTSA-2024-0093] (RIN: 2127-AM13) 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-523. 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; FMVSS No. 305a Electric-Powered Vehicles: Electric Powertrain Integrity Global Technical Regulation No. 20 Incorporation by Reference [Docket No.: NHTSA-2024-0091] (RIN: 2127-AM43) 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-524. A letter from the Supervisory, Program Analyst, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Ethete, Wyoming) [MB Docket No.: 24-667] (RM-11992) received March 4, 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-525. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, Office of Energy Policy and Innovation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Standards for Business Practices and Communication Protocols for Public Utilities [Docket No.: RM05-5-031; Order No.: 676-K] 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-526. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2025-0014; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00471-R; Amendment 39-22949; AD 2025-03-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-527. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Austro Engine GmbH Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2318; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00981-E; Amendment 39-22945; AD 2025-02-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-528. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2414; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00530-E; Amendment 39-22947; AD 2025-02-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-529. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31590; Amdt. No.: 4152] received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-530. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Depart-

ment's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31589; Amdt. No.: 4151] received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-531. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class D Airspace and Modification of Class E Airspace; Jack Northrop Field/Hawthorne Municipal Airport, Hawthorne, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2441; Airspace Docket No.: 24-AWP-89] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-532. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class D Airspace; Torrance Airport, Torrance, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2443; Airspace Docket No.: 24-AWP-87] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-533. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Mott, ND [Docket No.: FAA-2023-2223; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AGL-33] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-534. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Zeeland, MI [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2084; Airspace Docket No.: 24-AGL-14] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-535. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Austin, TX; Establishment of Class E Airspace; Austin, Lago Vista, and Lakeway, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2511; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ASW-21] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received February 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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. COLE:

H.R. 1968. A bill making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 1969. A bill to amend and reauthorize the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Sui-

cide Prevention Grant Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself and Mr. PAPPAS):

H.R. 1970. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reimburse State homes for the cost of, or to furnish to State homes, certain costly medications provided to veterans who receive nursing home care in such State homes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 1971. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to include adaptive prostheses and terminal devices for sports and other recreational activities in the medical services furnished to eligible veterans by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 1972. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the period during which the referral of a veteran, made by a health care provider of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to a non-Department provider, for care or services under the Community Care Program of such Department, remains valid; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. VINDMAN (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 1973. A bill to reduce the annual rate of pay of Members of Congress if the public debt limit is reached or a Government shutdown occurs during a year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 1974. A bill making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 1975. A bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to require States and political subdivisions of States to streamline certain fees relating to broadband infrastructure in order to receive grant funds under the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. BEATTY (for herself, Ms.

ADAMS, Ms. BROWN, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASTEN, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. MFUME, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 1976. A bill to require \$20 notes to include a portrait of Harriet Tubman, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin):

H.R. 1977. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study relating to obesity in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin):

H.R. 1978. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy to treat obesity as a disease and reduce the prevalence of obesity in certain Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 1979. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for the expedited consideration of certain proposed rescissions of budget authority and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget, 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 Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Mr. MACKENZIE):

H.R. 1980. A bill to reauthorize and make improvements to the State medical stockpile pilot program administered by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response through fiscal year 2030; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. CISCOMANI):

H.R. 1981. A bill to increase the number of landlords participating in the Housing Choice Voucher program; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CLOUD (for himself and Ms. GREENE of Georgia):

H.R. 1982. A bill to repeal and rescind any unobligated balances under sections 70002 and 70003 of the Inflation Reduction Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 1983. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to regulate tax return preparers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CRANK (for himself and Ms. BOEBERT):

H.R. 1984. 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 Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina (for himself and Mr. MANN):

H.R. 1985. A bill to enhance the participation of precision agriculture in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ (for herself, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. SELF, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. FALLON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. GILL of Texas, and Mr. CLOUD):

H.R. 1986. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 620 East Pecan Boulevard in McAllen, Texas, as the "Agent Raul H. Gonzalez Jr. Memorial Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. DELUZIO (for himself, Mr. JAMES, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. LANDSMAN):

H.R. 1987. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program to furnish to certain individuals items used for the secure storage of firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Ms. SEWELL):

H.R. 1988. A bill to amend chapter 85 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify that Federal civilian and military personnel excepted from a furlough during a Government shutdown are eligible for unemployment compensation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. ELFRETH (for herself, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BAUMGARTNER, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BYNUM, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. FIELDS, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. HOYER, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Mr. IVEY, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. PETERS, Mr. POCAN, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SOTO, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 1989. A bill to allow Federal employees terminated while serving a probationary or trial period to resume such period upon reinstatement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. ESTES (for himself, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. BUCHANAN, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BEYER, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. ARRINGTON, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. HERN of Oklahoma, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. STEUBE, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. CAREY, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. MANN, Mr. LIEU, Mr. BARR, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. AMO, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 1990. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the deduction for research and experimental expenditures; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FINSTAD (for himself and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 1991. 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.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 1992. A bill to prohibit certain activities involving kangaroos and kangaroo products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York (for himself, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. NADLER, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, and Mr. LANGWORTHY):

H.R. 1993. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States and to support programs at the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GOSAR (for himself, Mr. AMODEI of Nevada, and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 1994. A bill to promote the development of renewable energy on public lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. CARSON, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. CLINE, Mr. FINSTAD, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. MOORE of North Carolina):

H.R. 1995. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to publish, on an annual basis, an assessment on United States dependency on critical agricultural products or inputs from the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. HOUCHIN (for herself, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. GROTHMAN):

H.R. 1996. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to clarify the application of prudence and exclusive purpose duties to the exercise of shareholder rights; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. HURD of Colorado (for himself, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. DOWNING, Mr. EVANS of Colorado, and Mr. BENTZ):

H.R. 1997. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to reissue certain Records of Decision and Resource Management Plans; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. JACKSON of Illinois:

H.R. 1998. A bill to require the imposition of sanctions with respect to foreign persons engaged in piracy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JAMES (for himself and Ms. FOX):

H.R. 1999. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require staff and faculty to report foreign gifts and contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. HUIZENGA, and Mr. AMODEI of Nevada):

H.R. 2000. A bill to establish a program to monitor the Arctic region, promote United

States interests in that region, and combat Russian, Chinese, and other foreign malign influence in the region; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself and Mr. SIMPSON):

H.R. 2001. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a grant program for addressing dental workforce needs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. MOULTON):

H.R. 2002. A bill to amend title XXX of the Public Health Service Act to establish standards and protocols to improve patient matching; 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. LAWLER (for himself, Mrs. LUNA, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ):

H.R. 2003. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to lower the interest rate on Federal student loans to 2 percent; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself, Mr. LATTA, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. NORTON, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. TITUS, Ms. MCBRIDE, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. BACON, and Mr. PETERS):

H.R. 2004. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance on whether hospital emergency departments should implement fentanyl testing as a routine procedure for patients experiencing an overdose, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Mr. TONKO, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 2005. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide for certain adjustments to Medicare payment for items of durable medical equipment that were formerly included in round 2021 of the DMEPOS competitive bidding 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. MILLS (for himself, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. RULLI, Mrs. SPARTZ, and Mr. ISSA):

H.R. 2006. A bill to codify Executive Order 14210 relating to implementing the President's Department of Government Efficiency workforce optimization initiative; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 2007. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act to require an employer providing an employment opportunity to disclose the wage range for such employment opportunity to employees and applicants for employment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa (for himself, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Ms. DELAURO):

H.R. 2008. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an investment credit for certain domestic infant formula manufacturing projects and to allow a domestic production credit for certain infant

formula; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. OMAR (for herself, Ms. JACOBS, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas):

H.R. 2009. A bill to encourage the establishment in the Department of State of an Office of Global Criminal Justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 2010. A bill to prevent the President of the United States from withdrawing from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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 Mr. RASKIN (for himself, Mr. STEIL, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. VAN ORDEN):

H.R. 2011. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to the highway safety improvement program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SELF (for himself, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. KEAN):

H.R. 2012. A bill to provide for congressional review of actions to terminate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, the Judiciary, Ways and Means, Oversight and Government Reform, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMUCKER (for himself, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. DOGETT, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina):

H.R. 2013. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for eligibility for coverage of home health services under the Medicare program on the basis of a need for occupational therapy; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 2014. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for purposes of the tax on private foundation excess business holdings to treat as outstanding any employee-owned stock purchased by a business enterprise pursuant to certain employee stock ownership retirement plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 2015. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit hospitals from taking into account vaccination status in selecting organ recipients; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. SYKES (for herself and Ms. BROWN):

H.R. 2016. A bill to provide appropriations for the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 during the first lapse in appropriations in a fiscal year; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mrs. SYKES (for herself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 2017. A bill to ensure continuity of pay and allowances for members of the Armed Forces in the event of a lapse in appropriations; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2018. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for the inclusion of an additional use of Byrne-JAG grant funds; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. TRAHAN:

H.R. 2019. A bill to require covered entities to issue a short-form terms of service summary statement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. VASQUEZ (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

H.R. 2020. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include two counties in New Mexico in a certain Veterans Integrated Service Network; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself,

Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTEN, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DELUZIO, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. FROST, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. LIEU, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PEREZ, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. ROSS, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. SORENSEN, Ms. STEVENS, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TLAB, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 2021. A bill to provide grants to State educational agencies to support State efforts to increase teacher salaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas:

H.J. Res. 75. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator-Freezers"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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

H.J. Res. 76. 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 "Updates to New Chemicals Regulations Under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. GOLDMAN of

New York, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. NADLER, and Ms. NORTON):

H. Con. Res. 18. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the recognition of March 10, 2025, as "Abortion Provider Appreciation Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. HOULAHAN:

H. Res. 202. A resolution censuring Representative Lauren Boebert of Colorado for her recent disparaging and derogatory comments about Representative Al Green of Texas; to the Committee on Ethics.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H. Res. 203. A resolution recognizing the roles and contributions of military animals and their valiant human handlers for bravery in both war and peace, and acknowledging the importance of honoring their valor and meritorious achievements; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CRANE (for himself, Mr. BIGGS of Arizona, Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. HARRIS of Maryland, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. ROY):

H. Res. 204. A resolution removing a certain Member from a certain standing committee of the House; to the Committee on Ethics.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. GIMENEZ, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ):

H. Res. 205. A resolution denouncing the human trafficking and forced labor of and profiteering from Cuban medical personnel serving in third-world countries; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MANN (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. LATTA, Mr. FULCHER, Mrs. WAGNER, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. MOLENAAR, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. SELF, Mr. GUEST, Mr. SCHMIDT, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. ROSE, Mr. COLE, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama):

H. Res. 206. A resolution recognizing the importance of stepped-up basis under section 1014 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 in preserving family-owned farms and small businesses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. RAMIREZ:

H. Res. 207. A resolution recognizing and commemorating the contributions of contemporary Latinas in the State of Illinois; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. TENNEY (for herself, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. LANGWORTHY):

H. Res. 208. A resolution expressing solidarity with the New York State corrections officers striking for better working conditions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. NORMAN, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. AUCHINCLOSS):

H. Res. 209. A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 5, 2025, as "Barth Syndrome Awareness Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mrs. MCIVER, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TITUS, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H. Res. 210. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. YAKYM introduced A bill (H.R. 2022) to provide for the reliquidation of certain entries of golf cart tires; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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. COLE:

H.R. 1968.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law. . . ." In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States. . . ." Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 1969.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 1970.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 1, Article 8 of the US Constitution

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 1971.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 1972.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Mr. VINDMAN:

H.R. 1973.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 1974.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 1975.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8, clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 1976.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 1977.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 1978.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 1979.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 1980.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 1981.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. CLOUD:

H.R. 1982.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 1983.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article 1

By Mr. CRANK:

H.R. 1984.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina:

H.R. 1985.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3; to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ:

H.R. 1986.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. DELUZIO:

H.R. 1987.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 1988.

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 Ms. ELFRETH:

H.R. 1989.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18)

By Mr. ESTES:

H.R. 1990.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mr. FINSTAD:

H.R. 1991.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 1992.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York:

H.R. 1993.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into the Execution for the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.R. 1994.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 1995.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mrs. HOUCHIN:

H.R. 1996.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. HURD of Colorado:

H.R. 1997.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. JACKSON of Illinois:

H.R. 1998.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. JAMES:

H.R. 1999.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. KEATING:

H.R. 2000.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 2001.

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. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 2002.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title XXX of the Public Health Service Act to establish standards and protocols to improve patient matching.

[Page H680]

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 2003.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 2004.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const., Art. 1, Sec. 8

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 2005.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. MILLS:

H.R. 2006.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 2007.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa:

H.R. 2008.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

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. OMAR:

H.R. 2009.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art I, Sec 8

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 2010.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. RASKIN:

H.R. 2011.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. SELF:

H.R. 2012.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 2013.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 2014.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 2015.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mrs. SYKES:

H.R. 2016.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mrs. SYKES:

H.R. 2017.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 2018.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mrs. TRAHAN:

H.R. 2019.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. VASQUEZ:

H.R. 2020.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of the Congress.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida:

H.R. 2021.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. YAKYM:

H.R. 2022.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas:

H.J. Res. 75.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.J. Res. 76.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof”

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 22: Mr. FALLON and Mr. JACKSON of Texas.

H.R. 32: Mrs. HINSON.

H.R. 51: Ms. SIMON, Mr. CORREA, Ms. FRIEDMAN, and Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 173: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 175: Mr. SHREVE.

H.R. 178: Mr. DOWNING.

H.R. 284: Mrs. McCLAIN.

H.R. 288: Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 343: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.

H.R. 349: Ms. DELBENE, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. SHERILL.

H.R. 369: Mr. BERGMAN.

H.R. 381: Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 404: Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 407: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 416: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 425: Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. HUNT, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. FLOOD, and Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 433: Mr. MIN, Mr. LATIMER, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, and Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 447: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 452: Mr. OGLES, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. LIEU, Mr. CROW, Ms. POU, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. WHITESIDES, and Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 470: Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 474: Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 484: Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. LATIMER, and Ms. PETTERSEN.
H.R. 485: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 486: Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 495: Ms. GILLEN.
H.R. 515: Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. MCCLELLAN, and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 516: Ms. MORRISON and Mr. BERGMAN.
H.R. 523: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 539: Mr. LANDSMAN.
H.R. 593: Ms. MCBRIDE and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 600: Mr. HARRIS of Maryland.
H.R. 624: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 633: Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. GUEST, Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. HURD of Colorado.
H.R. 682: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.
H.R. 715: Mr. FALLON.
H.R. 722: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 747: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 755: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 768: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 801: Mr. GUTHRIE.
H.R. 830: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 833: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.
H.R. 842: Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. EZELL, Ms. KING-HINDS, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. LUTTRELL, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. MESSMER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. KIM, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. PETERS, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, and Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 846: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 852: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 862: Ms. GILLEN.
H.R. 867: Mr. MESSMER.
H.R. 879: Ms. SEWELL, Mr. MANN, Mr. VASQUEZ, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. TRAN, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 903: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 909: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. HINSON, Mrs. KIM, Mr. BOST, and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 911: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 929: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 944: Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 945: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 951: Mr. BUCHANAN and Mr. PFLUGER.
H.R. 956: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 971: Ms. ELFRETH.
H.R. 976: Mr. SELF.
H.R. 979: Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. ROY, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. RILEY of New York, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. ESTES, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. MOORE of West Virginia.
H.R. 987: Mr. HUDSON and Mr. SHREVE.
H.R. 989: Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania and Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 993: Ms. GILLEN.
H.R. 1004: Mr. SWALWELL and Mr. CONAWAY.
H.R. 1013: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 1024: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1026: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1035: Ms. NORTON and Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 1041: Mr. BARR, Ms. HAGEMAN, and Mr. DOWNING.
H.R. 1048: Mr. JAMES and Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 1065: Mr. STANTON and Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 1101: Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 1102: Mr. LATIMER and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1103: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina and Mr. MANN.

H.R. 1105: Mr. GARCIA of California.
H.R. 1106: Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY.
H.R. 1110: Mr. BENTZ and Mr. DOWNING.
H.R. 1111: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 1151: Mr. SORENSEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BALDERSON, Ms. PETTERSEN, and Mr. RULLI.
H.R. 1171: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 1181: Mr. TIFFANY.
H.R. 1195: Ms. HAGEMAN.
H.R. 1196: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 1197: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, and Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 1200: Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H.R. 1229: Mr. LICCARDO, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Mr. GARCIA of California.
H.R. 1241: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.
H.R. 1246: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 1262: Mr. OWENS, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. BACON, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PANETTA, and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 1267: Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 1269: Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. BACON, Mr. FROST, Ms. CHU, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. RYAN, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1271: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 1274: Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.
H.R. 1299: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 1300: Ms. TLAIB, Ms. CHU, and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 1321: Mr. AMO and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 1329: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 1351: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 1383: Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 1403: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1410: Ms. TITUS, Mr. VINDMAN, Mr. MORELLE, and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1417: Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia and Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 1421: Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 1422: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. MCGUIRE, Mr. MANN, Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 1423: Mr. VAN ORDEN and Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 1436: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1437: Mr. FROST, Mr. ZINKE, Ms. ROSS, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 1448: Mr. TONKO and Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 1494: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 1496: Mr. FINSTAD.
H.R. 1505: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 1517: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 1518: Mr. DUNN of Florida.
H.R. 1521: Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 1524: Mr. BACON and Mr. KEAN.
H.R. 1542: Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. CORREA, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1545: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 1549: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 1551: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. MCDOWELL, Mr. AMODEI of Nevada, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. DELUZZO, Ms. FOX, Mr. EZELL, Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. BACON, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 1564: Ms. BALINT.
H.R. 1566: Mr. STEUBE and Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 1575: Mr. HUDSON, Mr. SHREVE, and Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.

H.R. 1576: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.
H.R. 1577: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 1591: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1597: Ms. NORTON, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1625: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.
H.R. 1637: Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
H.R. 1638: Mr. STANTON and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 1648: Mrs. HINSON and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1651: Mr. MOORE of West Virginia, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. BENTZ, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. MANN.
H.R. 1656: Mr. LALOTA.
H.R. 1657: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 1674: Mr. FROST, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, and Ms. BALINT.
H.R. 1676: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 1684: Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 1701: Mr. SHREVE.
H.R. 1709: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1713: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1715: Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 1725: Ms. BARRAGAN.
H.R. 1742: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 1744: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1769: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 1771: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 1773: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 1781: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. ANSARI, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1786: Mr. DIAZ-BALART.
H.R. 1793: Mr. HILL of Arkansas.
H.R. 1808: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 1810: Ms. WATERS and Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 1820: Mr. AMODEI of Nevada, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BACON, Mr. STEIL, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 1835: Ms. DELBENE and Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 1844: Mr. OGLES.
H.R. 1866: Mr. MCCORMICK.
H.R. 1870: Ms. FEDORCHAK and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 1876: Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. ROSS, and Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 1877: Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. ROSS, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 1879: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 1897: Ms. BOEBERT and Mr. MCDOWELL.
H.R. 1908: Mr. HUNT.
H.R. 1909: Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 1916: Mr. BABIN and Ms. MALOY.
H.R. 1919: Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas, Mr. BENTZ, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. EZELL, and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 1920: Mr. VINDMAN.
H.R. 1932: Mr. MESSMER, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. MILLS, Mr. CISCOMANI, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. MACE, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. EZELL, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. RULLI, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mrs. BICE, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. MAST, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. HURD of Colorado, and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1939: Mr. BERA.
H.R. 1940: Mr. MEUSER, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. AMODEI of Nevada, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 1950: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1954: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. BALINT, Mr. CASAR, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1958: Mr. BIGGS of Arizona and Mr. RULLI.
H.R. 1961: Mr. QUIGLEY and Ms. NORTON.
H.J. Res. 12: Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CRANE, Mr. ELLZEY, and Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H. Con. Res. 12: Mr. BACON, Mr. HILL of Arkansas, Mr. MOORE of West Virginia, Mr.

McGUIRE, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.	HIMES, Ms. FRIEDMAN, Mr. CONAWAY, and Mr. MIN.	H. Res. 166: Mr. MESSMER and Mr. FIGURES.
H. Res. 23: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. CORREA, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. MATSUI, Mr.	H. Res. 155: Mr. FITZPATRICK.	H. Res. 170: Ms. OMAR.
	H. Res. 158: Mr. FITZPATRICK.	H. Res. 194: Mrs. MCCLAIN.
	H. Res. 160: Mr. FITZPATRICK.	H. Res. 195: Mr. LYNCH.
		H. Res. 201: Mr. VAN ORDEN.



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Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 171

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025

No. 44

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.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.

Eternal God, You are the "Ancient of Days," yet the ever-new God. Thank You for Your mercy and faithfulness. As the dew refreshes the Earth, so You restore us each day to newness of life.

Sustain our lawmakers in their work. Give them guidance and inspiration to focus on issues that truly matter. Provide them the wisdom to meet needs, solve problems, and lift burdens. May the talents possessed by the Members of this legislative body help in the awesome task of making our Nation and world better.

Lord, to those who are given the responsibility of seeking the ways of peace, empower them with creative stamina equal to this difficult task.

We pray in Your amazing 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 PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUDD). The Senator from Iowa.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, for my colleagues who are protectionists, I think that when it comes to the issue of trade, we need less of Peter Navarro and more of ADAM SMITH. I think the certainty that comes with trade policy will benefit our economy the most.

Hopefully, we don't have a government shutdown this week. I want my colleagues to remember that it costs money to shut down the government. It costs money to open the government up. There is even some money being wasted this week as bureaucrats plan for a possible shutdown.

The government is supposed to be a service to the American people, and you can't serve the American people if government is not functioning.

BOSNIA

Mr. President, I would also like to address my colleagues to remind them of the genocide of the 1990s in the Western Balkan region of the world and of the Dayton Peace Accords of 1995 that brought an end to that genocide.

For years, the leader of the Serb entity within the country of Bosnia, Mr. Dodik, has been threatening to have the Serb part secede. Remember that there was a war and a genocide in the 1990s because of people like Mr. Dodik acting like he is now. He has a predecessor serving life in prison for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

Many Bosnians who suffered from that terrible ethnic violence came to

Iowa for protection and have enriched our State and Nation. Many of these Iowans have friends and family still in Bosnia. I spoke to some of them last Friday about an escalating crisis with frightening echoes of the great violence of the 1990s.

Mr. Dodik was sentenced by a Bosnian court for unconstitutional actions that reject the authority of Bosnian state institutions. So rather than stop, he chose to double down.

The Bosnian Serb Assembly has now passed and implemented laws prohibiting the functioning of Bosnian state-level security and judicial institutions in that area. Provincial institutions there have been ordered to use force to stop and prevent the lawful actions and operation of the Bosnian state.

Bosnians who are loyal to their country or who these ethnic separatists do not consider Serbs, those people are at risk, including family members of my fellow Iowans. This concerns me greatly.

Now, the United States, through Secretary Rubio, is taking some action, making it clear that it is also of great concern to the Trump administration. Western Balkan stability has been a U.S. priority across administrations—Clinton, Bush, Obama, Trump 1, Biden, and now Trump again.

I am following this situation very closely. America is also watching who in the region is supporting stability and who is backing the return to ethnic separatism and the possible genocide that could once again happen. Remember, it didn't end well for those same people in the 1990s.

I will work with the Trump administration to make sure that we keep up the pressure on Mr. Dodik and his allies to stop and respect the Dayton Peace Accords that ended this violence in 1995.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

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



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S1619

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.

FILIBUSTER

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, last week the Washington Examiner published an article highlighting Democrats' third—third—filibuster of this new Congress. That is right. You heard it—third.

The party that mere months ago literally was gleefully making plans to destroy the filibuster is now using the filibuster left and right. But as we know, for Democrats, it is, "One rule for me, another for thee." As the Washington Examiner piece made clear, some Democrats are even embracing their hypocrisy.

"You use the rules that exist," one Democrat said. "I might advocate for a higher speed limit, but I still observe the speed limit until it is changed."

Well, OK, but are Democrats still crusading to abolish the filibuster while Republicans are in charge? The answer is, of course, not because abolishing the filibuster isn't about principle for Democrats; it is about political advantage. So Democrats will unashamedly support different rules depending on who is in charge.

Now, I could spend my whole time today talking about Democrats' rank hypocrisy when it comes to the filibuster, but I would also like to talk about the content of the bills that they filibustered and what that says about the Democratic Party.

In the few short weeks of this new Congress, Democrats filibustered three bills: the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act; the Illegitimate Court Counteraction Act, otherwise known as the ICC sanctions bill; and the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act.

The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act was a simple bill. It simply stated that a baby born alive after an attempted abortion must be given the same protection and medical care that any other newborn baby would be given. That is it. You would assume such a bill would be entirely uncontroversial.

Democrats may not believe in protecting unborn human beings, but surely—surely—they still believe in protecting born human beings. But as it turns out, protecting born human beings, at least when they are born alive after an abortion, is not on the Democrats' priority list.

In fact, every Democrat in the Senate—every Democrat, without exception—voted against this bill. And I am afraid the sad truth is, the Democrats are so deeply concerned with preserving the supposed right to kill unborn babies that they couldn't bring themselves to protect born babies for fear that it would eventually lead to

recognizing the humanity of the unborn.

All I can say is that a party that was so committed to killing unborn babies that it can't vote to protect born babies is nothing short of morally bankrupt. So that was the first bill the Democrats filibustered.

The next was the ICC sanctions bill, and that was another straightforward bill. It would have sanctioned foreign individuals who are involved in International Criminal Court efforts to investigate, arrest, or prosecute U.S. citizens or citizens of U.S. allies that are not party to the ICC or the International Criminal Court.

The bill was a response to the ICC's decision to pursue warrants for Israeli officials, and it was also designed to protect Americans and American soldiers, in particular, who had been targeted by the ICC in the past. But once again, Senate Democrats—with one lone exception—found themselves incapable of taking a stand.

Now, I am not sure if it was anti-Israel animus or if they were afraid of antagonizing the anti-Israel wing of their party or if they are simply too beholden to Big Tech, which lodged some tenuous concerns about this legislation, but for whatever reason, Democrats filibustered the bill.

In doing so, they not only failed to rebuke the ICC for its illegitimate targeting of Israeli leaders, but they failed to protect U.S. citizens.

The third bill the Democrats filibustered—and filibustered just this past week, I might add—was the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act. This legislation was designed to restore the original intent of title IX, which is giving women equal opportunities in education by ensuring that women and girls, and women and girls only, are permitted to play in women's sports at federally funded educational institutions.

The bill, of course, is a response to the growing problem of women's sports being invaded by biological males.

I want to quote for you something from August 2024. This is a United Nations report from just last August, a report from the United Nations on violence against women and girls.

The replacement of the female sports category with a mixed-sex category has resulted in an increasing number of female athletes losing opportunities, including medals, when competing against males. According to information received by March 30, 2024, over 600 female athletes in more than 400 competitions have lost more than 890 medals in 29 different sports.

"[O]ver 600 female athletes in more than 400 competitions have lost more than 890 medals in 29 different sports."

That is a quote out of a United Nations' report on violence against women and girls in August of last year.

It is not even remotely fair. Girls should not be having to compete in races that are stacked against them. Women deserve their own athletic opportunities—opportunities that are not taken away from them by biological

males who have their own spaces in which to compete. But try explaining that to Democrats. Democrats like to portray themselves as leading the charge on women's issues, but not one Democrat—not one—could bring himself or herself to vote in support of women and girls. Biological males, not women, got Democrats' support last Monday.

Well, apparently, Democrats' commitment to equal opportunity for women only runs so deep and quickly falls by the wayside when the left demands adherence to some new ideology.

The outcome of the 2024 Presidential election was partially a rebuke of far-left dogmas and ideologies. Apparently, Democrats have learned nothing from that electoral rebuke.

Today, the supposed party of the little guy, the underdog, the disadvantaged, has become a party willing to sacrifice born human beings to abortion extremism and equality for women and girls on the altar of transgender ideology. I have to say it is no wonder the American people rejected them in November of 2024.

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. CORNYN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BRITT). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, last week, I came to the floor to debunk some of our Democratic colleagues' myths, disinformation, mistaken information about the work of Elon Musk and the Department of Government Efficiency.

Ronald Reagan liked to say that facts are stubborn things. It is important to talk about the facts because, hopefully, even in Washington, DC, we can agree on the basic facts. We may have some different interpretations, different policy preferences; but facts are facts are facts.

Today, I want to do the same thing about the Republican efforts to extend the upcoming expiration of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, or what is sometimes called the Trump tax cuts, through the budget reconciliation process.

Now, I don't blame the American people or anybody else, when listening to all the process we talk about, and just their eyes glazing over and just tuning us out. But the truth is, if we don't extend the expiring provisions of this tax bill that we passed back in 2017, during President Trump's first term, a vast majority of the American people will experience a tax increase. And that, of course, is on top of a 40-year high inflation during the Biden administration.

I guess nobody likes to talk about taxes because, on one hand, people say: Well, you know, people need to keep more of their hard-earned money. On the left, what they like to say is, you are giving billionaires a tax cut and leaving average wage earners and working families high and dry.

The truth is, on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act bill that we passed in 2017, the individual rates that will expire at the end of this year, if we don't continue the current policy using the budget reconciliation process, 62 percent of American taxpayers will experience a tax increase. That is not just millionaires and billionaires. That is everybody across the income spectrum.

On the left, our Democratic colleagues, some of them have been claiming that extending these tax cut provisions, as I said, will benefit the very rich at the expense of the rest of us. Our colleague from Massachusetts, Senator MARKEY, said:

Instead of fighting for working people, Trump is selling them out to give billionaires tax breaks.

There they go again.

And to no one's surprise, our colleague from Vermont, Senator SANDERS, accused President Trump and Elon Musk of being "oligarchs"—"oligarchs." He went on to say: "The oligarchs"—that is the very rich people who have accumulated massive wealth, primarily in Russia and in Europe.

He said:

The oligarchs, with their tremendous resources, are waging a war on the working class of this country . . . the needs, the concerns, the ideas, the dreams of ordinary people are simply an impediment to what they, the oligarchs, are entitled to.

This accusation, if true, would be serious. But it is not true.

Representative NEAL from Massachusetts, on the other side of the Capitol, went so far as to describe the Trump tax cuts as a "reverse Robin Hood scam."

And the list goes on and on and on. It is almost as if there is a concerted or orchestrated effort to use disinformation and propaganda to try to prejudice the American people against what it is we need to do in order to avoid this huge tax increase on the vast majority of Americans.

But let's set aside for a moment the fact that President Trump won this last election—promising to do what? Well, to extend the tax cuts that passed in 2017.

We know, before COVID hit, our economy was hitting on all cylinders. All cohorts of the population—African Americans, Hispanics, everyday working Americans—were experiencing record-high levels of employment, and the economy was the best it has been in my lifetime.

We know what happened these last 4 years. We know that Biden economics, or Bidenomics, as they like to call it—I don't know why in the world President Biden embraced the name "Bidenomics," because it was associ-

ated with just so much misery and pain and a reduced standard of living by average working-class families across the country.

But we know that inflation—again, the 40-year high inflation that we have experienced in the last few years—has a disproportionate effect on low-income families. Now, that is no surprise because for your purchasing power, if you are on a fixed income or if you are just getting by paycheck to paycheck, the more inflation goes up, the more everything you buy costs.

And households across the spectrum are affected. We have seen that with our own eyes. And, in fact, I believe that was one of the reasons President Trump was elected in 2024.

When you spend a higher percentage of your paycheck on necessities, you have less of a cushion as prices increase. It is just common sense.

To add insult to injury, what did our Democratic colleagues do, when they were in the majority, in response to this massive inflation, which was the direct result of their policies? Well, they poured gasoline on the fire of inflation by using reconciliation to pass something called the Inflation Reduction Act.

Hold that thought for a minute because the Inflation Reduction Act, even at the time it passed, was evaluated and calculated not to reduce inflation.

Again, this is deception, really, at the outset, claiming that this Inflation Reduction Act maybe would have a negative impact on inflation. But President Biden himself later admitted it "has less to do with reducing inflation"—that is what President Biden said—and was full of even more spending.

Milton Friedman, the Nobel Prize-winning economist, would say the main cause of inflation is too much spending. You flood the economy with more dollars, and then, naturally, the price of everything tends to go up.

You don't need a Ph.D. economist like Dr. Larry Summers, who was probably the most prominent Democratic economist in our country, to tell anyone, especially not the President of the United States, that the answer to runaway inflation is not more government spending. But that is exactly what the Inflation Reduction Act did.

But that is not all. Not only did the Inflation Reduction Act do nothing for inflation, it actually did what Democrats have wrongly accused Republicans of doing. It benefited high earners at the expense of ordinary Americans.

You don't have to take my word for it. Just look at the data. Look at the facts.

By some estimates, the Inflation Reduction Act's electric vehicle and charging infrastructure provisions are projected to cost \$180 billion over the next decade. The average cost of an electric vehicle was nearly \$7,000 more than an internal combustion engine in

2023. So most working-class families, rather than pay \$7,000 more for an electric vehicle—assuming they wanted an electric vehicle—have opted for the lower price internal combustion engine. So the ones who were taking advantage of the subsidy of \$7,500, if you bought an EV, were wealthy people, by definition. So our Democratic colleagues, contrary to their propaganda and misinformation, have been the ones who have been providing your hard-earned dollars to subsidize wealthy people to buy luxury items like an electric vehicle.

Households that earn more than \$200,000 reportedly represent 42.6 percent of electric vehicle sales. So people who make more than \$200,000 a year represent 42.6 percent of electric vehicle sales, while those earning between \$100,000 and \$200,000 represented 32.9 percent. So if anything deserves to be called "reverse Robin Hood," it would be the Democrats' Inflation Reduction Act.

Given the inflationary and regressive policies that the Democrats promoted during the last 4 years, it is ironic—and maybe you would say even laughable—to hear them accuse Republicans of being disconnected from everyday Americans. The reason why Republicans won the majority in both Houses and President Trump was reelected is because he connected with the concerns of everyday Americans, and particularly their concerns about overspending and inflation, not to mention the border.

So our Democratic colleagues really don't have a leg to stand on when it comes to the facts.

Failing to extend the Trump tax cuts would mean—this is according to the Wall Street Journal—that 62 percent of Americans would see a tax increase in 2026. On the other hand, extending the tax cuts would result in a 3.4 percent increase in after-tax incomes in 2026, by some estimates.

In the 2 years after President Trump signed his tax cuts into law, the median household income grew by \$5,000. That is more money to spend on the necessities of life. And in the same period, real wages grew by nearly 5 percent.

Again, those are the facts. You would think that the facts would be something we could agree on, and then we can talk about policies. But, unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues seem to gloss right over those facts, while making wild accusations, which, frankly, are way off the mark.

Contrast this with President Biden's policies, slapping working families with an effective pay cut. With higher prices for food, gasoline, and other necessities, inflation-adjusted disposable income per capita during the Biden Presidency went down 7.7 percent. No wonder people felt squeezed, particularly if you earn a relatively modest income or you were a senior on a fixed income. Your purchasing power went down 7.7 percent.

The stark reality and the fact is, if Congress fails to extend the Trump tax cuts that expire at the end of this year, the average family of four making \$75,000 a year will face a \$1,500 tax increase next year. Working families will see the child tax credit cut in half.

So the facts are pretty obvious, as plain as the nose on your face: Extending the Trump tax cuts will actually benefit working families, and doing nothing, which is what our Democratic colleagues seem to want, will make them worse off.

At the end of the day, we work for the people we represent in our respective States. And, certainly, the voters in Alabama and Texas and in the majority of the country have made their preference clear. President Trump campaigned on extending these tax cuts. Republicans in the House and the Senate did the same. And we were rewarded with majorities in both Houses and with President Trump being re-elected to the White House.

Working families in Texas and across the country voted for the President and the political party they thought would benefit them the most, especially their pocketbooks and their standard of living, and they voted resoundingly for President Trump and congressional Republicans. So it is simply not true to say that Republicans are somehow out of touch with the voters that gave us the majority in both Houses and President Trump re-elected to the White House.

I know our Democratic colleagues are angry. They don't like being in the minority. It is not a lot of fun. But there is a reason. And they still haven't learned that the policies they promoted and that they sold to the American people were rejected on November 5. So sometimes, as Ronald Reagan liked to say—again—facts are stubborn things. So I would invite our colleagues across the aisle to look at the facts and maybe look in the mirror and say: What we were doing didn't work out so well, so maybe we ought to work with Republicans to change our policies.

The American people simply cannot afford a tax increase on top of 40-year-high inflation. I look forward to working with my Republican colleagues in the House and the Senate to deliver by extending the Trump tax cuts and to make life better for working families in Texas and across the country. And I would invite our Democratic colleagues to join us, if they will. I am not sure they are there yet. They are still pretty angry. They are still pretty upset. They are still—what do they call it? They call it the resistance. They are the party of the resistance. Well, right now, they are resisting what is best for the American people, and that is a bad place to be.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ABORTION PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, since 1996, we have recognized March 10 as Abortion Provider Appreciation Day.

I rise today, therefore, in gratitude for the doctors and healthcare professionals who bravely continue to provide necessary care despite attacks on reproductive rights and abortion providers, to express gratitude for the hard work and commitment of abortion providers and their staff across the country, and in remembrance of those providers tragically lost to extreme anti-abortion violence—providers like Dr. David Gunn.

On this day 32 years ago, Dr. Gunn, a dedicated medical professional, was murdered while walking into the clinic where he worked. Dr. Gunn was targeted by an anti-abortion extremist for simply doing his job—providing crucial, lifesaving care to his patients.

Tragically, this kind of violence against abortion providers, patients, and clinics has only increased over the years since his murder and even before. Since the 1970s, there have been at least 11 murders, 42 bombings, 531 assaults, and thousands of other criminal incidents against innocent people, doctors, patients, and staff simply providing or receiving necessary reproductive care.

Congress enacted the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act in 1994—more than 30 years ago—to prevent this kind of violence at our reproductive healthcare centers and clinics, and the Justice Department prosecuted people who violated this law.

Rather than supporting this law, within days of being sworn in office as President, President Trump pardoned 23 anti-abortion extremists incarcerated for violating the law. Moreover, his Department of Justice announced they would stop prosecuting most cases under this law.

As the Trump administration is taking steps to dismantle safe, licensed clinics that provide quality, lifesaving reproductive care, Republicans are also working to fund unregulated anti-abortion centers or crisis pregnancy centers nationwide.

Earlier this year, Missouri Republicans introduced a bill that would let their taxpayers take 100 percent deduction on State income taxes for donations to crisis pregnancy centers. Essentially, in Missouri, they want to redirect funding from critical State services to these so-called crisis pregnancy centers that spread dangerous misinformation while doing very little to actually help women seeking fact-based medical counseling.

Republicans aren't trying to help women; they are attacking fundamental healthcare and emboldening violent anti-abortion extremists by not prosecuting violations short of murder,

effectively eliminating any serious consequences for those who attack, threaten, or intimidate innocent people in reproductive healthcare spaces—patients and providers alike.

Democrats, on the other hand, remain committed to protecting abortion access and protecting the professionals who provide it where legal.

Today, on Abortion Provider Appreciation Day, we remember Dr. David Gunn and those killed and targeted by senseless acts of anti-abortion violence, and we honor the bravery of abortion providers across our country. These providers, their staff, and counselors continue to provide essential care despite the threats they face.

While Republicans work to ban abortion nationwide, we Democrats reaffirm our commitment to protecting and strengthening reproductive rights for all.

To abortion providers in Hawaii and across the country, mahalo for your critical, courageous work.

I yield the floor.

Madam President, 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. CRAMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

VOTE ON CHAVEZ-DEREMER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Chavez-DeRemer nomination?

Mr. BOOZMAN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 67, nays 32, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 111 Ex.]

YEAS—67

Banks	Hassan	Peters
Barrasso	Hawley	Ricketts
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Risch
Blackburn	Hoeben	Rosen
Boozman	Husted	Rounds
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Schiff
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Justice	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kelly	Shaheen
Cortez Masto	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Cramer	Lankford	Sullivan
Crapo	Lee	Thune
Cruz	Lummis	Tillis
Curtis	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Warner
Ernst	Moody	Warnock
Fischer	Moran	Whitehouse
Gallego	Moreno	Wicker
Graham	Mullin	Young
Grassley	Murkowski	
Hagerty	Ossoff	

NAYS—32

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Paul
Baldwin	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Kim	Sanders
Blunt Rochester	King	Schatz
Booker	Lujan	Schumer
Budd	Markey	Smith
Cantwell	McConnell	Van Hollen
Coons	Merkley	Warren
Duckworth	Murphy	Welch
Durbin	Murray	Wyden
Gillibrand	Padilla	

NOT VOTING—1

Fetterman

The nomination was confirmed.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT—Motion to Proceed—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session and resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 331.

The clerk will report the motion.

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.

VOTE ON MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question occurs on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

The motion was agreed to.

HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 331) to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1237

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I call up Grassley amendment No. 1237.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment by number.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE], for Mr. GRASSLEY, proposes an amendment numbered 1237.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask that the reading be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To improve the bill)

In section 5(a)(1), strike "6" and insert "7".

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 31.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stephen Miran, of New York, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

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 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. 31, Stephen Miran, of New York, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

John Thune, Ted Budd, Tom Cotton, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Tommy Tuberville, Katie Britt, Ashley B. Moody, Pete Ricketts, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Dan Sullivan, Roger F. Wicker, Cynthia M. Lummis, Eric Schmitt, Joni Ernst, John Hoeven, Jerry Moran, Lindsey Graham.

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. 34.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Keith Sonderling, of Florida, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

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 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. 34, Keith Sonderling, of Florida, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

John Thune, Ted Budd, Tom Cotton, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Tommy Tuberville, Katie Britt, Ashley B. Moody, Pete Ricketts, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Dan Sullivan, Roger F. Wicker, Cynthia M. Lummis, Eric Schmitt, Joni Ernst, John Hoeven, Jerry Moran, Lindsey Graham.

Mr. THUNE. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 200

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, with great honor, I stand before you. As you know, I have been in this Chamber for 10 weeks, and it is one of the greatest honors of my life to represent the people of Ohio here in the U.S. Senate.

It is especially an honor because I wasn't born in this country. I was born in Bogota, Colombia. My mom and dad moved myself, my sister, and my five brothers to America to find a different opportunity, a better opportunity. We are part of a long line of immigrants that come to this country to make this country stronger and to make this country better and to live our version of the American dream.

We know what happened, Mr. President, over the last 4 years at our southern border. It was a total and complete disgrace. It is a disgrace not just because of the unlimited amount of people that came into this country—almost 10 million encounters over a 4-year period—but it is a disgrace because that is not how we should welcome people to this Nation.

We should not have people who want to come to America pay a drug cartel to smuggle them across Mexico, raped along the way, beaten along the way, every last cent that they have robbed from them and their families, and then smuggled into the country, and then charged even more money when they think the journey is over. In some cases, the people come into the interior of the country and have to pay back enormous sums of money so that cartel members don't come into the country and find them and kill them or kill their family members back home. That is no way to have people come to this country.

Now, if you look at this chart—it is a very famous chart because President Trump referred to it at his rally—you can see immigration is not a new issue in this country. We have had a problem for a long, long time.

President Trump took office, and he put in place right here an Executive order. What that Executive order did is it said: Hey, you can only claim asylum at a legal port of entry.

So if you cross a river, if you scale a wall, if you go through a tunnel, you can't claim asylum once you get to the other side because, as we know, asylum is for refugees, people who are fleeing dangerous situations because of their race, their religion, or their political beliefs.

When he put that in place, look what happened—a total collapse of border encounters.

Now, President Trump left office, Joe Biden rescinded that Executive order, and we saw what happened—a massive spike in illegal crossings, devastating our Border Patrol agents. Our Border Patrol agents were totally outmanned. They were completely overwhelmed and unable to do their jobs.

Now, in the political season, Joe Biden put in place the exact same Executive order. What did that Executive order say? You can only claim asylum at a legal port of entry. If you enter through a nondesignated port of entry, you are immediately returned. Look what happened—another massive drop.

Now, here, President Trump took office and is now actively returning anybody who comes through in a nondesignated port of entry, and we are down to 8,326 border crossings in 1 month. At the peak of Biden, that number was almost 350,000. We didn't have to pass a law. We didn't have to hire new Border Patrol agents. We didn't need new equipment. We honestly didn't even need more wall. We needed better policy.

Mr. President, I campaigned to run for the U.S. Senate for 2 years. During that 2-year period of time, I drove to every corner of my incredible State. I drove to every corner of Ohio, and to a man or a woman, the voters would tell me: Please go down to Washington, DC, and do something.

The American people want to have faith and confidence that their leaders are actually able to come together and accomplish legislation that is purely common sense. So I present to you today a very simple bill—very simple bill. We don't have to boil the ocean. We don't have to reinvent the wheel. It is very simple. It says: If you are an asylum seeker, you must file a claim for asylum at a legal port of entry. If you are going to come to America and you are seeking asylum, do it at a legal port of entry.

No release of asylum applicants into the interior of the country. We are going to follow the law. We are going to have them wait in the prior country and—180 days, which is currently the law, which is being violated. Sometimes, it is 5 or 6 years. But they wait until their asylum claim is heard.

There is no second chance. Once we have identified that you have a fake asylum claim, then you can no longer claim asylum ever again. And anyone who enters the United States illegally is banned from claiming asylum.

We welcome people into our homes every day. We don't let people break through our windows to come see us because that is insane.

Now, I know that my Democrat colleagues are in a mode where they want to fight everything that we are doing, Mr. President, but we should at least come together on this.

As I look over at my Democrat colleague, there are only two of us—two of

us—in this entire Chamber who are naturalized U.S. citizens. We know firsthand what it means to be able to be accepted by this country. Ninety-eight were born here; two of us were not. We became citizens of this country, and we got the ultimate opportunity to represent this country in the U.S. Senate.

Let's come together one time and show the American people we don't have to fight about everything; we can actually accomplish commonsense legislation. Let's put in code—let's put in legislation those Executive orders that not once, not twice, but three times have been proven to reduce border encounters.

I can't imagine that my Democrat colleagues will fight this, and I hope that somebody who has been here for 10 weeks as opposed to my colleagues—some of them have been here for two or three decades, fail to understand that the American people are watching.

The American people want to have a Senate and a House and a government that can actually do something that matters a lot to them.

So I will yield to my Democrat colleague from Hawaii. And I implore you, let's show leadership together, you and I. Let's show this leadership and get a very, very simple bill accomplished.

Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 200; and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; further, I ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). Is there an objection?

The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Reserving the right to object, my colleague thinks that this bill will reform our broken asylum system. As the other naturalized citizen in this body, I object.

We actually passed comprehensive immigration reform out of the Senate in 2013, and I was one of the Senators who worked on that bipartisan bill. But when the bill got to the House, it didn't pass. So we are here once again.

And more recently, there was a bipartisan immigration bill that was about to be brought to the Senate, and everything was set to go until the current President decided that he would much rather have this issue continue to not be addressed. So there you go.

We can all agree that our immigration and asylum systems need reforms, but I have serious concerns about this legislation. My colleague has stated that this bill is intended to prevent those who come to the United States in between ports of entry from applying for asylum.

But as it is drafted, this bill eliminates the section of the law that allows people present in the United States to apply for asylum. This means that it would prevent anyone, even those who

have lawful status, from applying inside the United States. Instead, they would have to travel to a port of entry.

This bill would also require that anyone, including families, seeking asylum at a port of entry be arrested and held in custody for the entire time their request is pending. And it could take quite a long time, using taxpayer money, to detain them.

I certainly agree with my colleague that we need to do more to address our immigration court backlog, which includes many asylum cases, and improve our asylum system, but this legislation would not address these concerns.

Let me give you an example. This bill would prevent a Ukrainian fleeing Russian aggression who entered lawfully from applying for asylum from within the United States.

It would force them to travel with their families to a port of entry to apply for asylum. They would then be detained with their children while they wait for their application to be processed. These are individuals who have work permits and are contributing to our economy and society every day. They came here lawfully. How does making them leave and seek asylum at a port of entry improve our system? It doesn't.

Here is a reality: This bill and the recent actions by the Trump administration are not focused on truly addressing problems with our asylum system.

If the Trump administration was serious about improving our asylum system, why did they recently fire nearly two dozen impartial immigration judges without cause or notice?

They fired military veterans and expert judges who had experience processing immigration cases effectively. With a backlog of over 3.6 million immigration cases—you heard me right, 3.6 million immigration cases—we need more immigration judges, not less.

But the current leadership at the Executive Office of Immigration Review, which oversees immigration courts, has said they plan to fire more judges—exactly the wrong thing to do. This is no way to address our broken immigration system.

I urge Republicans to set aside this misguided bill and to stop taking a chain saw to our Federal workforce, including immigration judges.

Believe me, this chainsaw approach to what is going on in our Federal Government, if the administration wanted to create fear and chaos, if that is their aim, they are succeeding mightily.

I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to join us in good faith to work on the truly comprehensive, bipartisan immigration reforms we so desperately need.

For these reasons, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. MORENO. If I could just go back and just reiterate a couple points for my colleague. The Executive order

went in, border crossings dropped. President Biden—President Biden—put in place the exact same Executive order that, in effect, is this exact legislation. Border crossings dropped.

I am confused by my colleague's explanation about the Ukrainian refugees. If they are coming from Ukraine and they are entering through a legal port of entry, that is when they would claim asylum.

I don't think we have a scenario where we are asking Americans or legal residents to apply for asylum because, if you are already in the interior of the country, that decision was already made.

So if you are the Ukrainian family that you talked about, you claim asylum at the legal port of entry. The law says—which we are not following; this body refuses to enforce its own laws—is that we will adjudicate that claim in 180 days.

I absolutely never said they would be arrested. In fact, nothing in this bill mentions being arrested, but what it says is they must wait in the prior safe country. So in the case of Ukraine, they can go to France, apply for asylum there, wait 180 days, and then we will welcome them with open arms to America—the right way, the legal way.

I hope my colleague is not hoping for a scenario where that Ukrainian family goes to Mexico City, pays a drug cartel member a few thousand dollars to get smuggled across the border, across a river with a family where the children—who knows what can happen to them.

That is how you want refugees to come to this country? That doesn't even make any sense. There is nobody being arrested by this bill. There is nobody being detained by this bill. It is exactly the opposite. We are asking the refugee to wait in the prior safe country for 180 days, which is the law; and then once your claim is adjudicated, we welcome you with open arms.

My colleague mentioned that there is 3.6 million cases backlogged. That is true. It is a stunning and shameful number. What she doesn't mention is that 90-plus percent of those cases, a judge rules, once they get to it in 5 or 6 or 7 years, that it is an invalid asylum claim. It doesn't mean that they are not economic migrants. It doesn't mean that they are somebody who may want to come to this country. But they are people who are clearly not refugees. Not my thoughts, the thoughts of immigration judges that are making this decision over and over again.

But only in Washington, DC, only when you have been here so long that your head can't see straight do you think it is a better idea to have unlimited amounts of fake asylum claims. And the way you handle that, instead of changing the law, is to hire thousands of more judges to give the answer you already know, to waste taxpayer dollars that way.

My colleagues talk about Republicans being on the side of billionaires.

You know what billionaires the Democrats have created? The drug cartel members that are making billions of dollars smuggling people.

I went to a border crossing in Del Rio, TX. A border patrol agent let me come right to the edge of the river. I saw four people come across—two men, two women. The minute they landed, they got on their knees and said, "Asilo, asilo," which is "asylum" in Spanish.

I asked if they knew what that meant. They said no, but that is what the drug cartel had told them to say the minute they landed in America. They are not refugees.

Why are you making those Ukrainian families wait behind economic migrants claiming fake asylum claims?

Look, this is what is wrong with Washington, DC. This is an easy, obvious fix. The data proves it out. You put that law in place, border crossings drop. Biden, Trump, they put the exact Executive order in place.

Now, you don't have to take my word for it. On CBS just yesterday, Face the Nation—wake up on a beautiful Sunday and turn on Face the Nation. Margaret Brennan asked Congressman SUOZZI—I apologize if I pronounced his name wrong. Margaret Brennan said to the Congressman:

[I]llegal border crossings, as we just discussed, they are at a historic low. President Trump made that point when he was addressing Congress this week. Was he right that . . . he didn't need to wait for Congress?

We didn't need comprehensive immigration reform.

[Was he right] that it really was messaging from the White House beyond?

This is what a Democrat, a Democrat from New York says:

Well, obviously—

Keyword, "obviously"—

we've seen a reduction in crossings.

Why is it obvious? Because we know this works. We know that if we make asylum only at a legal port of entry, 180 days to process, can't claim it if you cross illegally—we know, obviously. His words:

Well, obviously we've seen a reduction in crossings. We saw it under [Biden at the end of his administration] . . . after he did his executive order to say, no, asylum applications are between the ports of entry. But we need to make it permanent law.

Democrat Member of the House of Representatives:

But we need to make it permanent law.

I guess after 10 weeks in the U.S. Senate, I should expect that everything has to be hard. Everything has to be a battle. But I can tell you, people all over this country, the people who don't watch C-SPAN 24/7, the people who don't go on X and read every last debate between their elected Members—they are just regular Americans who want to enjoy their lives, who pay taxes—cannot understand why we can't come together on something so incredibly simple, so easy.

The Democrat President did it. The Republican President did it. It works. This is not theoretical.

And to my colleague, I don't want those Ukrainian refugees waiting behind millions of economic migrants. It is not fair to them. Why would we do that?

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I hear my colleague acknowledging that the asylum system is broken. My objections remain.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. MORENO. I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 200; and that the bill be placed on the legislative calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Reserving the right to object. For the reasons previously stated, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume 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.

REMEMBERING MAJOR GENERAL EVAN L. "CURLY" HULTMAN

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I want to honor an outstanding Iowan who devoted his life in service to our home State and to America. This weekend, my good friend of nearly 70 years was laid to rest with full military honors, after passing away on February 16, at age 99 years young.

Evan L. Hultman was better known by his nickname. He was called "Curly" for his thick crop of curly blond hair. Throughout his career in the military, law, and politics, Curly never met a stranger. And he never let a blade of grass grow underneath his feet.

A stand-out athlete, Curly helped lead his high school football team to victory at the state championship in 1941. He was a multisport varsity athlete at East High School in Waterloo. In the ninth grade, he met the love of his life Betty Ann Hook.

Following graduation from high school in 1943, Curly enlisted in the U.S. Army during World War II. He married his high school sweetheart on October 14, 1944, before Curly served in the South Pacific in the 19th Infantry Division.

A member of the “greatest generation,” Curly served our country in uniform with honor and distinction. He remained in the Army Reserve for more than a half-century following Active Duty. In 1980, he attained the rank of major general.

After the war, Curly attended the University of Iowa, earning his bachelor’s and law degrees. From there, he delved head first into civic and political life. After winning election as Black Hawk County Attorney, Curly was elected Iowa Attorney General. This is around the time our paths crossed on the campaign trail in the Cedar Valley and when I started serving in the State legislature in Des Moines.

A lifelong Republican, Curly was our party’s nominee for Governor in 1964. He lost a hard-fought race to Harold Hughes, who went on to join this body in the 91st Congress. From 1969 to 1977, Curly served as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Iowa, under Presidents Nixon and Ford. During my first term in the U.S. Senate, President Reagan reappointed Curly as U.S. Attorney, and I was pleased to help steer his nomination through the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Following his three tours of duty as U.S. Attorney, Curly served as executive director of the Reserve Officers Association and the International Confederation of Reserve Officers, an organization of reserve officers in the NATO alliance. In this capacity, Curly helped forge lasting peace and security for former Warsaw Pact nations and some former Soviet republics. During his tenure, NATO expanded from 13 to 30 member-nations. Curly was named the organization’s honorary president for life.

Curly’s distinguished record of public and military service was recognized with the Army’s Distinguished Service Medal from President Reagan and the Distinguished Public Service Medal from the U.S. Secretary of Defense in 1994. His leadership for peace and freedom also were recognized around the globe, including from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Sweden, and Denmark.

Closer to home, Curly was a treasured, invaluable civic leader in the Cedar Valley. He helped raise funds for Honor Flights and many other veterans programs, including money for the Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum, for which he had a leading role in its design, construction, and fundraising. Curly was known to break into song and dance to raise money for local veterans causes.

For decades, Curly was a mainstay on the campaign trail, from the Iowa caucuses, statewide and local elections. He got bit by the political bug early, attending his first grassroots event at an early age for the reelection of President Herbert Hoover. And just last year, in sub-zero temperatures, Curly attended his precinct caucus at the Columbus Catholic High School gymnasium in Waterloo.

This Iowa Hawkeye turned statesman was larger than life and made life better for those around him. He stood on principle and leaves a lasting legacy as a peacemaker and patriot and his love for America. His greatest duty and devotion were reserved for his family and high school sweetheart Betty, his wife of 73 years. Barbara and I send our sincerest condolences to his entire family, especially his three children Stevan, Susan, and Heidi.

Godspeed, Curly. May you rest in eternal peace alongside your beloved Betty.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, as my colleagues know, since 1996, the Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 801–808, has provided an important tool for Congress to provide a check on certain Agency rules. Pursuant to the statute, the Government Accountability Office polices whether an Agency action is or is not a rule for purposes of the Congressional Review Act. Under that authority, in 2023, GAO decided that certain Environmental Protection Agency actions under the Clean Air Act relating to California’s emission control standards were not a rule for purposes of the Congressional Review Act.

Late last month, the Trump administration Environmental Protection Agency submitted three Biden administration actions as rules under the Congressional Review Act. These actions once again related to California’s emission control standards. Along with my colleagues from California, Senators Padilla and Schiff, I wrote the GAO to confirm whether or not these three actions were rules for purposes of the Congressional Review Act. On Thursday came GAO’s response. They are not.

Referring back to its 2023 decision, GAO concluded that “our prior analysis and conclusion in B–334309 that the Advanced Clean Car Program Waiver Notice was not a rule for purposes of CRA because it was an order under APA would apply to the three notices at issue here.”

To help complete the Senate’s record of this matter, I ask unanimous consent that the text of GAO’s letter be printed in the RECORD.

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

B–337179

March 6, 2025

Congressional Requesters

Subject: Observations Regarding the Environmental Protection Agency’s Submission of Notices of Decision on Clean Air Act Preemption Waivers as Rules Under the Congressional Review Act

This letter responds to your request for a legal decision as to whether the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Clean Air Act preemption waivers and Notices of Decision that EPA submitted as rules to Congress and GAO in late February 2025¹ are rules subject to the Congressional Review

Act (CRA).² Our regular practice is to issue decisions on actions that agencies have not submitted to Congress as rules under CRA in order to further the purposes of CRA by protecting Congress’s CRA review and oversight authorities.³ In this case, we are presented with a different situation because the actions were submitted as rules under the CRA, and it is not one in which we normally issue a legal decision. However, we do have prior caselaw that addressed the applicability of CRA to Clean Air Act preemption waivers, B–334309, Nov. 30, 2023, and EPA’s recent submission is inconsistent with this caselaw. Therefore, we are providing you with our views and analysis of preemption waivers under the Clean Air Act that may be helpful as Congress considers how to treat these Notices of Decision and the application of CRA procedures.

As background to these issues, we issued a legal decision concluding that a Clean Air Act preemption waiver was not a rule subject to CRA but was instead an adjudicatory order. See B–334309, Nov. 30, 2023. Furthermore, we explained that even if the waiver were to satisfy the APA definition of a rule, it would be considered a rule of particular applicability and, therefore, would still not be subject to CRA’s submission requirement because of CRA’s exclusions. *Id.*

For the three Notices of Decision announcing the waivers at issue here, EPA stated that the Notices of Decision were not rules under CRA, and, in the underlying decision documents for two of those notices, cited to our 2023 decision in support of that statement. However, EPA submitted them as rules to GAO and Congress without any explanation of this discrepancy.

We reached out to EPA on February 20, 2025, for clarification on the submission of the Notices of Decision at issue here because the notices themselves stated that CRA did not apply.⁴ After receiving your request, we followed our regular procedure⁵ and sent a formal letter to EPA on February 25, 2025, seeking factual information and the agency’s legal views on this matter.⁶ Although EPA resubmitted the Notices of Decision to GAO on February 27, 2025, with additional information in the corresponding CRA reports, the agency still did not address the statements in the notices regarding the inapplicability of the CRA,⁷ and, to date, EPA has not further responded to our letter.

As explained more fully below, our view is that the analysis and conclusions in our 2023 Clean Air Act preemption waiver decision would also apply to the Notices of Decision recently submitted as rules to Congress by EPA.

BACKGROUND

Clean Air Act

The Clean Air Act generally preempts states from adopting or enforcing emission control standards for new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines. See 42 U.S.C. § 7543(a); B–334309, Nov. 30, 2023. However, the Clean Air Act requires the EPA Administrator to grant a waiver of preemption for a state that adopted a standard prior to March 30, 1966, if the state determined its standard will be, in the aggregate, at least as protective of public health and welfare as applicable federal standards. 42 U.S.C. § 7543(b); B–334309, Nov. 30, 2023. Only California can qualify for preemption waivers under this section because it is the only state that adopted a standard prior to March 30, 1966. B–334309, Nov. 30, 2023.

The EPA Administrator must approve the waiver unless the Administrator makes any one of three findings set forth in the statute: (1) the determination of the state is arbitrary and capricious; (2) the state does not need state standards to meet compelling and

extraordinary conditions; or (3) the state standards and accompanying enforcement procedures are not consistent with 42 U.S.C. §7521(a) (EPA standards for emissions from new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines). 42 U.S.C. §7543(b)(1)(A)–(C); B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023.

When the EPA Administrator receives a waiver request, they must provide notice of a public hearing and comment period. 42 U.S.C. §7543(b); B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023; EPA, *Vehicle Emissions California Waivers and Authorizations*, available at <https://www.epa.gov/state-and-local-transportation/vehicle-emissions-california-waivers-and-authorizations> (last visited Mar. 5, 2025) (California Waivers and Authorizations Website). The Administrator makes a decision on the waiver and publishes a notice of their decision and reasons in the *Federal Register*. B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023.

The Clean Air Act provides similar procedures for the EPA Administrator to authorize California to adopt and enforce emission control standards for certain nonroad engines or vehicles. 42 U.S.C. §7543(e)(2)(A). The Administrator must authorize California to adopt and enforce such standards if California determined that California standards will be, in the aggregate, at least as protective of public health and welfare as applicable federal standards, unless the Administrator makes any one of three findings set forth in the statute: (1) California's determination is arbitrary and capricious; (2) California does not need its own standards to meet compelling and extraordinary conditions; or (3) the California standards and accompanying enforcement procedures are not consistent with section 7543. *Id.* Like the waiver process under section 7543(b), the authorization process under section 7543(e)(2)(A) involves providing notice of a public hearing and comment period and publishing notice of the decision. *See id.*; California Waivers and Authorizations Website.

EPA Notices of Decision

At issue here are the following EPA Clean Air Act preemption waiver Notices 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; Notice of Decision*, 88 Fed. Reg. 20688 (Apr. 6, 2023) (Advanced Clean Trucks Waiver Notice);

- *California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The "Omnibus" Low NO_x Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision*, 90 Fed. Reg. 643 (Jan. 6, 2025) (Low NO_x Waiver Notice); and

- *California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision*, 90 Fed. Reg. 642 (Jan. 6, 2025) (Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Notice).

In the Advanced Clean Trucks Waiver Notice, the EPA Administrator granted two separate requests for preemption waivers regarding four California regulations for heavy-duty on-road vehicles and engines. 88 Fed. Reg. at 20688. The Low NO_x Waiver Notice announced the EPA Administrator's December 17, 2024, decision granting California a preemption waiver for regulations applicable to new 2024 and subsequent model year California on-road heavy-duty vehicles and engines and authorizing regulations regarding off-road diesel engines. 90 Fed. Reg. at 643–44. The Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Notice announced the EPA Administrator's December 17, 2024, decision granting California a preemption waiver for regulations

applicable to new 2026 and subsequent model year California on-road light- and medium-duty vehicles. 90 Fed. Reg. at 642.

Congressional Review Act (CRA)

CRA, enacted in 1996 to strengthen congressional oversight of agency rulemaking, requires federal agencies to submit a report on each new rule to both houses of Congress and the Comptroller General for review before the rule can take effect. 5 U.S.C. §801(a)(1)(A). The report must contain a copy of the rule, "a concise general statement relating to the rule," and the rule's proposed effective date. *Id.* CRA allows Congress to review and disapprove rules issued by federal agencies for a period of 60 days using special procedures. *See* 5 U.S.C. §802. If a resolution of disapproval is enacted, then the new rule has no force or effect. 5 U.S.C. §801(b)(1).

CRA adopts the definition of "rule" under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), which states that a rule is "the whole or a part of an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency." 5 U.S.C. §§551(4); 804(3). However, CRA excludes three categories of APA rules from coverage: (1) rules of particular applicability; (2) rules relating to agency management or personnel; and (3) rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect the rights or obligations of nonagency parties. 5 U.S.C. §804(3).

EPA did not submit CRA reports to Congress or GAO for any of the Notices of Decision when they were initially issued on April 6, 2023, and January 6, 2025, and each notice states that CRA does not apply because the relevant action is not a rule for purposes of the Act. Advanced Clean Trucks Waiver Notice, 88 Fed. Reg. at 20726; Low NO_x Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 645; Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 643. In addition, the underlying decision documents referenced in the Low NO_x Waiver Notice and Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Notice include similar statements about the inapplicability of CRA and cite our 2023 decision determining that a Clean Air Act preemption waiver notice of decision was not a rule under CRA. *See* EPA, *California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The "Omnibus" Low NO_x Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Decision Document* (Dec. 17, 2024) (Low NO_x Waiver Decision), at 95 & n.281;⁸ EPA, *California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Decision Document* (Dec. 17, 2024) (Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Decision), at 189 & n.504⁹ (both citing B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023).

EPA subsequently submitted a CRA report for the three Notices of Decision to Congress and GAO on February 19, 2025.¹⁰ The House of Representatives and GAO received the report on February 19, 2025,¹¹ and the Senate received the report on February 20, 2025.¹² EPA resubmitted the CRA report to GAO on February 27, 2025.¹³ The resubmitted report included additional information for each notice, including the date of the document, the nature of the action submitted, and proposed effective date.¹⁴ EPA did not explain in either submission why the agency was submitting the notices under CRA given its statement in each notice that CRA did not apply.¹⁵

DISCUSSION

GAO's 2023 Decision on a Clean Air Act Preemption Waiver Notice of Decision

In B-334309, we examined an EPA Notice of Decision titled *California State Motor Vehicle Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean*

Car Program; Reconsideration of a Previous Withdrawal of a Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision (Advanced Clean Car Program Waiver Notice). 87 Fed. Reg. 14332 (Mar. 14, 2022). This Notice of Decision rescinded EPA's 2019 withdrawal of a 2013 preemption waiver for California's greenhouse gas emissions standards and zero emission vehicle sale mandate, thereby reinstating the waiver. *Id.* at 14332; B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023.

We determined that the Advanced Clean Car Program Waiver Notice was not a rule under CRA because it did not meet the APA definition of a rule. We concluded that the notice was, instead, an "order" under APA. APA defines an order as the "the whole or a part of a final disposition, whether affirmative, negative, injunctive, or declaratory in form, of an agency in a matter other than rule making but including licensing." 5 U.S.C. §551(6). APA further defines "licensing" to include an agency granting or revoking a license, an "license" to include an agency approval, statutory exemption, or other form of permission. 5 U.S.C. 551(8), (9). An agency action that constitutes an order under APA is not a rule under the statute and, therefore, is not a rule under CRA. B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023 (citing B-334995, July 6, 2023; B-334400, Feb. 9, 2023; B-332233, Aug. 13, 2020 (rules and orders are "mutually exclusive")).

We explained that an adjudicatory order is a case-specific, individual determination of a particular set of facts that has immediate effect on the individual(s) involved. B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023 (citing *United States v. Florida East Coast Railway Co.*, 410 U.S. 224, 245–46 (1973); *Neustar, Inc. v. FCC*, 857 F.3d 886, 893 (D.C. Cir. 2017); *Yesler Terrace Community Council v. Cisneros*, 37 F.3d 442, 448 (9th Cir. 1994)). In contrast, a rule is a broad application of general principles that is prospective in nature. B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023 (citing *Florida East Coast Railway Co.*, 410 U.S. at 246; *Neustar*, 857 F.3d at 895; *Yesler Terrace Community Council*, 37 F.3d at 448).

We concluded that the Advanced Clean Car Program Waiver Notice met the APA definition of an order because the notice determined that California was not preempted from enforcing its Advanced Clean Car Program and therefore made a "final disposition" granting California a "form of permission" as described in the APA definition. B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023 (citing 5 U.S.C. 551(6), (8), (9)). We noted that the notice was particular to California's Advanced Clean Car Program, involved consideration of particular facts, as opposed to general policy, and had immediate effect on California. *Id.*

We also concluded that even if the Advanced Clean Car Program Waiver Notice met the APA definition of a rule, it would still not be subject to CRA because of CRA's exclusion of rules of particular applicability. B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023. A rule of particular applicability is addressed to an identified entity and also addresses actions that entity may or may not take, taking into account facts and circumstances specific to that entity. B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023 (citing B-334995, July 6, 2023). We noted that the notice concerned a specific entity—California—and addressed a statutory waiver specific to California's Advanced Clean Car Program; therefore, the notice would be a rule of particular applicability. B-334309, Nov. 30, 2023.

EPA's Recently Submitted Notices of Decision (1) Applicability of GAO's 2023 Decision

The analysis and conclusion in B-334309 that the Advanced Clean Car Program Waiver Notice was not a rule for purposes of CRA because it was an order under APA would apply to the three notices of decision at issue here. For example, all three notices of decision involve waivers granted to California under the same authority and process

(42 U.S.C. 7543(b)) at issue in the Advanced Clean Car Program Waiver Notice. In each case, California requested preemption waivers from EPA with respect to specific California regulations, and EPA, after holding a public hearing, receiving comments, and considering information presented by California and opponents of the waivers, determined to grant the requested waivers. See Advanced Clean Trucks Waiver Notice, 88 Fed. Reg. at 20688–90; Low NO_x Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 643–45; Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 642–43.

The Low NO_x Waiver Notice also involves an authorization under a separate authority (42 U.S.C. 7543(e)(2)(A)). As described above, the nature of the determination and process used is very similar to section 7543(b), and our analysis and conclusions in B–334309 would apply to this portion of the notice as well. See Low NO_x Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 644–45 (describing the relevant procedures and grouping the corresponding findings in sections 7543(b)(2) and 7543(e)(2)(A) together in summarizing the decision). Specifically, California requested EPA's authorization to adopt and enforce specific California regulations, and EPA, after holding a public hearing, receiving comments, and considering information presented by California and opponents of the authorization, determined to grant the requested authorization. See Low NO_x Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 643–45.

(2) Effect of Resolutions of Disapproval

If Congress were to treat the EPA Notices of Decisions as rules under CRA and subsequently enact resolutions of disapproval, there is a question as to the precise effect those resolutions would have. As described above, if a resolution of disapproval is enacted, then the rule has no force or effect. 5 U.S.C. 801(b)(1). However, two of the three Notices of Decision submitted by EPA to Congress, the Low NO_x Waiver Notice and the Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Notice, appear to merely notify the public of previously issued decision documents granting California the requested preemption waivers and, in the Low NO_x Waiver Notice, the requested authorization for its regulations. See Low NO_x Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 643–44 (stating that EPA “is providing notice of its decision” and referencing the Low NO_x Waiver Decision); Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 642–43 (stating that EPA “is providing notice of its decision” and referencing the Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Decision). EPA did not include the underlying decision documents in its submission to Congress and GAO.¹⁶ In contrast, the Advanced Clean Trucks Waiver Notice, like the Advanced Clean Car Program Waiver Notice we examined in B–334309, appears to be the decision document. See 88 Fed. Reg. at 20688 (stating that EPA “is granting . . . California[s] . . . requests for waivers”). Accordingly, if Congress were to enact resolutions disapproving the Low NO_x Waiver Notice or the Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Notice under CRA, it is unclear whether or how those resolutions would affect the underlying waivers and authorizations.

CONCLUSION

In these circumstances, our view is that our prior analysis and conclusion in B–334309 that the Advanced Clean Car Program Waiver Notice was not a rule for purposes of CRA because it was an order under APA would apply to the three notices at issue here. We provide this information to assist Congress as it considers how to treat these Notices of Decision and the application of CRA procedures.

If you have any questions, please contact Shirley A. Jones, Managing Associate Gen-

eral Counsel, or Charlie McKiver, Assistant General Counsel for Appropriations Law.

Sincerely,

EDDA EMMANUELLI PEREZ,
General Counsel.

Congressional Requesters

The Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE,
Ranking Member, Committee on Environment
and Public Works, United States Senate.

The Honorable ALEX PADILLA,
United States Senate.

The Honorable ADAM B. SCHIFF,
United States Senate.

ENDNOTES

1. Email from Director, Regulatory Management Division, EPA, to GAO CRA Rules Mailbox, *Subject: Electronic Delivery of USEPA Final Actions to GAO under the Congressional Review Act (CRA)—[0 major and 3 non-major actions (02–19–2025)]* (Feb. 19, 2025) (EPA Initial Submission).

2. Letter from Senators Sheldon Whitehouse, Alex Padilla, and Adam B. Schiff to the Comptroller General (Feb. 21, 2025) (Request Letter).

3. GAO does not issue formal decisions on actions that agencies have submitted to Congress as rules under CRA because that submission generally obviates the need for a GAO decision on the matter. See B–330376, Nov. 30, 2018 (explaining that when a rule is submitted to Congress, Congress has an opportunity to review the rule and pass a joint resolution of disapproval to void the rule (see 5 U.S.C. §802) and there is no impediment that a GAO decision might cure).

4. Email from Senior Attorney, GAO, to Director, Regulatory Management Division, EPA, *Subject: RE: Electronic Delivery of USEPA Final Actions to GAO under the Congressional Review Act (CRA)—[0 major and 3 non-major actions (02–19–2025)]* (Feb. 20, 2025).

5. GAO, *GAO's Protocols for Legal Decisions and Opinions*, GAO–24–107329 (Washington, D.C.: Feb. 2024), available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-24-107329>.

6. Letter from Assistant General Counsel for Appropriations Law, GAO, to Principal Deputy General Counsel, EPA (Feb. 25, 2025).

7. Email from Director, Regulatory Management Division, EPA, to GAO CRA Rules Mailbox, *Subject: Electronic Delivery of USEPA Final Rules to GAO under the Congressional Review Act (CRA)—[0 major and 3 non-major rules (02–27–2025)]* (Feb. 27, 2025) (EPA Resubmission).

8. This decision document is available at <https://www.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0332-0109> (last visited Mar. 5, 2025).

9. This decision document is available at <https://www.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OAR-2023-0292-0562> (last visited Mar. 5, 2025).

10. See EPA Initial Submission.

11. 171 Cong. Rec. H875 (daily ed. Feb. 26, 2025); EPA Initial Submission.

12. 171 Cong. Rec. S1311 (daily ed. Feb. 24, 2025).

13. EPA Resubmission.

14. See *id.*, Attachments.

15. EPA also states in each notice that the action is not a rule under the Regulatory Flexibility Act and therefore EPA did not prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis addressing the impact of the action on small businesses. Advanced Clean Trucks Waiver Notice, 88 Fed. Reg. at 20725–26; Low NO_x Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 645; Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 643. Similarly, EPA further states in each notice that the relevant action is not a rule under Executive Order 12866 and is therefore exempt from review by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Advanced Clean Trucks Waiver Notice, 88 Fed. Reg. at 20725; Low NO_x Waiver Notice, 90

Fed. Reg. at 645; Advanced Clean Cars II Waiver Notice, 90 Fed. Reg. at 643. Lastly, although EPA indicated in their submission to GAO that the notices were “non-major” under CRA, the statements in the notices make it unclear whether the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs within OMB had an opportunity to review the actions to determine if they were major rules under CRA, see 5 U.S.C. §804(2), given that those determinations are usually made as part of the Executive Order 12866 review process. See OMB Memorandum M–24–09, *Guidance on Compliance with the Congressional Review Act* (2024), at 3.

16. See EPA Initial Submission; EPA Resubmission.

CENTENNIAL OF THE PROBATION ACT OF 1925

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I rise today to mark the centennial of the Probation Act, which was signed into law on March 4, 1925. The law allowed Federal judges to include probation as part of a person's sentence, leading to the creation of the Federal probation system that we rely on today.

The probation and pretrial services system have become a backbone of the Federal judiciary and the Federal criminal justice system. Over the past 100 years, the Federal probation system has grown to employ around 7,600 personnel who work behind the scenes to assist judges and those involved in the criminal justice system. Through comprehensive investigations and reports, these officers and staff prepare judicial decisions tailored to facts of every case. They also provide essential support and supervision to people returning home from prison, helping to rebuild lives while improving community safety.

At home in Rhode Island, our Federal probation staff is at the heart of two successful programs to put people on path out of the criminal justice system for good. The HOPE Court—Helping Offenders Prepare for reEntry—launched in 2014, is a reentry court program that helps high risk and high needs individuals returning home from prison overcome challenges like substance use disorder that might lead them to reoffend. In 2021, Rhode Island created the Deferred Sentencing Program to offer a creative treatment and supervision program in place of incarceration to effectively address offender behavior, rehabilitation, and the safety of the community. Through both of these programs, probation officers and staff work with stakeholders to connect people with community services and resources that set them up for success.

This week, Federal probation officers from across the country, including my home State of Rhode Island, gathered in our Nation's Capital to celebrate the progress made over the past hundred years and look ahead to its future. I extend my sincere gratitude to our Federal probation workers for dutifully protecting the communities they serve

and for their commitment to promoting the fair administration of justice. As we mark this important anniversary, let us reaffirm our commitment to a criminal justice system that is fair, effective, and rehabilitative.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND JIMMY SWAGGART

• Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I rise to acknowledge evangelist Jimmy Swaggart, who is celebrating his 90th birthday this Saturday.

Reverend Swaggart was born in Ferriday, LA, on March 15, 1935, into a musically talented family. His cousins include rock and roll pioneer Jerry Lee “The Killer” Lewis and country music singer Mickey Gilley. Reverend Swaggart is also musically gifted. However, instead of becoming an entertainer, he answered the call to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Reverend Swaggart has devoted his life to advancing Christ's ministry and kingdom. He began full-time ministry in 1955. Over the next seven decades, Reverend Swaggart used all forms of mass communication to spread the word of God around the world. Reverend Swaggart launched the SonLife Broadcasting Network which generates more than 3,000 hours of live programming each year with an audience reach capability of 2 billion people. Additionally, Reverend Swaggart has authored more than 60 books and thousands of pages of Bible commentary. Reverend Swaggart has also built schools, founded churches, and has conducted revivals around the world.

Reverend Swaggart's commitment to Christ is nothing short of inspiring. On behalf of the people of Louisiana and all Americans, I extend my heartfelt thanks to Reverend Swaggart for his selfless service. May his birthday celebration be filled with love, joy, and appreciation.●

TRIBUTE TO KENDRA ADACHI

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, with my colleague Senator TAMMY DUCKWORTH, we join in honoring Kendra Adachi, the Lazy Genius, for her devotion to time management and inspiring those around her. We thank her for speaking to the Senate Moms group.

Kendra Adachi is a two-time New York Times bestselling author of “The Lazy Genius Way” and “The Lazy Genius Kitchen.” She is the host of nationally ranked The Lazy Genius Podcast. Kendra has built her entire brand and career around a compassionate approach to time management in which she encourages others to stop doing it all for the sake of doing what matters. Kendra resides in North Carolina with her husband and three children.

Our staff lead the Senate Moms group, a bipartisan group of more than

200 moms employed by the U.S. Senate. The group's regular meetings and internal resources in the Senate help working moms feel united and supported in navigating the Senate workplace and raising children in the Washington, DC, area.

Thank you, Kendra, for your inspiring work to motivate Senate Moms to help define what is most important so they can accomplish their daily tasks with empowerment. You have set an excellent example for the many moms who help keep the U.S. Senate functioning day-to-day. We wish you the best in all that may come your way.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12957 OF MARCH 15, 1995, WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—PM 15

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared on March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2025.

The actions and policies of the Government of Iran continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is

necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 with respect to Iran and to maintain in force comprehensive sanctions against Iran to respond to this threat.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 7, 2025.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 11. A 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 joint resolution was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 924. A bill making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, March 10, 2025, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

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.”

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-487. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “U.S. Compliance with the Authorization for Use of Military Force in Iraq” received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-488. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Annual Report to Congress on the Interdiction of Aircraft Engaged in Illicit Drug Trafficking” received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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. GALLEG0 (for himself and Mr. KELLY):

S. 909. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to La Paz County, Arizona, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. HOEVEN, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 910. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a pilot program to implement a pre-qualification or pre-approval process for farmers and ranchers with respect to a direct farm ownership loan under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. 911. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to include certain retired law enforcement officers in the public safety officers' death benefits program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RICKETTS (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Ms. SLOTKIN):

S. 912. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to publish, on an annual basis, an assessment of United States dependency on critical agricultural products or inputs from the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 913. A bill to repeal and rescind any unobligated balances under sections 70002 and 70003 of the Inflation Reduction Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. KIM, Mr. KELLY, Mr. GALLEG0, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 914. A bill to make veteran Federal employees who were involuntarily dismissed without cause eligible for reinstatement, to require reports from Executive agencies on the number of veteran employees fired from such agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 915. A bill to require covered entities to issue a short-form terms of service summary statement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KIM, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 916. A bill to safeguard the humane treatment of pregnant and postpartum women by ensuring the presumption of release and prohibiting shackling, restraining, and other inhumane treatment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 917. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 620 East Pecan Boulevard in McAllen, Texas, as the "Agent Raul H. Gonzalez Jr. Memorial Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 918. A bill to allow Federal employees who are involuntarily separated from Government service while serving a probationary or trial period to resume that period upon reinstatement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HAGERTY (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. LUMMIS, and Ms. ALSOBROOKS):

S. 919. A bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 920. A bill to ensure that Federal contractors comply with child labor laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 921. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance on whether hospital emergency departments should implement fentanyl testing as a routine procedure for patients experiencing an overdose, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BANKS:

S. 922. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to define the term evidence-based; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 923. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to redesign \$20 Federal reserve notes so as to include a likeness of Harriet Tubman, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 924. A bill making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S.J. Res. 32. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Government of Israel of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S.J. Res. 33. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Government of Israel of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S.J. Res. 34. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Government of Israel of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S.J. Res. 35. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the report of enhancement or upgrade of sensitive foreign military related to a sale to the Government of Israel of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BAR-

RASSO, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 120. A resolution recognizing Girl Scouts of the United States of America on its 113th birthday and celebrating its founder, Juliette Gordon Low, and the legacy of providing girls with a secure and inclusive space where they can explore their world, build meaningful relationships, and have access to experiences that prepare them for a life of leadership; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 121. A resolution establishing the Senate Human Rights Commission; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. COONS, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. REED, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 122. A resolution recognizing the contributions of AmeriCorps members and alumni and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in the lives of the people and communities of the United States; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. Con. Res. 9. A concurrent resolution expressing support for the recognition of March 10, 2025, as "Abortion Provider Appreciation Day"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 121

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 121, a bill to extend the statute of limitations for violations relating to pandemic-era programs to be 10 years.

S. 128

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) 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. 171

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 171, a bill to remove the lesser prairie-chicken from the lists of threatened species and endangered species published pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, to amend that Act to exclude the lesser prairie-chicken from the authority of that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 199

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) 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. 269

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms.

ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 269, a bill to improve coordination between Federal and State agencies and the Do Not Pay working system.

S. 315

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 315, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in passenger motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 331

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor 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 names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) were added as cosponsors 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. 366

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 366, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Muhammad Ali, in recognition of his contributions to the United States.

S. 470

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 470, a bill to amend the CARES Act to remove a requirement on lessors to provide notice to vacate, and for other purposes.

S. 505

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 505, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to modify the deadline for filing beneficial ownership information reports for reporting companies formed or registered before January 1, 2024.

S. 522

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) 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. 567

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 567, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Rhode Island Regiment, in recognition of their dedicated service during the Revolutionary War.

S. 593

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 593, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to modify Reid Vapor Pressure requirements and to provide for the return of certain retired credits, and for other purposes.

S. 680

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 680, a bill to prohibit funding for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change until China is no longer defined as a developing country.

S. 742

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 742, a bill to extend duty-free treatment provided with respect to imports from Haiti under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, and for other purposes.

S. 750

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 750, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from implementing, enforcing, or otherwise giving effect to a final rule regarding minimum staffing for nursing facilities, and to establish an advisory panel on the nursing home workforce.

S. 807

At the request of Mr. LEE, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 807, a bill to provide for the crediting of funds received by the National Guard Bureau as reimbursement from States.

S. 808

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 808, a bill to prohibit the importation of certain minerals from the Russian Federation.

S. 823

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 823, a bill to create intergovernmental coordination between State, local, Tribal, and territorial jurisdictions, and the Federal Government to combat United States reliance on the People's Republic of China and other covered countries for critical minerals and rare earth metals, and for other purposes.

S. 850

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 850, a bill to amend the Northern Border Security Review Act to require updates to the northern border threat analysis and the northern border strategy, and for other purposes.

S. 860

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 860, a bill to modify the information about countries exporting methamphetamine that is included in the annual International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, to require a report to Congress on the seizure and production of certain illicit drugs, to impose sanctions with respect to the production and trafficking into the United States, of synthetic opioids, and for other purposes.

S. 861

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 861, a bill to streamline the sharing of information among Federal disaster assistance agencies, to expedite the delivery of life-saving assistance to disaster survivors, to speed the recovery of communities from disasters, to protect the security and privacy of information provided by disaster survivors, and for other purposes.

S. 881

At the request of Mr. RICKETTS, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 882

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. 884

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. CON. RES. 8

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 8, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 1233

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1233 intended to be proposed

to S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1234

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1234 intended to be proposed to S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1235

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1235 intended to be proposed to S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1236

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1236 intended to be proposed to S. 331, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 120—RECOGNIZING GIRL SCOUTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON ITS 113TH BIRTHDAY AND CELEBRATING ITS FOUNDER, JULIETTE GORDON LOW, AND THE LEGACY OF PROVIDING GIRLS WITH A SECURE AND INCLUSIVE SPACE WHERE THEY CAN EXPLORE THEIR WORLD, BUILD MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS, AND HAVE ACCESS TO EXPERIENCES THAT PREPARE THEM FOR A LIFE OF LEADERSHIP

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 120

Whereas March 12, 2025, marks the 113th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the United States of America, whose mission is to “build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place”;

Whereas Girl Scouts offers girls 21st century programming in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), the outdoors, entrepreneurship, and beyond, helping girls develop invaluable life skills through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience;

Whereas more than 50,000,000 women—trailblazers, visionaries, and leaders—are Girl Scout alumni who embody the Girl Scout mission every day;

Whereas the Girl Scout movement began on March 12, 1912, when Juliette “Daisy” Gordon Low, a native of Savannah, Georgia, organized a group of 18 girls and provided them with the opportunity to develop physically, intellectually, socially, and spiritually;

Whereas public service and civic engagement were a cornerstone of the life of Juliette Gordon Low, and they remain an important part of the Girl Scout experience, with programming designed to encourage girls to learn about Federal, State, and local government, to research their elected officials and engage with those officials, and to become civically minded individuals equipped with the tools to make a positive change in the world;

Whereas the commitment of the Girl Scouts to getting girls outdoors, including exciting summer camp experiences, comes from Juliette Gordon Low’s lifelong appreciation for nature and the environment;

Whereas Juliette Gordon Low utilized her extensive network of friends across the country and around the world to establish the foundation of the Girl Scout movement, creating opportunities for girls to form lifelong friendships with fellow Girl Scouts;

Whereas Juliette Gordon Low, who served as the movement’s worldwide ambassador and the first Girl Scout Global Citizen, believed in the power of global connections and the ability of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to positively impact their communities and the world;

Whereas, on March 25, 2025, the Juliette Gordon Low Commemorative Quarter will be released into circulation by the United States Mint, celebrating the enduring legacy of the Girl Scout founder and the Girl Scout movement; and

Whereas Juliette Gordon Low’s journey from trailblazing leader to a face on the currency of the United States is a testament to the power of girls and women everywhere: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes Girl Scouts of the United States of America for 113 years of building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place;

(2) congratulates all Girl Scouts who earned the Gold Award in 2024;

(3) commemorates the trailblazing founder of Girl Scouts of the United States of America, Juliette Gordon Low, for making her mark on the currency of the United States; and

(4) encourages Girl Scouts of the United States of America to continue to champion the ambitions, nurture the creativity, and support the talents of future women leaders.

SENATE RESOLUTION 121—ESTABLISHING THE SENATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 121

Whereas the Senate Human Rights Caucus, which was founded in 2014, and is currently co-chaired by Senator Tillis and Senator Coons, has created an outlet and opportunity to establish a formalized forum for human rights discussion and engagement in the Senate;

Whereas the Senate Human Rights Caucus has brought together critical thinkers and

first-hand experts on issues affecting human rights throughout the world to better inform the actions of Congress;

Whereas, by establishing a commission in the Senate to put testimony regarding human rights in the record, all of the Federal Government and the public can access this information and insight; and

Whereas the Senate Human Rights Commission would continue the work of the Senate Human Rights Caucus and elevate the need to sustain and support the fundamental access to human rights across the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SENATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

(a) COMMISSION ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Senate the Senate Human Rights Commission (in this section referred to as the “Commission”).

(2) DUTIES.—The Commission shall—

(A) serve as a forum for bipartisan discussion of international human rights issues and promotion of internationally recognized human rights as enshrined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(B) monitor the state of human rights across the world and raise awareness on critical human rights violations through conducting regular briefings, hearings, and private roundtables;

(C) maintain records of all meetings and activities; and

(D) collaborate with congressional committees and other congressional entities (including the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission), the executive branch, human rights organizations, civil society organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and think tanks to promote human rights initiatives within the Senate.

(3) LIMITATIONS.—The Commission shall not—

(A) have legislative jurisdiction;

(B) have authority to take legislative action on any bill or resolution; or

(C) encroach upon the jurisdiction of any standing, select, or special committee of the Senate.

(4) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be composed of 10 members of the Senate, who shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the President of the Senate.

(B) SELECTION.—The President of the Senate shall—

(i) after consultation with the majority leader, select 5 members from the majority party of the Senate, 1 of whom shall be designated as a co-chairperson in accordance with paragraph (5)(A)(i); and

(ii) after consultation with the minority leader, select 5 members from the minority party of the Senate, 1 of whom shall be designated as a co-chairperson in accordance with paragraph (5)(A)(ii).

(C) TERM.—The term of a member shall end on the last day of the Congress during which the member is appointed by the President of the Senate, unless the member ceases being a member of the Senate, leaves the Commission, or is removed.

(D) VACANCY.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—A vacancy on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(ii) RESIGNATION.—A member of the Commission wishing to resign from the Commission shall submit a written notification to the President of the Senate.

(5) CO-CHAIRPERSONS OF THE COMMISSION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Two members of the Commission shall be appointed to serve as co-chairpersons of the Commission, as follows:

(i) One co-chairperson shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the majority leader of the Senate.

(ii) One co-chairperson shall be appointed, and may be removed, by the minority leader of the Senate.

(B) TERM.—The term of a member as a co-chairperson of the Commission shall end on the last day of the Congress during which the member is appointed as a co-chairperson, unless the member ceases being a member of the Senate, leaves the Commission, resigns from the position of co-chairperson, or is removed.

(C) PUBLICATION.—Appointments under this paragraph shall be printed in the Congressional Record.

(D) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the position of co-chairperson of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(b) COMMISSION STAFF.—

(1) COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission is authorized, from funds made available under subsection (c), to—

(i) employ such staff in the manner and at a rate not to exceed that allowed for employees of a committee of the Senate under section 105(e)(3) of the Legislative Branch Appropriation Act, 1968 (2 U.S.C. 4575(e)(3)); and

(ii) incur such expenses as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out its duties and functions.

(B) EXPENSES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Payments made under this subsection for receptions, meals, and food-related expenses shall be authorized only for actual expenses incurred by the Commission in the course of conducting its official duties and functions.

(ii) TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS.—Amounts received as reimbursement for expenses described in clause (i) shall not be reported as income, and the expenses so reimbursed shall not be allowed as a deduction under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) DESIGNATION OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each co-chairperson of the Commission may designate 1 professional staff member.

(B) COMPENSATION OF SENATE EMPLOYEES.—In the case of the compensation of any professional staff member designated under subparagraph (A) who is an employee of a Member of the Senate or of a committee of the Senate and who has been designated to perform services for the Commission, the professional staff member shall continue to be paid by the Member or committee, as the case may be, but the account from which the professional staff member is paid shall be reimbursed for the services of the professional staff member (including agency contributions when appropriate) out of funds made available under subsection (c).

(C) DUTIES.—Each professional staff member designated under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) serve all members of the Commission; and

(ii) carry out such other functions as the co-chairperson designating the professional staff member may specify.

(c) PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The expenses of the Commission shall be paid from the Contingent Fund of the Senate, out of the account of Miscellaneous Items, upon vouchers approved jointly by the co-chairpersons (except that vouchers shall not be required for the disbursement of salaries of employees who are paid at an annual rate of pay).

(2) AMOUNTS AVAILABLE.—For any fiscal year, not more than \$200,000 shall be expended for employees and expenses.

(d) SUNSET.—This section shall cease to have force or effect on January 1, 2029.

SENATE RESOLUTION 122—RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS AND ALUMNI AND AMERICORPS SENIORS VOLUNTEERS IN THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. COONS, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. REED, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 122

Whereas 32 years ago Congress established the Corporation for National and Community Service, now known as AmeriCorps—

(1) to unite national service programs under 1 agency;

(2) to create service opportunities that strengthen communities; and

(3) to expand pathways to education, careers, and civic participation for those who serve;

Whereas, since their inception, AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors national and community service programs have proven to be highly effective ways—

(1) to unite and engage the people of the United States in meeting a wide range of local and national needs;

(2) to promote greater civic engagement; and

(3) to provide pathways to education and careers;

Whereas each year 200,000 individuals serve in AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors at nearly 40,000 locations across the United States to give back in an intensive way to communities, States, territories, Tribal nations, and the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors funds have been invested in nonprofit, community, educational, and faith-based organizations, as well as local governments and Tribal nations, and those funds have—

(1) leveraged hundreds of millions of dollars in outside funding and in-kind donations each year; and

(2) expanded the capacity of local and national programs to deliver on missions that strengthen the communities of the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers have provided millions of hours of service across the United States, helping—

(1) to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people of the United States;

(2) to protect the environment;

(3) to contribute to public safety;

(4) to respond to disasters and public health emergencies;

(5) to strengthen the educational system of the United States; and

(6) to expand economic opportunity for all;

Whereas service in AmeriCorps promotes bridge-building, collaboration, and leadership skills, and AmeriCorps programs bring the people of the United States together from different backgrounds, generations, and geographic locations;

Whereas AmeriCorps funds, conducts, and disseminates research on the civic health of the United States and the return on taxpayer investment in national service programs;

Whereas AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers recruit and supervise millions of community volunteers, demonstrating the value of AmeriCorps as a powerful force for encouraging people to become involved in community service;

Whereas, for more than 5 decades, millions of AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in the

RSVP, Foster Grandparent, and Senior Companion programs have played an important role in strengthening communities by sharing their experience, knowledge, and accomplishments with the individuals they serve;

Whereas, over the past 30 years, nearly 1,300,000 individuals have taken the AmeriCorps pledge to “get things done for America” by becoming AmeriCorps members through the AmeriCorps State and National, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps NCCC programs;

Whereas AmeriCorps members throughout the United States, in return for completing their service terms, have earned more than \$4,500,000,000 to use to further their own educational advancement and career readiness at colleges and universities across the United States;

Whereas AmeriCorps is a proven pathway to employment, providing members with valuable career skills, experience, and contacts to prepare them for the 21st-century workforce;

Whereas leaders across political parties and ideologies recognize the value that national service provides to their communities and country, leveraging the power of AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers to meet the most urgent and pressing needs;

Whereas national service programs have engaged millions of people in the United States in results-driven service in the most vulnerable communities of the United States including in rural, urban, and suburban communities, providing hope and help to individuals with economic and social needs; and

Whereas AmeriCorps Week, observed from March 9 through March 15, 2025, is an appropriate time for the people of the United States—

(1) to salute current and former AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers for their positive impact on the lives of people in the United States;

(2) to thank the community partners of AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors for making the programs possible;

(3) to encourage more people in the United States to become involved in service and volunteering; and

(4) to celebrate the lasting impact of AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors programs over the last 30 years: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages the people of the United States to join in a national effort—

(A) to salute AmeriCorps members and alumni and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers; and

(B) to raise awareness about the importance of national and community service;

(2) acknowledges the significant accomplishments across a 30-year history of the volunteers, members, alumni, and community partners of AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors;

(3) recognizes the important contributions made by AmeriCorps members and alumni and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers to the lives of the people of the United States; and

(4) encourages individuals of all ages to consider opportunities to serve in AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 9—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF MARCH 10, 2025, AS “ABORTION PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY”

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms.

WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 9

Whereas March 10 has been established as a day to show appreciation for the essential, high-quality care that abortion providers and all staff provide to their communities and those traveling to their communities, and to celebrate their courage, compassion, and dedication to their work;

Whereas March 10 was selected for “Abortion Provider Appreciation Day” in honor of Dr. David Gunn, who was killed on March 10, 1993, outside his abortion clinic in Pensacola, Florida, by a White supremacist and anti-abortion extremist in the first known instance of the murder of an abortion provider;

Whereas abortions are provided in-person and through telehealth by facilities such as independent clinics, Planned Parenthood health care centers, hospitals, and private offices of doctors, and all of the staff working at those facilities are essential to ensuring patients receive needed care;

Whereas, on June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court of the United States erroneously overturned *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, 597 U.S. 215 (2022) (referred to in this preamble as “the Dobbs decision”), reversing decades of legal precedent affirming the right to an abortion and unleashing devastation on an already precarious abortion access landscape;

Whereas States across the United States have moved to restrict access to abortion care, and 19 States have banned some or all access to an abortion as of March 2025;

Whereas, because of State abortion bans and restrictions, scores of clinics and health care centers in already underserved areas and maternal health deserts have closed, forcing more patients to remain pregnant against their will or to travel out-of-State for abortion care, increasing wait times, straining already thin resources, and pushing people farther and farther away from their homes;

Whereas abortion providers and all staff play a critical role in a world where it has become increasingly difficult for individuals to receive essential and time-sensitive care once those individuals have made decisions that are right for their bodies, lives, and futures;

Whereas abortion providers and all staff help to ensure that all individuals who can become pregnant can make their own decisions about their bodies and their pregnancies, and support the decisions of their patients by treating them with dignity, empathy, compassion, and respect, despite numerous challenges due to abortion bans and restrictions;

Whereas abortion providers and all staff play an essential role within the reproductive justice framework, which was created by 12 Black women in 1994, who formulated a human rights framework that demands every person has the human right to bodily autonomy, which includes the right to choose if, when, and how to have children and the right to parent children in safe and sustainable communities;

Whereas individuals seeking abortion care across the United States also rely on the work of abortion funds and practical support organizations to access abortion care for themselves and their families;

Whereas abortion funds and practical support organizations that rely on donations face increasing demand following the Dobbs decision as individuals are forced to travel longer distances, find childcare or lodging,

and raise money to cover the ever-increasing costs of an abortion and wraparound support;

Whereas the network of abortion funds, clinics, providers, and supporters that work to ensure access to abortion is being strained beyond capacity;

Whereas restrictions on abortion care have far-reaching consequences that deepen existing inequities and worsen health outcomes for pregnant people, people giving birth, and their families;

Whereas people who are denied abortion care are more likely to experience high blood pressure and other serious medical conditions during the end of pregnancy, remain in relationships where interpersonal violence is present, and experience poverty;

Whereas research shows that States that have more abortion restrictions are also States that have poorer maternal health outcomes;

Whereas the effects of the Dobbs decision were immediate and disastrous, with 12 States completely banning access to abortion care as of March 2025;

Whereas more than 25,000,000 women of reproductive age, plus more trans and non-binary people, do not have access to abortion where they live;

Whereas restricting and banning access to abortion care—

(1) limits the ability of current and future providers to obtain necessary education and training in abortion care;

(2) exposes the remaining abortion providers and all staff to increased levels of harassment, violence, and politically motivated restrictions; and

(3) creates and increases the out-of-pocket costs and logistical burdens that patients face to get care to a level that is sometimes insurmountable, forcing patients to remain pregnant;

Whereas the 2022 Violence and Disruption Report of the National Abortion Federation found an alarming escalation in incidents of obstruction, vandalism, and trespassing at abortion clinics, with abortion providers reporting an alarming rate of death threats and threats of harm, and documented 218 of such incidents in 2022;

Whereas Black, indigenous, and other providers and patients of color face heightened levels of threats, harassment, and violence as compared to their White counterparts;

Whereas the current administration has emboldened individuals and groups to continue to harass and threaten the ability of abortion providers and all staff to serve their patients;

Whereas the Dobbs decision has emboldened antiabortion individuals and groups to continue to harass providers and the patients they care for;

Whereas the Dobbs decision threatens the ability of abortion providers and all staff to serve their patients; and

Whereas, in the face of multifaceted attacks on their work, abortion providers remain an essential and valued part of their communities, providing high-quality, compassionate, and necessary health care, and courageously delivering that care despite pressures, restrictions, political interference, and violent threats to their personal safety: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes “Abortion Provider Appreciation Day” on March 10, 2025, to celebrate the courage, compassion, and high-quality care that abortion providers and staff offer to patients and their families across the United States;

(2) lauds communities across the United States who are proud to be home to abortion providers and staff;

(3) affirms the commitment of Congress to ensuring the safety of abortion providers, the ability of abortion providers to continue providing the essential care their patients need, and the right of patients to access abortion care no matter where they live, free from fear of violence, criminalization, or stigma;

(4) condemns the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, as well as the actions of the current administration and anti-abortion extremists, to limit and stigmatize abortion care, which has had a devastating impact on abortion providers and the communities they care for, threatening the work and livelihoods of providers and staff, and worsening the strain on providers who work in States where abortion is still available; and

(5) declares a vision for a future liberated from all abortion restrictions and bans, where everyone has full access to the care they need without fear of penalty or stigma, and affirms the commitment of Congress to working toward that goal in partnership with providers, patients, advocates, and their communities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1237. Mr. GRASSLEY proposed an amendment to the bill S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

SA 1238. Mr. LUJÁN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1239. Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1240. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1241. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1242. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1243. Mr. COONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 331, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1244. Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. WELCH) 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 1237. Mr. GRASSLEY proposed an amendment to the bill S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes; as follows:

In section 5(a)(1), strike “6” and insert “7”.

SA 1238. Mr. LUJÁN 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. ____ . KID PROOF PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use (referred to in this section as the “Assistant Secretary”), may, as appropriate and within a relevant existing program, carry out a pilot program and make awards, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to prevent, or reduce the risk of, suicide and drug overdose by children, adolescents, and young adults, including by addressing the misuse of lethal means commonly used in overdose or suicide.

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive an award under this section, an entity shall—

(1) be a State, political subdivision of a State, territory, or Indian Tribe or Tribal organization (as such terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)); and

(2) submit to the Assistant Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Assistant Secretary may require, including a description of the geographic location and settings in which such entity proposes to carry out activities under such award and the demonstrated need of such geographic location and settings.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity shall use amounts provided under this section to implement evidence-based practices to prevent, or reduce the risk of, overdose and suicide among children, adolescents, and young adults, including promoting education and awareness among parents or legal guardians on relevant best practices and providing appropriate supplies to parents or legal guardians to prevent, or reduce the risk of, the misuse of lethal means commonly used in overdose or suicide.

(d) PARTNERSHIPS.—Recipients of funding under this section may partner with health care facilities to carry out activities under subsection (c).

(e) EVALUATION; REPORT.—

(1) EVALUATION.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which awards under this section are first issued, the Assistant Secretary shall carry out an evaluation to measure the efficacy of the program under this section. The evaluation shall include—

(A) a description of any specific education and awareness activities carried out through the pilot program under this section;

(B) the number and types of supplies provided to parents or legal guardians to prevent, or reduce the risk of the misuse of, lethal means commonly used in overdose or suicide; and

(C) an assessment of the efficacy of the pilot program in preventing, or reducing the risk of, overdose and suicide.

(2) REPORT.—The Assistant Secretary 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 the results of the evaluation conducted under paragraph (1).

(f) SUNSET.—This section shall terminate on September 30, 2029.

SA 1239. Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER 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 end, add the following:

SEC. 8. CONTINGENT EFFECTIVE DATE.

Notwithstanding section 7(a), this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not take effect until the Secretary of Health and Human Services certifies that the grant program for State and Tribal response to opioid use disorders under section 1003 of the 21st Century Cures Act (42 U.S.C. 290ee-3a) is funded at an adequate level, not less than the amount made available for such program for fiscal year 2024, to address the incidence of opioid use disorder in all 50 States and the District of Columbia.

SA 1240. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO 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:

SEC. ____ . COMBATING ILLICIT XYLAZINE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In this title, the term “xylazine” has the meaning given the term in paragraph (60) of section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act, as added by paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(2) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT.—Section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802) is amended—

(A) by redesignating the second paragraph (57) (relating to serious drug felony) and paragraph (58) as paragraphs (58) and (59), respectively; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(60) The term ‘xylazine’ means the substance xylazine, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible.”

(b) ADDING XYLAZINE TO SCHEDULE III.—Schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of xylazine.”

(c) AMENDMENTS.—

(1) AMENDMENT.—Section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802) is amended by striking paragraph (27) and inserting the following:

“(27)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term ‘ultimate user’ means a person who has lawfully obtained, and who possesses, a controlled substance for the use by the person or for the use of a member of the household of the person or for an animal owned by the person or by a member of the household of the person.

“(B)(i) In the case of xylazine, other than for a drug product approved under subsection (b) or (j) of section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355), the term ‘ultimate user’ means a person—

“(I) to whom xylazine was dispensed by—

“(aa) a veterinarian registered under this Act; or

“(bb) a pharmacy registered under this Act pursuant to a prescription of a veterinarian registered under this Act; and

“(II) who possesses xylazine for—

“(aa) an animal owned by the person or by a member of the household of the person;

“(bb) an animal under the care of the person;

“(cc) use in government animal-control programs authorized under applicable Federal, State, Tribal, or local law; or

“(dd) use in wildlife programs authorized under applicable Federal, State, Tribal, or local law.

“(ii) In this subparagraph, the term ‘person’ includes—

“(I) a government agency or business where animals are located; and

“(II) an employee or agent of an agency or business acting within the scope of their employment or agency.”

(2) FACILITIES.—An entity that manufactures xylazine, as of the date of enactment of this Act, shall not be required to make capital expenditures necessary to install the security standard required of schedule III of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) for the purposes of manufacturing xylazine.

(3) LABELING.—The requirements related to labeling, packaging, and distribution logistics of a controlled substance in schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) shall not take effect for xylazine until the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(4) PRACTITIONER REGISTRATION.—The requirements related to practitioner registration, inventory, and recordkeeping of a controlled substance in schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) shall not take effect for xylazine until the date that is 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act. A practitioner that has applied for registration during the 60-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act may continue their lawful activities until such application is approved or denied.

(5) MANUFACTURER TRANSITION.—The Food and Drug Administration and the Drug Enforcement Administration shall facilitate and expedite the relevant manufacturer submissions or applications required by the placement of xylazine on schedule III of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)).

(6) CLARIFICATION.—Nothing in this title, or the amendments made by this title, shall be construed to require the registration of an ultimate user of xylazine under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) in order to possess xylazine in accordance with subparagraph (B) of section 102(27) of that Act (21 U.S.C. 802(27)), as added by paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(d) ARCOS TRACKING.—Section 307(i) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 827(i)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting “or xylazine” after “gamma hydroxybutyric acid”;

(B) by inserting “or 512” after “section 505”; and

(C) by inserting “respectively,” after “the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.”; and

(2) in paragraph (6), by inserting “or xylazine” after “gamma hydroxybutyric acid”.

(e) SENTENCING COMMISSION.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994(p) of title 28, United States Code, the United States Sentencing Commission shall review and, if appropriate, amend its sentencing guidelines, policy statements, and official commentary applicable to persons convicted of an offense under section 401 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841) or section 1010 of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 960) to provide appropriate penalties for offenses involving xylazine that are consistent with the amendments made by this title. In carrying out this subsection, the Commission should consider the common forms of xylazine as well as its use alongside other scheduled substances.

(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON XYLAZINE.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, acting

through the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and in coordination with the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, shall submit to Congress a report on the prevalence of illicit use of xylazine in the United States and the impacts of such use, including—

- (A) where the drug is being diverted;
- (B) where the drug is originating; and
- (C) whether any analogues to xylazine, or related or derivative substances, exist and present a substantial risk of abuse.

(2) **ADDITIONAL REPORT.**—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, acting through the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and in coordination with the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, shall submit to Congress a report updating Congress on the prevalence and proliferation of xylazine trafficking and misuse in the United States.

SA 1241. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO 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 end, add the following:

SEC. 8. INVEST TO PROTECT GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **DE-ESCALATION TRAINING.**—The term “de-escalation training” means training relating to taking action or communicating verbally or non-verbally during a potential force encounter in an attempt to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so that more time, options, and resources can be called upon to resolve the situation without the use of force or with a reduction in the force necessary.

(2) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means the Director of the Office.

(3) **ELIGIBLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**—The term “eligible local government” means—

(A) a county, municipality, town, township, village, parish, borough, or other unit of general government below the State level that employs fewer than 175 law enforcement officers; and

(B) a Tribal government that employs fewer than 175 law enforcement officers.

(4) **LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.**—The term “law enforcement officer” has the meaning given the term “career law enforcement officer” in section 1709 of title I the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10389).

(5) **OFFICE.**—The term “Office” means the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services of the Department of Justice.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established within the Office a grant program to—

(1) provide training and access to mental health resources to local law enforcement officers; and

(2) improve the recruitment and retention of local law enforcement officers.

(c) **AUTHORITY.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall award grants to eligible local governments as a part of the grant program established under subsection (b).

(d) **APPLICATIONS.**—

(1) **BARRIERS.**—The Attorney General shall determine what barriers exist to establishing a streamlined application process for grants under this section.

(2) **REPORT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report that includes a plan to execute a

streamlined application process for grants under this section under which an eligible local government seeking a grant under this section can reasonably complete the application in not more than 2 hours.

(B) **CONTENTS OF PLAN.**—The plan required under subparagraph (A) may include a plan for—

(i) proactively providing eligible local governments seeking a grant under this section with information on the data eligible local governments will need to prepare before beginning the grant application; and

(ii) ensuring technical assistance is available for eligible local governments seeking a grant under this section before and during the grant application process, including through dedicated liaisons within the Office.

(3) **APPLICATIONS.**—In selecting eligible local governments to receive grants under this section, the Director shall use the streamlined application process described in paragraph (2)(A).

(e) **ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.**—An eligible local government that receives a grant under this section may use amounts from the grant only for—

(1) de-escalation training for law enforcement officers;

(2) victim-centered training for law enforcement officers in handling situations of domestic violence;

(3) evidence-based law enforcement safety training for—

(A) active shooter situations;

(B) the safe handling of illicit drugs and precursor chemicals;

(C) rescue situations;

(D) recognizing and countering ambush attacks; or

(E) response to calls for service involving—

(i) persons with mental health needs;

(ii) persons with substance use disorders;

(iii) veterans;

(iv) persons with disabilities;

(v) vulnerable youth;

(vi) persons who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or trafficking; or

(vii) persons experiencing homelessness or living in poverty;

(4) the offsetting of overtime costs associated with scheduling issues relating to the participation of a law enforcement officer in the training described in paragraphs (1) through (3), (9), and (10);

(5) a signing bonus for a law enforcement officer in an amount determined by the eligible local government;

(6) a retention bonus for a law enforcement officer—

(A) in an amount determined by the eligible local government that does not exceed 20 percent of the salary of the law enforcement officer; and

(B) who—

(i) has been employed at the law enforcement agency for not fewer than 5 years;

(ii) has not been found by an internal investigation to have engaged in serious misconduct; and

(iii) commits to remain employed by the law enforcement agency for not less than 3 years after the date of receipt of the bonus;

(7) a stipend for the graduate education of law enforcement officers in the area of mental health, public health, or social work, which shall not exceed the lesser of—

(A) \$10,000; or

(B) the amount the law enforcement officer pays towards such graduate education;

(8) providing access to patient-centered behavioral health services for law enforcement officers, which may include resources for risk assessments, evidence-based, trauma-informed care to treat post-traumatic stress disorder or acute stress disorder, peer support and counselor services and family supports, and the promotion of improved access

to high quality mental health care through telehealth;

(9) the implementation of evidence-based best practices and training on the use of lethal and nonlethal force;

(10) the implementation of evidence-based best practices and training on the duty of care and the duty to intervene; and

(11) data collection for police practices relating to officer and community safety.

(f) **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director shall establish reasonable reporting requirements specifically relating to a grant awarded under this section for eligible local governments that receive such a grant in order to assist with the evaluation by the Office of the program established under this section.

(2) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In establishing requirements under paragraph (1), the Director shall consider the capacity of law enforcement agencies with fewer than 175 officers to collect and report information.

(g) **DISCLOSURE OF OFFICER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION BONUSES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date on which an eligible local government that receives a grant under this section awards a signing or retention bonus described in paragraph (5) or (6) of subsection (e), the eligible local government shall disclose to the Director and make publicly available on a website of the eligible local government the amount of the bonus.

(2) **REPORT.**—The Attorney General shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an annual report that includes each signing or retention bonus disclosed under paragraph (1) during the preceding year.

(h) **GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—All grants awarded by the Director under this section shall be subject to the accountability provisions described in this subsection.

(2) **AUDIT REQUIREMENT.**—

(A) **DEFINITION.**—In this paragraph, the term “unresolved audit finding” means a finding in the final audit report of the Inspector General of the Department of Justice that the audited grantee has used grant funds for an unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost that is not closed or resolved within 12 months from the date when the final audit report is issued.

(B) **AUDITS.**—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this subsection, and in each fiscal year thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of grants under this section to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds by grantees. The Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall determine the appropriate number of grantees to be audited each year.

(C) **MANDATORY EXCLUSION.**—A recipient of grant funds under this section that is found to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be eligible to receive grant funds under this section during the first 3 fiscal years beginning after the end of the 12-month period described in subparagraph (A).

(D) **REIMBURSEMENT.**—If an eligible local government is awarded grant funds under this section during the 3-fiscal-year period during which the eligible local government is barred from receiving grants under subparagraph (C), the Attorney General shall—

(i) deposit an amount equal to the amount of the grant funds that were improperly awarded to the grantee into the General Fund of the Treasury; and

(ii) seek to recoup the costs of the repayment to the fund from the grant recipient that was erroneously awarded grant funds.

(3) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Beginning in the fiscal year during which audits commence under paragraph (2)(B), the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives an annual certification—

(A) indicating whether—

(i) all audits issued by the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Justice under paragraph (2) have been completed and reviewed by the appropriate Assistant Attorney General or Director;

(ii) all mandatory exclusions required under paragraph (2)(C) have been issued; and

(iii) all reimbursements required under paragraph (2)(D) have been made; and

(B) that includes a list of any grant recipients excluded under paragraph (2) from the previous year.

(i) PROGRAM EVALUATION.—Not less frequently than annually, the Attorney General shall analyze the information provided by eligible local governments pursuant to the reporting requirements established under subsection (f)(1) to evaluate the efficacy of programs funded by the grant program under this section.

(j) PREVENTING DUPLICATIVE GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Before the Director awards a grant to an eligible local government under this section, the Attorney General shall compare potential grant awards with other grants awarded by the Attorney General to determine if grant awards are or have been awarded for a similar purpose.

(2) REPORT.—If the Attorney General awards grants to the same applicant for a similar purpose, whether through the grant program under this section or another grant program administered by the Department of Justice, the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(A) a list of all such grants awarded, including the total dollar amount of any such grants awarded; and

(B) the reason the Attorney General awarded multiple grants to the same applicant for a similar purpose.

(k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section not more than \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030.

SA 1242. Mr. COONS 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. ____ . REMOVAL FROM SCHEDULE I OF FENTANYL-RELATED SUBSTANCES.

Section 201 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 811) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(k) REMOVAL FROM SCHEDULE I OF FENTANYL-RELATED SUBSTANCES.—

“(1) DETERMINATION RESULTING IN REMOVAL FROM ALL SCHEDULES.—If the Secretary determines, taking into consideration the factors set forth in paragraph (3), that a fentanyl-related substance has a potential for abuse that is less than the drugs or other substances in schedule V—

“(A) the Secretary shall submit to the Attorney General a scientific and medical eval-

uation of that fentanyl-related substance supporting that determination;

“(B) the Secretary shall submit any such evaluation and determination in writing and include the bases therefor;

“(C) the scientific and medical matters contained in the evaluation of the Secretary shall be binding on the Attorney General; and

“(D) except as provided in paragraph (4), not later than 90 days after receiving such evaluation and determination, the Attorney General shall issue an order removing such fentanyl-related substance from the schedules under section 202.

“(2) DETERMINATION RESULTING IN RESCHEDULING.—If the Secretary determines, taking into consideration the factors set forth in paragraph (3), that a fentanyl-related substance has a potential for abuse that is less than the drugs or other substances in schedules I and II—

“(A) the Secretary shall submit to the Attorney General a scientific and medical evaluation of that fentanyl-related substance supporting that determination;

“(B) the Secretary shall submit any such evaluation and determination in writing and include the bases therefor;

“(C) consistent with subsection (b), the scientific and medical matters contained in the evaluation of the Secretary shall be binding on the Attorney General; and

“(D) except as provided in paragraph (4), not later than 90 days after receiving such evaluation and determination, the Attorney General shall issue an order removing such fentanyl-related substance from schedule I and controlling such substance under schedule III.

“(3) EVALUATION FACTORS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In making a determination under paragraph (1) or (2), the Secretary—

“(i) shall consider the factor listed in paragraph (2) of subsection (c), as established by the assessment described in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph;

“(ii) shall consider the factors listed in paragraphs (1), (3), and (6) of subsection (c); and

“(iii) may consider the factors listed in paragraphs (4), (5), and (7) of subsection (c) if the Secretary finds that evidence exists with respect to those factors.

“(B) CONSIDERATION OF SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE OF PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of subparagraph (A)(i), consideration by the Secretary of the results of an assessment consisting of the studies described in clause (ii) of this subparagraph shall only suffice to constitute consideration of the factor listed in paragraph (2) of subsection (c) if—

“(I) each such study is performed according to scientific methods and protocols commonly accepted in the scientific community; and

“(II) the Secretary determines that such assessment is adequate for such purposes.

“(ii) DESCRIBED STUDIES.—The studies described in this clause include the following:

“(I) One or more receptor binding studies that can—

“(aa) demonstrate whether the substance has affinity for the human mu opioid receptor and assess the duration and intensity of the binding; and

“(bb) establish displacement by antagonists such as naloxone.

“(II) One or more in vitro functional assays that can demonstrate whether the substance has agonist activity at the human mu opioid receptor.

“(III) One or more in vivo animal behavioral studies that can demonstrate whether the substance has abuse-related drug effects consistent with mu opioid agonist activity,

such as demonstrating similarity to the effects of morphine.

“(iii) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act, the Secretary shall publish guidance describing the parameters for studies that meet the criteria established under clause (ii).

“(4) ATTORNEY GENERAL REVIEW.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding a determination by the Secretary resulting in removal or rescheduling under paragraph (1) or (2), the Attorney General may not issue an order of removal or rescheduling if, not later than 90 days after receiving the applicable evaluation and determination from the Secretary, the Attorney General finds under the processes described in subsection (h) that maintaining the scheduling of the substance is necessary to avoid an imminent hazard to the public safety.

“(B) TEMPORARY SCHEDULING.—Upon a finding under subparagraph (A), the substance shall be deemed temporarily scheduled for the time period described in subsection (h)(2), which may be extended as provided in that subsection.

“(C) EXPIRATION OF TEMPORARY SCHEDULING.—Not later than 30 days after the expiration of the time period described in subparagraph (B) and any extension thereof as described in that subparagraph, the Attorney General shall issue an order to remove or reschedule the substance pursuant to the Secretary's determination unless the substance has otherwise been scheduled under the processes described in this section.

“(5) NOTICE FROM SECRETARY TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—

“(A) NOTICE OF INITIATION OF PROCEEDINGS.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary initiates proceedings to evaluate a substance under paragraph (1) or (2), the Secretary shall notify the Attorney General of the initiation of the proceedings.

“(B) ADVANCE NOTICE REGARDING EVALUATION AND CONCLUSION.—Not later than 30 days before the date on which the Secretary sends the Attorney General an evaluation and determination under paragraph (1) or (2), the Secretary shall notify the Attorney General with respect to the evaluation and determination.

“(6) EXCEPTION FOR TREATY OBLIGATIONS.—If a fentanyl-related substance is a substance that the United States is obligated to control under international treaties, conventions, or protocols in effect on the date of enactment of the Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act, this subsection shall not require the Attorney General—

“(A) to remove such substance from control; or

“(B) to place such substance in a schedule less restrictive than that which the Attorney General determines is necessary to carry out such obligations.

“(7) IDENTIFICATION OF FENTANYL-RELATED SUBSTANCES.—If the Attorney General determines that a substance is a fentanyl-related substance, the Attorney General shall—

“(A) not later than 30 days after the date of such determination, notify the Secretary;

“(B) include in such notification the identity of the substance, its structure, and the basis for the determination; and

“(C) as soon as practicable, publish in the Federal Register an updated list under subsection (e)(4) of schedule I that includes the fentanyl-related substance, unless good cause exists not to do so.

“(8) PETITIONS FOR TRANSFERRING A FENTANYL-RELATED SUBSTANCE UNDER THE DRUG SCHEDULES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If a person petitions the Attorney General to remove a fentanyl-related substance from schedule I, to reschedule a fentanyl-related substance to another schedule, or to place a fentanyl-related substance under schedule I, the Attorney General shall consider such a petition in accordance with the procedures and standards set forth in—

“(i) subsections (a) and (b) of this section; and

“(ii) section 1308.43 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

“(B) ATTORNEY GENERAL TO INFORM SECRETARY.—Not later than 30 days after the date of accepting a petition described in subparagraph (A), the Attorney General shall forward a copy of the petition to the Secretary.

“(C) DETERMINATION PROCEDURE NOT PRECLUDED BY FILING OF PETITION.—The filing of a petition described in this paragraph shall not preclude the Secretary from making a determination and sending an evaluation under paragraph (1) or (2).

“(9) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to preclude the Attorney General from—

“(A) transferring a substance listed in schedule I to another schedule, or removing such substance entirely from the schedules, pursuant to other provisions of this section and section 202; or

“(B) transferring a fentanyl-related substance from a schedule other than schedule I to schedule I if information supports such a transfer.

“(10) SUBSEQUENT CONTROLLING OF REMOVED SUBSTANCE.—A substance removed from schedule I pursuant to this subsection may, at any time, be controlled pursuant to the other provisions of this section and section 202 without regard to the removal pursuant to this subsection.

“(11) EVALUATIONS OR STUDIES.—The Secretary may enter into contracts or other agreements to conduct or support evaluations or studies of fentanyl-related substances.

“(12) ANNUAL REVIEW BY SECRETARY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than annually, the Secretary shall review fentanyl-related substances identified under paragraph (7), including a review of available evidence and any analysis or data in the possession of the Attorney General with regard to those substances.

“(B) EVALUATION FOR REMOVAL OR RESCHEDULING.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), if the Secretary determines, with respect to a fentanyl-related substance, that removing the fentanyl-related substance from the schedules under section 202 or rescheduling the fentanyl-related substance may be appropriate, the Secretary shall evaluate the fentanyl-related substance for potential removal or rescheduling under paragraphs (1) and (2).”.

SA 1243. Mr. COONS 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 Comptroller General of the United States 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 Secretary of Health and Human Services 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 1244. Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. WELCH) 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. ____ . OVERCOMING PREVALENT INADEQUACIES IN OVERDOSE INFORMATION DATA SETS.

(a) ACCURATE DATA ON OPIOID-RELATED OVERDOSES.—The Attorney General may award grants to States, territories, and localities to support improved data and surveillance on opioid-related overdoses, including for activities to improve postmortem toxicology testing, data linkage across data systems throughout the United States, electronic death reporting, or the comprehensiveness of data on fatal and nonfatal opioid-related overdoses.

(b) LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may award grants to local law enforcement agencies and forensic laboratories in communities with high rates of drug overdoses for the purpose of—

(A) training to help officers identify overdoses;

(B) upgrading essential systems for tracing drugs and processing samples in forensic laboratories to provide timely, accurate, and standard data reporting to the National Forensic Laboratory Information System; or

(C) training to better trace criminals through the darknet.

(2) FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTERS.—Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers shall provide training to State and local law enforcement agencies on how to best coordinate with State and Federal partners for tracking drug-related activity.

(3) COPS GRANTS.—Section 1701(b) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (23), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (24), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(25) to provide training and resources for containment devices to prevent secondary exposure to fentanyl and other substances for first responders.”.

(c) OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY REFORM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Drug Enforcement Administration shall develop uniform reporting standards for inputting data into the National Forensic Laboratory Information System for purity, formulation, and weight to allow for better comparison across jurisdictions and between agencies and the sharing of data.

(2) CLARIFICATION.—Nothing in paragraph (1) may be construed to require the creation of new or increased obligations or reporting requirements on State or local laboratories.

(d) DEA TESTING.—The Drug Enforcement Administration shall submit to Congress, as part of the annual budget process, a specific line item for the level of funding necessary for the Fentanyl Signature Profiling Program.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I request unanimous consent that Robert Goldman, Nicholas Kikuta, and Jordan Foley—fellows in my office—be granted floor privileges through December 31, 2025.

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

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 924

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 924) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes.

Mr. MORENO. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 11; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of Calendar No. 26; further, that at 11:45 a.m., the Senate vote on cloture on the Bradbury nomination; that following the cloture vote, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings; and that at 2:15 p.m., if cloture is

invoked, the Senate vote on confirmation of the Bradbury nomination, followed by cloture of the Slater nomination; further, that if cloture is invoked on the Slater nomination, that all time be expired and that the Senate vote on confirmation at 5:15 p.m.; finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

RECESS UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MORENO. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:17 p.m., recessed until Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

RICHARD ANDERSON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE, VICE ALEX WAGNER, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JOHN ARRIGO, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC.

THOMAS BARRACK, OF COLORADO, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

JOHN BARTRUM, OF INDIANA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (ENTERPRISE INTEGRATION), VICE GUY T. KIYOKAWA, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRIAN BURCH, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE HOLY SEE.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR GLOBAL MEDIA

LEO BRENT BOZELL III, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR GLOBAL MEDIA, VICE AMANDA BENNETT, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

JONATHAN BRIGHTBILL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, VICE SAMUEL T. WALSH, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MICHAEL CADENAZZI, OF RHODE ISLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE LAURA TAYLOR-KALE, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LEAH CAMPOS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

HUNG CAO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE NAVY, VICE ERIK KRISTOPHER RAVEN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TERRANCE COLE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF DRUG ENFORCEMENT, VICE ANNE MILGRAM, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PAUL DABBAR, OF NEW YORK, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, VICE DONET DOMINIC GRAVES, JR., RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PATRICK DAVID DAVIS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE CARLOS FELIPE URIARTE, RESIGNED.

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

JANET DHILLON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION FOR A

TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE GORDON HARTOGENSIS, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

JOSEPH EDLOW, OF MARYLAND, TO BE DIRECTOR OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE UR MENDOZA JADDOU, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN ANDREW EISENBERG, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE MATTHEW G. OLSEN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SOMERS FARKAS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA.

TILMAN FERTITTA, OF TEXAS, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO.

AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ROBERT GLEASON, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE ALBERT DICLEMENTE, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

ANDREW HUGHES, OF TEXAS, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE ADRIANNE TODMAN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

CATHERINE JEREZA, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (ELECTRICITY), VICE GENE RODRIGUES, RESIGNED.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

JOVAN JOVANOVIC, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE PRESIDENT OF THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 20, 2029, VICE RETA JO LEWIS, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRANDON JUDD, OF IDAHO, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ETHAN KLEIN, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY, VICE MICHAEL J.K. KRATSIOS.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

MATTHEW KOZMA, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR INTELLIGENCE AND ANALYSIS, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE KENNETH L. WAINSTEIN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

HARRY KUMAR, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, VICE SUSIE FELIZ, RESIGNED.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

AARON LUKAS, OF ARKANSAS, TO BE PRINCIPAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, VICE STACEY A. DIXON.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EDWARD MARTIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE MATTHEW M. GRAVES.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

CHERYL MASON, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (OFFICE OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION), VICE MARYANNE T. DONAGHY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

NICOLE MCGRAW, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SEAN MCMASTER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, VICE SHAILEN P. BHATT.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DAVID METCALF, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JACQUELINE C. ROMERO.

JOSEPH NOCELLA, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE BREON S. PEACE.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

SEAN O'KEEFE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE ASHISH S. VAZIRANI, RESIGNED.

MICHAEL OBADAL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, VICE GABRIEL CAMARILLO, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SEVAL OZ, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION. (NEW POSITION)

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

JAMES PERCIVAL, OF FLORIDA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE JONATHAN EUGENE MEYER, RESIGNED.

SEAN PLANKEY, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE JEN EASTERLY, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ANDREW PUZZER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE EUROPEAN UNION, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JASON REDING QUINONES, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE MARKENZY LAPOINTE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LEANDRO RIZZUTO, OF FLORIDA, TO BE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR, VICE FRANCISCO O. MORA, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GADYACES SERRALTA, OF FLORIDA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE, VICE RONALD L. DAVIS, RESIGNED.

BRETT SHUMATE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE JOSEPH H. HUNT, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

JOHN SQUIRES, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, VICE KATHERINE VIDAL, RESIGNED.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

GEORGE WESLEY STREET, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER, VICE MICHAEL COLIN CASEY, RESIGNED.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ERIC MATTHEW UELAND, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE JASON SCOTT MILLER, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ANDREW VEPREK, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (POPULATION, REFUGEES, AND MIGRATION), VICE JULIETA VALLS NOYES.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

TIMOTHY JOHN WALSH, OF COLORADO, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT), VICE ANNE MARIE WHITE.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

DAVID WOLL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE DAMON Y. SMITH, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DANIEL ZIMMERMAN, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE CELESTE ANN WALLANDER, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF AND APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 152 AND 601:

To be general

LT. GEN. JOHN D. CAINE (RETIRED)

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE PERMANENT GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE II, SECTION 2, CLAUSE 2:

To be major general

LT. GEN. JOHN D. CAINE (RETIRED)

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

KENNETH JACKSON, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 20, 2028, VICE HECTOR E. MORALES, TERM EXPIRED.

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

LAKEN RAPIER, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 22, 2027, VICE LINDA THOMAS-GREENFIELD, TERM EXPIRED.

RUSSELL VOUGHT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOP-

MENT FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 27, 2027, VICE LINDA I. ETIM, TERM EXPIRED.

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

RUSSELL VOUGHT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 20, 2030, VICE J. KELLY RYAN, TERM EXPIRED.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate March 10, 2025:

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

LORI CHAVEZ-DEREMER, OF OREGON, TO BE SECRETARY OF LABOR.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING RICHARD F. CAMACHO
FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY SERV-
ICE TO HIS COUNTRY, COMMU-
NITY, AND FELLOW VETERANS

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with profound respect and admiration to honor Richard F. Camacho for his exceptional leadership and tireless dedication to the Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County. For nearly four decades, Richard has selflessly served his fellow veterans, ensuring that their sacrifices are not only recognized but deeply honored. His unwavering commitment to this mission has left an indelible mark on our community, and it has been a true privilege for me to work alongside Richard over the years, witnessing his dedication, passion, and respect for his fellow veterans.

Richard's journey of service began in 1966 when he was drafted into the United States Marine Corps. A proud son of Santa Monica, Richard answered the call to duty, joining the Second Recon Battalion at Camp Lejeune after completing training with Honor Platoon 136 at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. In 1967, he deployed to Vietnam with the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, where he displayed extraordinary courage in combat. During Operation Chamberland that August, Richard was wounded by a grenade explosion. For his heroism and sacrifice, he was awarded numerous military honors, including the Purple Heart.

After his honorable discharge in 1968, Richard returned home and began to focus on serving his fellow brothers and sisters in uniform. In 1968, he co-founded the Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County, an organization dedicated to providing support, advocacy, and recognition for local veterans. Over the years, Richard has served in virtually every leadership capacity within the organization, including as President, and has worked tirelessly to ensure that all veterans receive the care, respect, and recognition they deserve.

Under Richard's leadership, the Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County has achieved remarkable milestones, including bringing The Moving Wall—a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.—to Ventura County eight times, allowing thousands of community members to honor and reflect on the sacrifices made by those who served. Additionally, Richard was instrumental in the dedication of the Ventura County Veterans Memorial Highway, ensuring that the contributions of our veterans will never be forgotten.

Richard has also been a steadfast advocate for veterans in need of assistance, working to help them navigate the complex process of securing benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the Ventura County Veterans Services Office. His compassion and

commitment have directly improved the lives of countless veterans and their families, ensuring they receive the care and services they have earned.

As a member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I have had the honor of working with Richard and collaborating with him to improve healthcare access for our veterans. Richard was an invaluable partner in the establishment of the Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner VA Outpatient Clinic, which opened in 2022. His dedication to this project helped expand access to healthcare for our region's veterans, ensuring they receive the timely and high-quality care they deserve.

In addition to his work on behalf of veterans, Richard has been deeply committed to educating future generations about the Vietnam War and its lasting effects. He has brought veterans into local classrooms, of sharing their stories with students, and has sponsored annual college scholarships for Ventura County high school students, helping to pave the way for their future success.

Personally, I have the deepest respect for Richard—not only for his service to our country but for the kind of person he is. His integrity, selflessness, and unwavering dedication to our veterans, our community, and our country make him a remarkable leader. It has been a privilege to work alongside him and see firsthand the lasting impact of his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, today, I join a grateful community in recognizing Richard F. Camacho for his exceptional leadership, tireless advocacy, and lifetime of service to the Vietnam Veterans of Ventura County. He is a hero, a mentor, and a true friend to all of us, and his ongoing legacy will continue to inspire future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 62 and NAY on Roll Call No. 61.

RECOGNIZING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO NICOLE SMALL

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dallas native Nicole Small. She has gone above and beyond to improve our community, dedicating her time to civic leadership through philanthropy and science innovation. As CEO of LH Capital and Lyda Hill Philanthropies (LHP), she's shaping the future of science, technology, and nature Nicole is building a strong biotech hub in North Texas,

including through the development and expansion of Pegasus Park.

Through her work at LHP, Nicole co-founded the IF/THEN initiative to encourage women and girls to pursue STEM careers. As part of this, Small is also an Executive Producer of CBS's Mission Unstoppable.

Nicole's leadership at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science is a further testament to her ability to bring communities together and create a lasting impact. She raised over \$200 million to merge three museums into one and led the Perot Museum into a new era of excellence. Most recently, she was honored by Texas Woman's University as the 2025 Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award.

I thank Nicole for her continued dedication to improving our community.

CELEBRATING NORFOLK SENIOR HIGH GIRLS WRESTLING TEAM

HON. MIKE FLOOD

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Norfolk Senior High girls wrestling team for their incredible achievement in winning the NSAA Class A state championship.

The Norfolk girls wrestling team demonstrated remarkable resilience and determination throughout the season, culminating in a well-earned state championship victory during the two-day tournament. Each member of the team played a pivotal role, with all ten wrestlers contributing points to secure the win.

Under the leadership of Head Coach Andrew Stowe, the Panthers exhibited overwhelming grit and unwavering team spirit. Coach Stowe's guidance helped the team stay focused and committed, recognizing that their success as a team would come through consistency, dedication, and collaboration.

In the end, the Norfolk Panthers showed true grit and perseverance, ultimately claiming the state championship. This victory is a testament to their hard work, teamwork, and unwavering determination.

Congratulations to the entire girls wrestling on their outstanding accomplishment.

HONORING THE LATE DAVE ASHER, FORMER CITY OF KIRKLAND, WASHINGTON COUNCILMEMBER

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Former Councilmember for the City of Kirkland, Dave Asher. During his 20 years with the council, Mr. Asher was committed to community service and devoted to

• 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.

empowering the citizens of Kirkland and enhancing civic engagement. Known for his philosophy of “promises made, promises kept,” Mr. Asher advocated a vision of public safety, walkability, fiscal responsibility, and environmental sustainability. His actions as a public servant have left a lasting impact on his community and he will be remembered for his extensive contributions to the city.

Prior to his tenure on Kirkland’s city council, Mr. Asher served for over two decades in the United States Army. He took on the roles of Infantryman, Aviator, and Logistician with assignments in the U.S., Asia, and Europe. After his service he joined the University of Washington, eventually becoming the Chief Financial Officer for UW educational outreach. During this time, he was Vice Chair of the Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods and Chair of the Rose Hill Neighborhood Association. He was also a member of the Kiwanis Club of Kirkland and was recognized for his notable ability in recruiting members. Mr. Asher was also a devoted husband to his wife Hae-Sun for over 40 years, showing support, respect, and partnership through every milestone in their marriage.

Mr. Asher will be remembered as a dedicated public servant and an upstanding member of the Kirkland community. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Former City Councilmember Dave Asher and the legacy his work has left behind.

RECOGNIZING GIRL SCOUTS OF
SAN JACINTO COUNTY, TEXAS
AT THE UNITED NATIONS 69TH
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF
WOMEN

HON. LIZZIE FLETCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carolyn Durso, Lana Ngyuen, Jaya Sheth, and Elise Peneguy from Girl Scouts of San Jacinto, for their selection to represent Girl Scouts of the USA at the United Nations’ 69th Commission on the Status of Women.

Each year, Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) joins more than 5,000 women and girls from around the world at the United Nations headquarters in New York to participate in the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). Delegates representing GSUSA undergo a rigorous application process and training to prepare them for their participation in the CSW. As delegates, girls have the opportunity to engage with GSUSA’s work around global advocacy, learn about global issues, see firsthand how global entities function, and have their voices heard on global issues impacting girls and young women.

The CSW is a functional commission of the United Nations, dedicated to shaping global standards on gender equality and the advancement and empowerment of women and girls. Each year, national representatives of Member States gather for a two-week session to evaluate progress on gender equality, identify challenges, set global standards, and formulate concrete policies to promote gender equality and the advancement of women worldwide. As NGO Consultative members,

GSUSA and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts participate to bring the voice of girls and young women to the global stage.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Texas’ Seventh Congressional District, I congratulate these four young women on their selection. I thank them for their leadership and send best wishes for their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MY CONGRESSIONAL
STAFF IN HONOR OF NATIONAL
EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY

HON. DEBORAH K. ROSS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound appreciation for the staff who serve the people of the Second District of North Carolina.

This is an exceptionally challenging time for public servants in America. Congressional staff are no exception. Yet, despite an increasingly hostile political environment, my office continues to deliver superlative results for my constituents.

Last year, my district staff hosted or attended almost 200 events in Wake County, closed more than 1,500 constituent cases, and returned more than \$22.3 million in federal benefits to the people of North Carolina. Over the same period, the staff in my Washington, D.C. office researched hundreds of policy questions, drafted 32 bills, amendments, and resolutions, and responded to more than 43,000 messages from constituents.

These numbers are an impressive but inadequate measure of my staff’s contributions. In ways large and small—sometimes splashed on the frontpage of the newspaper but more often known only to a single family—they touch the lives of the people I represent.

Their service isn’t just about providing information on legislation or assistance with benefits. In moments of hardship and frustration, my staff offer hope and wise counsel. They make people feel heard and understood and appreciated. In a very practical sense, they make real our Constitution’s promise to every American of the right to “petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of their dedicated service and long hours on behalf of the people of North Carolina, I wish to include in the RECORD the names of each staffer currently employed by my office:

Puj Adusumilli, Kimberly Moore, Nadia Alston, Samantha Crane, Caroline Spencer Sparks, Josie Feron, Maura Haydin Thompson, Walker Beard, Tom Koester, Matthew Lee, Katie Paulson, Ally Tannenbaum, Jackie Gonzalez, Daphné Moore, Bardia Asefnia, Huston Wallace, Sam Upah, Alisa Sarkisian-Tatarian, Sophia Jacome, Sophie Macomber, Erendira Ramirez, Easton Inman, and Chalina Morgan-Lopez.

Mr. Speaker, March 7th was National Employee Appreciation Day. On that day and every day, I am grateful that my staff have chosen to invest so much of their precious time and talent to making a difference for North Carolina. Their enthusiasm energizes me. Their creativity inspires me. At this difficult time, their positivity in the face of so much turmoil fills me with hope for the future.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARION
COCKRELL

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of Marion Cockrell, a beloved member of Virginia’s First District Republican Committee. It was with immense sadness that I learned of her passing late last week and would like to take a moment to highlight her many contributions to Virginia’s First District.

Marion served as Chairman for the Northumberland Committee with strength, grace, kindness, and a truly exceptional sense of humor. All of us who have been privileged to know Marion can attest to her thoughtfulness and authenticity. I was blessed to know her and work by her side the past few years.

Despite her health challenges this Spring, Marion never stopped serving her committee and our party with integrity and conviction. She was an extraordinary woman whose positive effect on all of those who served alongside her will never be forgotten. Her efforts to serve others exemplify the very best of what it means to be a citizen of the Virginia Commonwealth and this great nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Marion Cockrell for her lifetime of service and dedication. On behalf of the people of Virginia’s First District, I extend my deepest gratitude and admiration for Marion Cockrell and wish her family comfort and blessings during this difficult time.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF THURMAN GUPTON

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Thurman Gupton, who was a compassionate mentor, dedicated community leader, and advocate for positive change. Thurman leaves a legacy of service in Contra Costa County and beyond.

Thurman dedicated his life to uplifting others, particularly young men navigating fatherhood. Through his role as Mentor Coordinator at the Family Wellness Center and his tireless work on the “Young Men as Fathers” program, he transformed lives by providing incarcerated and at-risk young fathers with essential parenting skills and mentoring opportunities. Thurman believed that it was critical to break cycles of neglect and dysfunction and foster better futures for families in our community. His dedication to the program left an indelible mark on the young men who worked alongside him. Through the program’s structured guidance, he helped many young men in developing a greater sense of purpose and community as they built parenting skills, fostered emotional growth, and set positive examples for their children.

Furthermore, Mr. Thurman Gupton was a dedicated advocate for equity and community empowerment, reflected in his active participation in the Black Families Association, the

Black Student Union, and his service on the Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Council. Through these roles, he championed resources, guidance, and educational opportunities for the Black community while advocating for workplace equity and fair hiring practices.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Thurman was a man of varied and profound interests that reflected his deep commitment to his community and personal growth. He was an avid reader and writer, often using his talents to contribute to civic and community functions. Additionally, his faith inspired his actions, and he took great pride in being a supportive and engaged member of his congregation.

Thurman's life will be remembered for his outstanding character and his devotion to our community. His legacy lives on in the countless lives he touched through his mentorship, education, and advocacy. Please join me in honoring Thurman Gupton.

TIBET UPRISING DAY

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today marks a sad and brutal anniversary: the violent crushing in 1959 by the Communist Chinese People's Liberation Army of a patriotic movement that resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands of Tibetans and the fleeing into exile of His Holiness, the Dalai Lama.

The world saw the true nature of the Communist regime and was horrified.

In the ensuing decades since then, I am afraid there has been a dulling of the moral clarity we once possessed. Today, businesses, universities and politicians seek to partner with the People's Republic of China, lulled by the thought of lucre or enhanced prestige.

The nature of the Chinese Communist regime has not changed, however, nor has its goals. In 1959 the evil intent toward the great people of Tibet was manifested for all to see. Today, however, the genocidal repression is more subtle.

We see a slow-motion erasure of Tibetan culture, of children being taken from their parents and placed into colonial boarding schools where they are cut off from their language and culture. We see Tibetan women being forcibly sterilized, their children aborted.

Genocide does not require gas chambers or killing fields; per the Genocide Convention of 1948, its attributes include the "imposing [of] measures intended to prevent births within the group," and "forcibly transferring children of the group to another group."

This is what is happening. Today.

So strongly do I feel about this, that when I was named chair of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China last Congress, the very first hearing I convened was on "Preserving Tibet: Combating Cultural Erasure, Forced Assimilation and Transnational Repression."

Yet the CCP continues to wage a campaign of repression targeting the right of Tibetans to

educate their children. As noted, they are placed in colonial boarding schools, while across the Tibetan plateau the CCP shutters independent schools, many associated with monastic institutions. Young monks in particular are being forced to leave their religious training and enroll in state-run schools.

Schools that have been shut down in the last year include one attached to Kirti Monastery in Sichuan, and the Ragya Gangjong Sherig Norbulmg school in Qinghai. These school closures cut off a vital way for Tibetans to transmit their religious, linguistic, and cultural heritage, and should be viewed as a key part of the larger Sinicization project in Tibet.

There is an information blockade on Tibet, particularly the Tibet Autonomous Region. Thus, we could not obtain information about the January 2025 earthquake in Dingrim, and were left in the dark about how widespread damage was, how many people died or were injured, and what is the status of relief work.

Indeed, just this past first week of March, Chinese officials indicated that the number of affected people was more than twice what was previously reported.

Authorities have reportedly detained dozens of Tibetans for spreading "false information" about the earthquake. Meanwhile a Tibetan Buddhist monastery librarian was sentenced to 3 years in prison for "inciting separatism" because he was in contact with people outside Tibet and shared books that had been published abroad.

PRC officials are continuing the recent change in official terminology regarding Tibet, now referring in English to anything related to the Tibet Autonomous Region as "Xizang," the Mandarin word for Tibet. Organizations around the world that interact with the PRC government, for example museums, are pressured to accept this change.

Atshog (Atsok) Monastery in Qinghai was demolished last summer, and by fall the site was submerged under a new dam's filling reservoir, destroying stupa and murals that couldn't be relocated, and forcing the resettlement of the monastery's resident monks.

Of course, as geographic location is an important religious factor for Tibetan Buddhism, with local deities are often identified with geographic features like mountains or rivers, simply moving a monastery can never make up for what is lost.

Thus, if we are going to preserve Tibet, we in Congress need to continue to hear their voice. We cannot only pay attention on anniversaries such as March 10, but rather we must resolve to raise the cause of Tibet on a day-to-day basis.

The first step, however, is not forgetting. That is why we are here today.

Let's continue to work together to preserve Tibet and one day, we hope, we will see a free and independent Tibet.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JOE ADAMS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mr. Joe Vernon Adams of

Cooper, Texas, who peacefully passed away on February 20, 2025.

Joe was born on June 27, 1963, to Eugene and Jo Ann Adams. Despite being born with a critical spinal condition, he overcame all obstacles and pushed forward to live with dedication, patriotism, and an unwavering commitment to conservative values. Prior to being elected as County Chairman for the Republican Party of Delta County in 2018, Joe was a longtime member of the Delta County Republican Club and a dedicated volunteer for the Republican Party of Texas. He regularly attended city council meetings, commissioners' court sessions, and community events throughout Delta County, where his presence and expertise was welcomed by many. Moreover, Joe regularly participated in the Cooper Cleanup Crew's Saturday events to help keep the city clean and beautiful.

As a proud American and patriot, Joe continued to tirelessly advocate for our nation's values, including freedom, responsibility, and service. He did not allow his disability to limit his valued contributions to our community. Instead, Joe worked diligently to connect constituents with their elected officials and promote civic engagement throughout North Texas. On top of his political and community work, he was a devoted father, grandfather, uncle, and friend. Joe enjoyed a good day of fishing and spending quality time with his family. I am deeply saddened to hear of his passing, as he made a positive and lasting impact on our community.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol in recognition of Joe's wonderful life and service. He will be dearly missed by his friends, family, and all who knew him.

CELEBRATING BATTLE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL BOYS WRESTLING TEAM

HON. MIKE FLOOD

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Battle Creek High School boys wrestling team for earning the Class C NSAA state championship for the second year in a row.

This historic victory was secured in dramatic fashion, with the team clinching the state title during the final match of the tournament. Every member of the team played a crucial role, whether it was the seniors closing out their high school careers as back-to-back state champions, or the younger wrestlers who will continue to build on this success in future seasons.

Under the leadership of Head Coach Cody Wintz, the team stayed focused, even after committing his finalists to earn individual titles. The dedication and grit displayed by their two finalists were key in propelling Battle Creek to the state championship once again.

Congratulations to the entire Battle Creek boys wrestling team on this outstanding and historic accomplishment.

CONGRATULATING GERTRUDE
PAULINE WHITENER MILBURN
ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Gertrude Pauline Whitener Milburn on turning 100 years old later this week on March 14th.

Gertrude Pauline Whitener Milburn was born on March 14, 1925, and grew up in a small textile community known as Brookford, located in Hickory, North Carolina. She had two brothers and a sister.

Gertrude met Bill Milburn while he was serving in the Navy during World War II, and they married in December 1945 after his discharge. They had two children, Patricia Milburn Link and Randolph Lee Milburn, and lived in Lincolnton, North Carolina, until 1967, when they moved to Lake Norman.

Gertrude spent her entire career in the textile industry. She is the proud grandmother of four, with ten great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren. She is not shy to be blunt and share her many years of wisdom with the younger generations.

On behalf of all of Western North Carolina, I congratulate Gertrude.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CRAIG ROBERTS

HON. DARIN LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Craig Roberts of Alton, Illinois, who passed away on February 15, 2025, at the age of 62.

Born and raised in Illinois, Craig graduated from Western Illinois University with a bachelor's degree in communications, marketing, and political science in 1984. Craig's passion for politics and government along with his personal attachment to Illinois led him to begin his career in state government.

During this time, Craig worked as the Republican Staff Director on Issues Development for the Illinois House of Representatives, Assistant to the Illinois Lieutenant Governor, and the Executive Assistant for Programs and Policy Development for the Illinois Secretary of State. For over a decade, Craig served the state of Illinois and left a lasting impact on many through his commitment to our state government.

In 1997, Craig made the transition to the United States House of Representatives. Here he worked as long-time Chief of Staff for Representative John Shimkus for 24 years while also serving as President of the House Chiefs of Staff Association from 2015 to 2020. Craig ended his career in the House as a Special Advisor to the House Administration Committee and afterward held the role of Senior Vice President at Milne, Wiener & Shofe Global Strategies.

Craig was a long-time mentor to up and coming Hill staff, supported numerous Members of the Illinois delegation as they

transitioned to Congress, and was a true example of what dedicating your life to public service really means.

Craig was undoubtedly a dedicated and impactful figure in both the state of Illinois and here in Washington and while his legacy will live on, he will be truly missed as a friend to so many. I want to offer my condolences to the Roberts family and their loved ones on the loss of a great man who will be fondly remembered by all those who knew him.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN CONSTRUCTION OWNERS AND EXECUTIVES

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Women Construction Owners and Executives, or WCOE for short, on the organization's 40th anniversary. Forty years ago, a group of forward-thinking women construction entrepreneurs came together to help each other succeed in a competitive and male-dominated industry. Their goal was to promote business opportunities for each other and, as a result, formed WCOE. Today, WCOE is recognized as a leading national voice advocating for women business owners and executives in the construction industry.

From its humble beginnings as a small group of women entrepreneurs, WCOE has developed into a powerful and influential nationwide network of local chapters. True to its goal of supporting women in the construction industry, WCOE members continue to mentor each other, sharing their knowledge, experiences, and resources to help one another thrive. This culture of mentorship has been instrumental in fostering a strong sense of community and empowerment among women construction professionals.

Through various programs and initiatives, WCOE provides its members with the support they need to succeed, from business development and networking opportunities to educational resources and industry insights. WCOE has also been at the forefront of advocating for policies that recognize women in construction and promote equal opportunities within the industry. For example, WCOE was at the forefront of a hard-fought effort to mitigate fraud in the Women-Owned Small Business Program by eliminating self-certification. WCOE was also an early supporter of the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum to recognize the women who helped build this Nation, literally and figuratively.

I applaud this strong group of women, who continue to be a resource and an inspiration to other women in the industry. Their dedication, resilience, and vision have paved the way for future generations of women in construction. As we celebrate WCOE's 40th anniversary, let us recognize and honor the remarkable achievements of this organization. Together, we can build a brighter and more inclusive future for women in the construction industry.

DECLARATION OF MOTHERS: A PROCLAMATION AND PLEDGE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF FREEDOM AND VIRTUE

HON. MARY E. MILLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the declaration below on behalf of Moms for America.

As the mothers, chief architects of the homes of America, and molders of the future of our nation, we declare that the liberty and freedom of all people begin in the home and that a nation is but a magnified home. The values and virtues taught within the family will determine the values and virtues of the Nation as a whole.

We uphold the laws of nature affirming the gender roles of male and female as essential elements for the perpetuation of life. As life is our most fundamental right, protected by the Constitution, so too is the truth that God created two distinct genders—male and female—each with purposeful design and irreplaceable roles. We honor both mothers and fathers working together to protect and nurture the fundamental unit of society which is the family.

We recognize the sacred role of mother as the heart of the home and home as the heart of society. The liberty of each individual begins in the home and parents are, first and foremost, the primary teachers and protectors of their children in a free society. Properly constructed social, religious, and governmental institutions are designed to support and strengthen the family unit, not restrict it, regulate, or replace it. No association or government organization can replace the family no matter how well-intentioned or well-designed it may be.

The privilege of living as a free people in a free society is dependent on being a people of faith, virtue and patriotism—the three pillars of liberty—and these attributes are best developed and nurtured in the home. Each generation has a responsibility to instill a love of liberty and virtue in the hearts of the next generation.

We affirm that “All men and women are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights and to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, [receiving] their just powers from the consent of the governed.”

To secure the blessings of liberty, the Founding Fathers of the United States of America created a written constitution under the inspiration of Almighty God. The preservation of this sacred document and trust is dependent upon each generation who bears the stewardship of safeguarding the constitution and teaching their children the rights and responsibilities associated with the noble cause of liberty and keeping the Republic.

Every individual is born with intrinsic dignity that is inherent to each member of the human race with life being our most fundamental inalienable divine right. All men and women have the right to liberty, self-determination and self-governance. The individual's responsibility of work, education, and industry are crucial elements of self-governance in society and the preservation of human dignity.

The rights of a free people are protected and preserved through honorable, virtuous, leadership which invokes the nobility inherent in all men and women. As the lessons of history clearly demonstrate, we recognize that freedom is fragile. It is a rare and prized

possession and requires constant care and vigilance for its preservation. Living as a free people does not come instinctively; principles of freedom must be studied and applied. Home and families with mothers who nurture and teach these principles produce leaders who honor and hold sacred the intrinsic dignity of the individual and inalienable rights endowed to all people.

To safeguard the liberty and enhance the future of our grandchildren, we affirm our commitment to “stand fast in that liberty wherewith God has made us free” that “government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth.”

HONORING THE SERVICE OF BILL WHITNEY

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bill Whitney as he retires from the Contra Costa Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL–CIO.

Throughout his life, Bill has demonstrated his dedication to his family and community. He was born in Erie, Pennsylvania and worked on his family's farm alongside his three brothers. The family moved around Pennsylvania before eventually settling in Walnut Creek, California when Bill was twelve years old. Bill attended Ygnacio Valley High School and went on to earn his degree in Zoology from the University of California, Davis. While attending U.C. Davis, he was deeply involved in sports and other extracurricular activities, including football, baseball, basketball, tennis, and swimming. His commitment to service was evident though his participation in Boy Scouts, Key Club, and his fraternity, Theta Xi.

Bill moved to Benicia in 1977, where he was a devoted advocate for his community. Bill was a proud member of the Lions Club, Rotary Benicia historical Society, and the Chamber of Commerce. His dedication to public service was exemplified by his election to the Benicia City Council, where he served from 1999 to 2007.

Bill has been a powerful advocate for working people throughout his career, having been a member of three unions: the Retail Clerks Union, Inland Boatman Union, and United Association of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry. In each of these organizations, he played a pivotal role in advancing workers' rights, improving workplace conditions, and ensuring fair wages for workers. His work has been critical in expanding economic opportunities for working families and in preparing our workforce for the jobs of the 21st century. Additionally, as an ERISA trust fund trustee, Bill worked diligently to protect workers' pensions and retirement security. Bill has been a key figure in the labor movement in California and beyond and his leadership has benefitted countless workers.

As Bill steps into retirement, we recognize a lifetime of service, advocacy, and leadership. Please join me in thanking Bill for his remarkable service and wishing him the very best in his well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING ELIZABETH KENNERLEY'S TIRELESS RARE DISEASE ADVOCACY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary constituent from my district, Elizabeth Kennerley. As a rare disease patient, advocate, and unwavering supporter of inclusive healthcare, Liz has devoted her life to making a meaningful impact on her community and those affected by rare diseases. She continues to inspire those around her, with her astounding selflessness and resilience.

Liz's journey is one that few can imagine. As someone who lives with the burden of a rare disease, Liz has not only used her personal journey to advocate for others but has also dedicated herself to advocating on Capitol Hill for those living with rare diseases. She is also a dedicated member of the Rare Disease Diversity Coalition (RDDC), where she works to ensure that the needs of rare disease patients are heard. Liz's work with the RDDC has been instrumental in promoting inclusivity in healthcare policy.

The RDDC proudly awarded Liz this year's RISE Award, as she consistently embodies the very essence of what RISE stands for: Resilience, Inspiration, Strength, and Empowerment.

As Liz would say, “being a patient with a rare disease is the hardest job in the world,” a sentiment that highlights the incredible challenges and resilience required to live with a rare disease. Through her unwavering dedication, Liz ensures that the voices of rare disease patients are heard. We thank her for her dedicated service to our community.

RECOGNIZING MARY MILLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Mary Miller, who is retiring after more than four decades of distinguished service as a well-respected and remarkable advocate for the general aviation industry.

Mary's forty-four-year career in general aviation has been spent mostly on the ground supporting those who do fly. Those contributions to her industry have been recognized by the high honors of the industry's “Distinguished Service” award and its “Distinguished Stateswoman in Aviation” award.

Mary's contributions are aptly described as “the wise, trusted relational bridge to many and varied aspects of the aviation community.” The bridges Mary has built have been used for decades by industry leaders, government officials, and organizations to refine policy aims, regulatory enforcement, and market conditions in which the general aviation industry and her specific company operate. On any given day, her functional activities could be as diverse as FAA Temporary Flight Restrictions, novel electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft (eVTOL) certifications, promoting new

sustainable fuels, right down to real-time advice to a pilot at a distant Signature Aviation base on how to unsnag a challenge clearing customs.

For so many years, we have seen Mary on the bustling ramps at Super Bowls, Oshkosh, Tarkio, presidential inaugurations, and other major general aviation events. However, from my conversations with Mary, her effort to restore activity to the barren general aviation ramp at Reagan Washington National after the terrorist attacks of 9/11 gave her the most satisfaction. Politely but stubbornly, she refused to accept the notion that 9/11 would permanently close the Nation's capital airport to general aviation landings. Eventually, that seven-year effort of Mary and her many colleagues led to the airport's successful reopening through the DCA Access Standard Security Program (DASSP).

Mary has been an unfailingly genuine, wise, and shrewd contributor to the interests of the general aviation community and a friend to all.

As Mary prepares to retire from Signature Aviation, I wish her well in all her endeavors and thank her for her service to the aviation community and the Nation. I am confident she will continue to be an influential advocate for General Aviation (GA).

HONORING TRACEE SUTTON

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my Chief of Staff, Tracee Sutton, as she retires after 28 years of service to our Nation. Tracee is a once-in-a-generation legislative talent who served her home state of North Dakota for more than twenty years before agreeing to lead my legislative team upon my election to Congress in 2018.

Tracee Sutton was born in Stutsman County, North Dakota, to Gary and Linda Gross. Leaving North Dakota to attend university, Tracee received her Bachelor of Science degree in Philosophy and Prelaw from Utah State University in 1995. She began her decades-long career as a public servant while still in college, interning for Congresswoman Karen Shepherd in Utah.

After graduation, she moved to Washington, D.C., to intern for Congressman Earl Pomeroy of North Dakota. Working her way up from intern to Legislative Assistant under Congressman Pomeroy, Tracee managed a diverse legislative portfolio, encompassing water resources, economic development, housing and transportation. Tracee secured billions for infrastructure, water resource and flood control projects in North Dakota and passed legislation to streamline essential flood control projects with FEMA and the Army Corps.

In 2002, Tracee joined the office of Senator Kent Conrad of North Dakota as a Legislative Assistant. Her many accomplishments in this role—from securing millions for North Dakota in annual appropriations requests to contributing to constituent facing communications—were rightly recognized as she was promoted to the Senator's Deputy Legislative Director in just two years. Notably, Tracee negotiated with Committee leadership and secured \$70 million to address a serious road safety issue,

and she helped extend the Conrad State 30 program, which directly addresses national physician shortages.

When Senator Heidi Heitkamp was elected to represent North Dakota in 2012, Tracee was recognized for her impressive legislative record and named Legislative Director. Managing a legislative team of more than 15 staffers and interns, Tracee successfully set up a new Senate office—from creating a legislative roadmap to managing routine operations. As Legislative Director, she crafted more than 50 bills, four of which passed as stand-alone bills and fourteen of which were incorporated into law in larger legislative packages. She also secured \$2.1 billion for a flood control project in North Dakota's largest metro area.

Tracee's compassionate leadership and her ability to create innovative policy solutions to topics far beyond the average staffer's grasp has set her apart. She supported numerous interns and junior staff as they launched their own careers, taking the time to mentor anyone who asked for her help and guidance. Her hard work was recognized, gratefully, by the community she served. While in the Senate, Tracee received the Commodore Award for her work to protect, develop and manage North Dakota's water resources, the Kevin E. Quinlan Award for Excellence in Traffic Safety for her leadership in creating safer roadways, John M. Agrey Award for her many contributions to the state of North Dakota, and was a finalist for the prestigious Congressional Management Foundation's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Hiring Tracee to lead my legislative efforts when I was elected to Congress in 2018 remains one of the smartest decisions I've ever made. Her dedication and drive set my legislative team up for success from the start, and her expertise in water, transportation and infrastructure has proved invaluable. Tracee spearheaded the creation of my Arizona Environmental Infrastructure Authority—the first Army Corps project of its kind in Arizona that now disperses funds to critical water infrastructure projects all around our state. She shaped legislation for the FAA Reauthorization that ensure all Americans can fly safely, particularly Americans with disabilities. When my former Chief of Staff left my office in the summer of 2024, I never doubted for a moment that I already had the perfect candidate to step up as Chief. Tracee has given as much of her time and talent to the people of Arizona as she gave to her North Dakota community, and we owe her a deep debt of gratitude.

On the rare occasions Tracee isn't in her office giving Congress her all, she enjoys traveling with her husband, Kevin Sutton, and playing with her dog, Riley. It's my hope that her retirement will hold many more cherished moments with family and friends. I wish her all the best, and Godspeed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SALARY TRANSPARENCY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Salary Transparency Act, which would require employers to provide the salary

range for jobs in advertisements and interviews and to existing employees.

Several states have enacted laws relating to salary range disclosure, and the Federal Government should follow their lead and make salary range disclosure a national requirement. Salary transparency is an important tool to combat the gender and race pay gap. Salary secrecy facilitates both intentional and unintentional pay discrimination and perpetuates the pay gap.

Studies have consistently shown that when women negotiate for their salaries, they negotiate for less than similarly situated men. Frequently, this is because the salary they request is a certain percentage higher than their current salary. Because women on average make less than men, this practice perpetuates the pay gap. The same is true for people of color, who earn less on average than their white counterparts. Requiring employers to disclose the salary range for a job will help address this harmful aspect of salary negotiations and lead to a reduction in the gender and race pay gap.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF GERALD (JERRY) YAHIRO

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2025

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and extraordinary life of long-time community leader and commissioned 2nd Lieutenant, Gerald "Jerry" Yahiro. Jerry was a remarkable human being who dedicated his life to his country, his community, and his fellow veterans. Born in Wailuku, Hawaii in 1943 to Yoshisuki and Miyuki Yahiro, Jerry throughout his life exemplified the values of service, leadership, and compassion.

Jerry graduated from St. Anthony High School in Maui and went on to Seattle University where he earned his degree in Political Science. He answered the call of duty and served our Nation with honor as a 2nd lieutenant in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War from June 1967 to June 1968. He displayed extraordinary courage and commitment on behalf of his fellow soldiers and his country.

Following his military service, Jerry moved to California and began a career in marketing and sales. Upon retirement, Jerry began his "second career" and was a tireless advocate for veterans and military families. As president of the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley (VNVDV) from 2010 through 2011 and later as event director from 2013 through 2024, Jerry provided critical services to veterans in need. He co-founded the East Bay Stand Down (EBSD) which has supported countless initiatives for the veteran community. Additionally, Jerry served on the board of trustees for the Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley, in Danville.

Jerry is survived by his life partner of 35 years, Patti Kintz, and his brother, Michael Yahiro. His legacy of kindness and service will be remembered by all those who knew him. Please join me in recognizing Jerry Yahiro for his incredible impact on our community.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 2025 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 12

Time to be announced

Committee on the Budget

Business meeting to consider the nomination of James Bishop, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

S-216

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to consider Major Medical Lease Committee Resolution FY25, Major Medical Lease Committee Resolution PACT Act, and the nomination of Paul Lawrence, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

TBA

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support

To hold hearings to examine the current readiness of the Joint Force.

SD-G50

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to continue consideration of an authorization to subpoena the production of memoranda, documents, records, or other materials from the Massachusetts Port Authority.

SR-253

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine housing roadblocks, focusing on paving a new way to address affordability.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 28, to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices, S. 97, to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production, S. 244, to direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, to conduct a study of the national security risks posed by consumer routers, modems, and devices

that combine a modem and router, S. 289, to ban the sale of products with a high concentration of sodium nitrate to individuals, S. 323, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to develop a National Strategy to Synchronize Federal Broadband Programs, S. 389, to establish consumer standards for lithium-ion batteries, S. 414, to require covered digital advertising platforms to report their public service advertisements, S. 428, to promote space situational awareness and space traffic coordination and to modify the functions and leadership of the Office of Space Commerce, S. 433, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the National Manufacturing Advisory Council within the Department of Commerce, S. 582, to provide for the authorized use of Federal vehicle transportation by certain astronauts, S. 613, to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to maintain the National Mesonet Program, S. 759, to provide for standardization, publication, and accessibility of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways, S. 792, to require the National Telecommunications Information Administration to estimate the value of electromagnetic spectrum assigned or otherwise allocated to Federal entities, S. 841, to require online dating service providers to provide fraud ban notifications to online dating service members, S. 843, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Grant Program, and the nominations of Mark Meador, of Virginia, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, and Michael Kratsios, of South Carolina, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

SR-253

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 362, to allow certain Federal minerals to be mined consistent with the Bull Mountains Mining Plan Modification, S. 544, to provide for the location of multiple hardrock mining mill sites, to establish the Abandoned Hardrock Mine Fund, S. 596, to establish a pilot program to support domestic critical material processing, S. 714, to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, S. 789, 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 S. 859, to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain land.

SD-366

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

S-116

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 854, to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish the Life Sciences Research Security Board, S. 855, to require executive branch employees to report certain royalties, S. 269, to improve coordination between Federal and State agencies and the Do Not Pay working system, S. 81, to require a guidance clarity statement on certain agency guidance, S. 861, to streamline the sharing of information among Federal disaster assistance agencies, to expedite the delivery of life-saving assistance to disaster survivors, to speed the recovery of communities from disasters, to protect the security and privacy of information provided by disaster survivors, S. 766, to require an annual report of taxpayer-funded projects that are over budget and behind schedule, S. 872, to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to ensure that other transaction agreements are reported to USAspending.gov, S. 727, to correct the inequitable denial of enhanced retirement and annuity benefits to certain U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers, S. 874, to ensure that whistleblowers, including contractors, are protected from retaliation when a Federal employee orders a reprisal, S. 594, to amend the Post-Katrina Management Reform Act of 2006 to repeal certain obsolete requirements, S. 865, to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require certain disclosures by registrants regarding exemptions under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, S. 856, to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to clarify a provision relating to certain contents of registrations under that Act, S. 850, to amend the Northern Border Security Review Act to require updates to the northern border threat analysis and the northern border strategy, S. 848, to provide for joint reports by relevant Federal agencies to Congress regarding incidents of terrorism, and S. 572, to enhance the effectiveness of the Shadow Wolves Program.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of William Briggs, of Texas, to be Deputy Administrator, and Casey Mulligan, of Illinois, to be Chief Counsel for Advocacy, both of the Small Business Administration.

SR-428A

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

3:30 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine breaking the cycle of senior loneliness, focusing

on strengthening family and community support.

SD-106

MARCH 13

9:15 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Dean Sauer, of Missouri, to be Solicitor General of the United States, and Harmeet Dhillon, of California, and Aaron Reitz, of Texas, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice.

SH-216

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Jayanta Bhattacharya, of California, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health, and Martin Makary, of Virginia, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, and other pending calendar business.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of David Weldon, of Florida, to be Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-562

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter Hoekstra, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to Canada, George Glass, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to Japan, and Ronald Johnson, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the United Mexican States, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

1:45 p.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider the nominations of David Fotouhi, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator, and Aaron Szabo, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator, both of the Environmental Protection Agency.

S-120

MARCH 14

10 a.m.

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mehmet Oz, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

SD-215

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1619–S1640

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 909–924, S.J. Res. 32–35, S. Res. 120–122, and S. Con. Res. 9.

Page S1630

Measures Considered:

Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act: Senate began consideration of S. 331, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto:

Page S1623

Confirm Pending:

Thune (for Grassley) Amendment No. 1237, of a perfecting nature.

Page S1623

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995, with respect to Iran; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–15)

Page S1629

Miran Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Stephen Miran, of New York, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Page S1623

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 Abigail Slater, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Page S1623

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 S1623**

Sonderling Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Keith Sonderling, of Florida, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

Pages S1623–25

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 Stephen Miran, of New York, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Page S1623

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Page S1623

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1623**

Bradbury and Slater Nominations—Agreement:

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Steven Bradbury, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation; that at 11:45 a.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination; that at 2:15 p.m., if cloture is invoked, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, followed by the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Abigail Slater, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General; and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Abigail Slater, that all time be expired and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at 5:15 p.m.

Page S1639

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 67 yeas to 32 nays (Vote No. EX. 111), Lori Chavez-DeRemer, of Oregon, to be Secretary of Labor.

Pages S1619–23, S1640

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Richard Anderson, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

Kenneth Jackson, of Texas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2028.

John Arrigo, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic.

Laken Rapier, of Texas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 22, 2027.

Thomas Barrack, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey.

Russell Vought, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 27, 2027.

John Bartrum, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Enterprise Integration).

Russell Vought, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation for a term expiring September 20, 2030.

Brian Burch, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Holy See.

Leo Brent Bozell III, of Virginia, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media.

Jonathan Brightbill, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy.

Michael Cadenazzi, of Rhode Island, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Leah Campos, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

Hung Cao, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Navy.

Terrance Cole, of Virginia, to be Administrator of Drug Enforcement.

Paul Dabbar, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce.

Patrick David Davis, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Janet Dhillon, of Virginia, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for a term of five years.

Joseph Edlow, of Maryland, to be Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Somers Farkas, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Malta.

Tilman Fertitta, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Italian Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of San Marino.

Robert Gleason, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors for a term of five years.

Andrew Hughes, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Catherine Jereza, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Electricity).

Jovan Jovanovic, of Pennsylvania, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2029.

Brandon Judd, of Idaho, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Chile.

Ethan Klein, of New Jersey, to be an Associate Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Matthew Kozma, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security.

Harry Kumar, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Aaron Lukas, of Arkansas, to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence.

Edward Martin, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Attorney for the District of Columbia for the term of four years.

Cheryl Mason, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection).

Nicole McGraw, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia.

Sean McMaster, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration.

David Metcalf, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years.

Joseph Nocella, of New York, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York for the term of four years.

Sean O'Keefe, of Virginia, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Michael Obadal, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of the Army.

Seval Oz, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

James Percival, of Florida, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security.

Sean Plankey, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Andrew Puzder, of Tennessee, to be Representative of the United States of America to the European Union, with the rank of Ambassador.

Jason Reding Quinones, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida for the term of four years.

Leandro Rizzuto, of Florida, to be Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Organization of American States, with the rank of Ambassador.

Gadyaces Serralta, of Florida, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service.

Brett Shumate, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

John Squires, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

George Wesley Street, of Virginia, to be Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center.

Eric Matthew Ueland, of Virginia, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

Andrew Veprek, of Louisiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Population, Refugees, and Migration).

Timothy John Walsh, of Colorado, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Environmental Management).

David Woll, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Daniel Zimmerman, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

Pages S1639–40

Messages from the House: Page S1629

Measures Read the First Time: Pages S1629, S1638–39

Enrolled Bills Presented: Page S1629

Executive Communications: Page S1630

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S1630–32

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S1632–34

Additional Statements: Page S1629

Amendments Submitted: Pages S1634–38

Privileges of the Floor: Page S1638

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—111) Pages S1622–23

Recess: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and recessed at 7:17 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 11, 2025. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1639.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 54 public bills, H.R. 1968–2021; 1 private bill, H.R. 2022; and 12 resolutions, H.J. Res. 75–76; H. Con. Res. 18; and H. Res. 202–210, were introduced.

Pages H1064–67

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H1068–70

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Miller-Meeks to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H1043

Recess: The House recessed at 12:12 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. Page H1044

Recess: The House recessed at 2:09 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m. Page H1045

Recess: The House recessed at 5:13 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. Page H1057

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Subterranean Border Defense Act: H.R. 495, to require annual reports on counter illicit cross-border tunnel operations, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 402 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 63; Pages H1045–46, H1058

TSA Commuting Fairness Act: H.R. 862, to reduce commuting burdens on Transportation Security Administration employees; Pages H1048–49

Strategic Homeland Intelligence and Enforcement Legislation to Defend Against the CCP Act: H.R. 708, to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party;

Pages H1049–51

Research Security and Accountability in DHS Act: H.R. 901, to require the Under Secretary of the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security to develop a Department-wide policy and process to safeguard research and development from unauthorized access to or disclosure of sensitive information in research and development acquisitions, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 410 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 64;

Pages H1051–52, H1058–59

Emerging Innovative Border Technologies Act: H.R. 993, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a plan to identify, integrate, and deploy new, innovative, disruptive, or other emerging or advanced technologies to enhance, or address capability gaps in, border security operations, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 406 yeas to 9 nays, Roll No. 65;

Pages H1052–53, H1059

Prohibiting the Secretary of Homeland Security from procuring certain foreign-made batteries: H.R. 1166, to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from procuring certain foreign-made batteries; and

Pages H1053–54

Amending the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make improvements to the Securing the Cities program: H.R. 1374, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make improvements to the Securing the Cities program.

Pages H1056–57

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

DHS Biodefense Improvement Act: H.R. 706, to improve the biodefense functions of the Department of Homeland Security; and

Pages H1046–48

Amending the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enable secure and trustworthy technology through other transaction contracting authority: H.R. 1692, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enable secure and trustworthy technology through other transaction contracting authority.

Pages H1055–56

Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Con. Res. 17, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

Page H1060

Discharge Petition: Representative Luna presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of the resolution (H.

Res. 164) entitled, a resolution providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 23) permitting parental remote voting by proxy (Discharge Petition No. 1).

Presidential Message: Received a message from the President transmitting a notification stating that the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared on March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2025—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 119–25).

Page H1057

Senate Referrals: S. 524 was held at the desk. S.J. Res. 3 was held at the desk. S.J. Res. 28 was held at the desk.

Page H1057

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page 1057.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1058, H1058–59 and H1059.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Committee Meetings

PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT FRAUD ENFORCEMENT ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE RELATING TO “GROSS PROCEEDS REPORTING BY BROKERS THAT REGULARLY PROVIDE SERVICES EFFECTUATING DIGITAL ASSET SALES”; FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AND EXTENSIONS ACT, 2025

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 1156, the “Pandemic Unemployment Fraud Enforcement Act”; 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”; and H.R. 1968, the “Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025”. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 9–3, a rule providing for consideration of 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”, H.R. 1156, the “Pandemic Unemployment Fraud Enforcement Act”, and H.R. 1968, the “Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and

Extensions Act”. The rule provides for consideration of 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”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. The rule provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 1156, the “Pandemic Unemployment Fraud Enforcement Act”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees. The rule provides for one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 1968, the “Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. Finally, the rule provides that each day for the remainder of the first session of the 119th Congress shall not constitute a calendar day for purposes of section 202 of the National Emergencies Act with respect to a joint resolution terminating a national emergency declared by the President on February 1, 2025. Testimony was heard from Chairman Cole, and Representatives DeLauro, Carey, Davis of Illinois, and Moylan.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine risk management, credit, and rural business views on the agricultural economy, focusing on views from the field, 2:30 p.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine stabilizing the Military Health System to prepare for large-scale combat operations, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Counterterrorism, to hold hearings to examine the STOP CSAM Act, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 124, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for disciplinary procedures for supervisors and managers at the Department of Veterans Affairs and to modify the procedures of personnel actions against employees of the Department, S. 201, to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, S. 275, to improve the provision of care and services under the Veterans Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 410, to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, S. 478, to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for use by the national instant criminal background check system, S. 607, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish an integrated project team to improve the process for scheduling appointments for health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 610, to expand the VetSuccess on Campus program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 611, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and to expand eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation paid to certain survivors of certain veterans, S. 654, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish an external provider scheduling program to assist the Department of Veterans Affairs in scheduling appointments for care and services under the Veterans Community Care Program, S. 702, to require a study on the quality of care difference between mental health and addiction therapy care provided by health care providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs compared to non-Department providers, S. 787, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a commission to review operations at the Veterans Health Administration and submit to Congress reports with respect to that review, and for other programs, S. 831, to amend title 38, United States

Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve telephone communication by the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 892, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the repayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of benefits misused by a fiduciary, an original bill entitled, “Veterans’ Claims Act of 2025”, and Servicemembers and Veterans Empowerment and Support Act”, 10:30 a.m., SR-418.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Innovative Techniques in Military Construction”, 10:30 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled “The State of U.S. Shipbuilding”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled “Education Without Limits: Exploring the Benefits of School Choice”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “Maximizing Opportunities for Redeveloping Brownfields Sites: Assessing the Potential for New American Innovation”, 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Navigating the Digital Payments Ecosystem: Examining a Federal Framework for Payment Stablecoins and Consequences of a U.S. Central Bank Digital Currency”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, East Asia and Pacific Subcommittee, hearing entitled “Reauthorizing the U.S. Development Finance Corporation”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Europe Subcommittee, hearing entitled “Arms Control, International Security, and U.S. Assistance to Europe: Review and Reforms for the State Department”, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection, hearing entitled “Regulatory Harm or Harmonization? Examining the Opportunity to Improve the Cyber Regulatory Regime”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Accountability, hearing entitled “Eliminating Waste, Fraud, and Abuse at the Department of Homeland Security: Addressing the Biden-Harris Administration’s Failures”, 2 p.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 198, providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Nineteenth Congress; Committee Resolution 119–10, resolution to approve allocation from the Paid House Committee Internship Program to Committees for 2025; Committee Resolution 119–11, resolution to approve Franked Mail Allowances for Committees in the 119th Congress; Resolution dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Fourteenth Congressional District of Florida, 1; Resolution dismissing the election contest relating to the office

of Representative from the Fourteenth Congressional District of Florida, 2; Resolution dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Thirtieth Congressional District of Texas; Resolution dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Twenty-eighth Congressional District of Texas; and Resolution dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the at-large Congressional District of Alaska, 3 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust, hearing entitled “Antitrust Law and the NCAA: Examining the Current Climate”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 1820, the “FLASH Act”, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “Shifting Gears: Moving from Recovery to Prevention of Improper Payments and Fraud”, 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Federal Law Enforcement, hearing entitled “Enhancing Federal, State, and Local Coordination in the Fight Against Criminal Illegal Aliens”, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day Hearing: House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations, hearing entitled “Restoring the SBA: Putting Main Street America First”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on H.R. 913, the “Streamlining Aviation for Eligible Veterans Act of 2025”; H.R. 980, the “Modernizing the Veterans On-Campus Experience Act of 2025”; H.R.1364, the “Automotive Support Services to Improve Safe Transportation Act of 2025”; H.R. 1458, the “Veterans Education and Technical Skills Opportunity Act of 2025”, H.R. 1960, the “Simplifying Veterans Assistance Act of 2025”; H.R. 1527, the “Reforming Education for Veterans Act”; H.R. 1793, the “Veterans Readiness and Employment Transparency Act of 2025”; H.R. 1872, the “Fairness in Veterans’ Education Act”; H.R. 1815, the “VA Home Loan Program Reform Act”; H.R. 1814, the “Restoring the VA Home Loan Program in Perpetuity Act of 2025”; H.R. 1957, the “End Veteran Homelessness Act of 2025”; H.R. 1423, the “Guard and Reserve Parity Act of 2025”; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the conditions under which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs is required to redevelop the individualized vocational rehabilitation plan for a veteran, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1803, the “Fair Access to Co-ops for Veterans Act of 2025”, 10:15 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing on legislation on the Standardizing Treatment and Referral Times Act; legislation on the No Wrong Door for Veterans Act; legislation on the Providing Veterans Essential Medications Act; legislation on the Veterans Supporting Prosthetics Opportunities and Recreational Therapy Act; legislation to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Comptroller General of the United States to report on certain funding shortfalls in the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 217, the “CHIP IN for Veterans Act”; H.R. 1107, the “Protecting Veteran Access to Telemedicine Services Act of 2025”; H.R. 1336, the “Veterans National Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Act”; H.R. 658, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish qualifications for the appointment of a person as a marriage and family therapist, qualified to provide clinical supervision, in the Veterans Health Administration; legislation on the Copay Fairness for Veterans Act; legislation on the Saving Our Veterans Lives Act; and legislation on the Women Veterans Cancer Care Coordination Act, 2:15 p.m., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “After the Hospital: Ensuring Access to Quality Post-Acute Care”, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meeting

Joint Committee on Printing: business meeting to consider committee rules of procedure for the 119th Congress, and to designate the Chair and Vice Chair, 2 p.m., S-219, Capitol.

Joint Committee on the Library: business meeting to consider committee rules of procedure for the 119th Congress, and to designate the Chair and Vice Chair, 2:15 p.m., S-219, Capitol.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of March 11 through March 14, 2025

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Steven Bradbury, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 11:45 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Steven Bradbury, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Abigail Slater, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination at 5:15 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: March 11, to hold hearings to examine risk management, credit, and rural business views on the agricultural economy, focusing on views from the field, 2:30 p.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Armed Services: March 11, to hold hearings to examine stabilizing the Military Health System to prepare for large-scale combat operations, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

March 12, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine the current readiness of the Joint Force, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: March 12, to hold hearings to examine housing roadblocks, focusing on paving a new way to address affordability, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: March 12, business meeting to consider the nomination of James Bishop, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Time to be announced, S-216, Capitol.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: March 12, business meeting to continue consideration of an authorization to subpoena the production of memoranda, documents, records, or other materials from the Massachusetts Port Authority, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

March 12, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 28, to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices, S. 97, to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production, S. 244, to direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, to conduct a study of the national security risks posed by consumer routers, modems, and devices that combine a modem and router, S. 289, to ban the sale of products with a high concentration of sodium nitrate to individuals, S. 323, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to develop a National Strategy to Synchronize Federal Broadband Programs, S. 389, to establish consumer standards for lithium-ion batteries, S. 414, to require covered digital advertising platforms to report their public service advertisements, S. 428, to promote space situational awareness and space traffic coordination and to modify the functions and leadership of the Office of Space Commerce, S. 433, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the National Manufacturing Advisory Council within the Department of Commerce, S. 582, to provide for the authorized use of Federal vehicle transportation by certain astronauts, S. 613, to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to maintain the National Mesonet Program, S. 759, to provide for standardization, publication, and accessibility of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways, S. 792, to require the National Telecommunications Information Administration to estimate the value of electromagnetic spectrum assigned or otherwise allocated to Federal entities, S. 841,

to require online dating service providers to provide fraud ban notifications to online dating service members, S. 843, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Grant Program, and the nominations of Mark Meador, of Virginia, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, and Michael Kratsios, of South Carolina, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: March 12, to hold hearings to examine S. 362, to allow certain Federal minerals to be mined consistent with the Bull Mountains Mining Plan Modification, S. 544, to provide for the location of multiple hardrock mining mill sites, to establish the Abandoned Hardrock Mine Fund, S. 596, to establish a pilot program to support domestic critical material processing, S. 714, to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, S. 789, 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 S. 859, to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain land, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: March 13, business meeting to consider the nominations of David Fotouhi, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator, and Aaron Szabo, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, 1:45 p.m., S-120, Capitol.

Committee on Finance: March 14, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mehmet Oz, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: March 12, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., S-116, Capitol.

March 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter Hoekstra, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to Canada, George Glass, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to Japan, and Ronald Johnson, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the United Mexican States, all of the Department of State, 10:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: March 13, business meeting to consider the nominations of Jayanta Bhattacharya, of California, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health, and Martin Makary, of Virginia, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, and other pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

March 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of David Weldon, of Florida, to be Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: March 12, business meeting to consider S. 854, to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish the Life Sciences Research Security Board, S. 855, to require executive branch employees to report certain royalties, S. 269, to improve coordination between Federal and State agencies and the Do Not Pay working system, S. 81, to require

a guidance clarity statement on certain agency guidance, S. 861, to streamline the sharing of information among Federal disaster assistance agencies, to expedite the delivery of life-saving assistance to disaster survivors, to speed the recovery of communities from disasters, to protect the security and privacy of information provided by disaster survivors, S. 766, to require an annual report of taxpayer-funded projects that are over budget and behind schedule, S. 872, to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to ensure that other transaction agreements are reported to USAspending.gov, S. 727, to correct the inequitable denial of enhanced retirement and annuity benefits to certain U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers, S. 874, to ensure that whistleblowers, including contractors, are protected from retaliation when a Federal employee orders a reprisal, S. 594, to amend the Post-Katrina Management Reform Act of 2006 to repeal certain obsolete requirements, S. 865, to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require certain disclosures by registrants regarding exemptions under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, S. 856, to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to clarify a provision relating to certain contents of registrations under that Act, S. 850, to amend the Northern Border Security Review Act to require updates to the northern border threat analysis and the northern border strategy, S. 848, to provide for joint reports by relevant Federal agencies to Congress regarding incidents of terrorism, and S. 572, to enhance the effectiveness of the Shadow Wolves Program, 10:30 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: March 11, Subcommittee on Crime and Counterterrorism, to hold hearings to examine the STOP CSAM Act, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

March 13, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Dean Sauer, of Missouri, to be Solicitor General of the United States, and Harmeet Dhillon, of California, and Aaron Reitz, of Texas, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice, 9:15 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: March 12, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of William Briggs, of Texas, to be Deputy Administrator, and Casey Mulligan, of Illinois, to be Chief Counsel for Advocacy, both of the Small Business Administration, 2:30 p.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: March 11, to hold hearings to examine S. 124, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for disciplinary procedures for supervisors and managers at the Department of Veterans Affairs and to modify the procedures of personnel actions against employees of the Department, S. 201, to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, S. 275, to improve the provision of care and services under the Veterans Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 410, to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, S. 478, to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain

information to the Department of Justice for use by the national instant criminal background check system, S. 607, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish an integrated project team to improve the process for scheduling appointments for health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 610, to expand the VetSuccess on Campus program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 611, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and to expand eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation paid to certain survivors of certain veterans, S. 654, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish an external provider scheduling program to assist the Department of Veterans Affairs in scheduling appointments for care and services under the Veterans Community Care Program, S. 702, to require a study on the quality of care difference between mental health and addiction therapy care provided by health care providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs compared to non-Department providers, S. 787, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a commission to review operations at the Veterans Health Administration and submit to Congress reports with respect to that review, and for other programs, S. 831, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve telephone communication by the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 892, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the repayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of benefits misused by a fiduciary, an original bill entitled, "Veterans' Claims Act of 2025", and Servicemembers and Veterans Empowerment and Support Act", 10:30 a.m., SR-418.

March 12, Full Committee, business meeting to consider Major Medical Lease Committee Resolution FY25,

Major Medical Lease Committee Resolution PACT Act, and the nomination of Paul Lawrence, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Select Committee on Intelligence: March 12, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: March 12, to hold hearings to examine breaking the cycle of senior loneliness, focusing on strengthening family and community support, 3:30 p.m., SD-106.

House Committees

Committee on Foreign Affairs, March 12, Africa Subcommittee, hearing entitled "Conflict and Persecution in Nigeria: The Case for a CPC Designation", 9 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, March 12, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 127, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the Department of Government Efficiency's access to the Treasury payment systems and confidential taxpayer information; and H. Res. 195, of inquiry requesting the President of the United States to furnish certain information to the House of Representatives relating to the operations of the Social Security Administration after January 20, 2025, including information on the Department of Government Efficiency's access to the Social Security Administration and to information in the possession of such Administration, 9:15 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, March 11

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Steven Bradbury, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 11:45 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Steven Bradbury, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Abigail Slater, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination at 5:15 p.m.

(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Steven Bradbury until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, March 11

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 1156—Pandemic Unemployment Fraud Enforcement Act (Subject to a Rule).

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