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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,

April 28, 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.

REPEALING GREEN NEW DEAL POLICIES

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, this week, the House will vote on several bills under the Congressional Review Act to repeal out-of-touch Biden-era Green New Deal policies.

H.J. Res. 88, which I introduced this Congress, will repeal the Biden administration's approval of California's de facto electric vehicle mandate. This

policy requires California to end the sale of all internal combustion engines by 2035, and 17 States, including the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, are set to adopt this regulation.

Let me be clear: No one should be forced to buy a product purely because of government regulations. We cannot allow Gavin Newsom and California Democrats to decide what vehicles my constituents in central Pennsylvania are allowed to purchase.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues in both the House and the Senate to pass this legislation so that President Trump can end this mandate and save our American auto industry.

HARVESTING CRITICAL MINERAL RESOURCES

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, for years, my colleagues and I in the House and Senate have been sounding the alarm on China's control of the critical mineral resources that our Nation relies on.

Our Nation is rich in natural resources, and we need policies that allow us to utilize them and limit our reliance on countries like China and Russia.

Now, President Trump is finally setting us on the right path by signing an executive order to expedite our Nation's ability to harvest the deepsea bed mineral resources that are just off our shorelines.

This executive order will expedite the review process for exploration permits and implement a cross-government plan to advance our Nation's ability to harvest these critical resources.

Working together with our allies and industry partners, President Trump's actions will create a strong supply chain for these minerals and counter China's influence in this important industry.

MODERNIZING OUR WORKFORCE PROGRAMS

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, as President Trump bolsters our domestic manufacturing, returning

production to the U.S., American companies need the workforce to support these industries.

Last week, President Trump signed an executive order to modernize our workforce programs to better prepare the American people for these high-paying jobs in the trades.

This Presidential action will support more than 1 million apprenticeships per year, meaning that talented students in vocational programs throughout our country will be able to further their careers with hands-on training while being paid.

In my district, I have had the privilege of visiting vocational schools such as the Colonial Career and Technology Center in New Oxford and the Bedford County Technical Center in Everett, and I am proud to see President Trump continue to support the future of these talented students with this executive order.

Soon, the American workforce will be even stronger than ever.

HONORING MICHAUX STATE FOREST FIREFIGHTERS

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the courageous firefighters who have put their lives on the line to fight the two wildfires in Pennsylvania's Michaux State Forest.

More than 170 firefighters have responded to the emergency, including Vigilant Hose Company No. 1 in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. While their work is yet to be finished, these brave men and women have already contained more than 90 percent of the Hammond's Rock fire and are nearing 50 percent containment for the Thompson Hollow fire.

On behalf of the entire 13th District of Pennsylvania, I thank these firefighters for their courage in the face of danger, and I pray for their continued safety as they continue to fight these fires.

□ 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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H1629

HEMLOCK SEMICONDUCTOR INVESTING IN AMERICA

(Ms. McDONALD RIVET of Michigan was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. McDONALD RIVET. Madam Speaker, I rise to draw your attention to mid-Michigan, where we will find the blueprint for how we should be investing in the next generation of American manufacturing.

Transformative investments in high-tech manufacturing are not only creating good-paying American jobs and boosting our region's economy but also showing the entire Nation how we can stand up to China and build more in the United States.

Hemlock Semiconductor, located in Saginaw County, Michigan, manufactures polysilicon, a critical part of the semiconductor and solar supply chains. Hemlock is one of the few manufacturers in the world capable of refining polysilicon to the purity level needed for leading-edge microchips. Madam Speaker, the phone you are carrying in your pocket right now probably contains polysilicon manufactured in my district.

Hemlock and its parent company, Corning, are redoubling their commitment to mid-Michigan thanks in large part to Federal laws that have incentivized high-tech manufacturing in America. The CHIPS Act is a perfect example of bipartisan investments that have increased America's competitiveness and created more jobs for our workers.

With the help of essential CHIPS Act funding, Hemlock is expanding its mid-Michigan footprint by building a new facility that will bring 180 permanent positions and over 1,000 construction jobs in the process. Meanwhile, Corning announced an approximately \$1 billion investment to build the largest solar wafer facility in the United States.

Partnerships with local colleges and vocational schools are preparing local residents to take advantage of these jobs of the future. By making these chips in Michigan, we are also standing up to China and decreasing American reliance on them.

This chart next to me helps illustrate my point. Twenty years ago, the United States produced more polysilicon than any other country in the world. Since then, it is an unfortunate fact that China has been eating our lunch. Today, China is producing 93 percent of the world's polysilicon while our share has shrunk to just 2 percent all the way down from 57.

The story is similar for solar wafers, cells, and modules. This is bad news for American manufacturing, and it is bad news for our national security.

When we rely on China for these components, giving the Chinese Communist Party leverage over us, we put ourselves at risk. Even though many Americans don't directly interact with wafers, solar cells, or polysilicon, they are essential to power our electronic devices. Now, everything from our

phones, defense systems, energy, and cars are reliant on Chinese-made products.

Everyone in my community remembers 2020 when auto plants shut down because we couldn't get our hands on the microchips we needed during COVID. Building more chips in America will make us less vulnerable to changes in global supply chains.

With investments like the ones we have seen by Hemlock and Corning, we are rebuilding our might in these industries, bringing jobs back home, and strengthening national security.

As I speak, the White House is pursuing an unstrategic tariff plan that will raise costs for those who can least afford it. Instead, to really bring manufacturing back to America, Republicans and Democrats should look to mid-Michigan, where bipartisan work is yielding real results.

Again, it will take a bipartisan effort to ensure investments, like what we have seen with Hemlock, continue to stand up to China, make America stronger, and create even more good-paying jobs of the future.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF WWII HERO HENRY LANGREHR OF CLINTON, IOWA

(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 World War II hero Henry Langrehr of Clinton, Iowa.

Henry was the embodiment of the Greatest Generation: humble, courageous, and fiercely devoted to his country. On what should have been his high school graduation day, he instead jumped from a C-47 over France, crashing through a greenhouse during the D-day invasion.

Captured by the Germans and sent to a work camp, Henry's indomitable spirit led him to escape, finding his way back to American forces almost 1 year later, still wearing his tattered D-day uniform.

After the war, Henry returned home to build a business, raise a family, and serve his fellow veterans. He never stopped loving his country, once saying: "Only America could do that."

Henry Langrehr lived a life of service, sacrifice, and inspiration. We owe him and all like him a debt that can never be repaid.

I had the pleasure of meeting his grandniece this weekend at the University of Iowa ROTC Military Ball. What a special event.

May God bless his memory and comfort his family.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend birthday greetings to my younger sister, Mariette Stanson.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARCELINO GAMINO

(Mr. COSTA of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Lance Corporal Marcelino Gamino, a proud marine of Fresno, California, who gave his life in service to our Nation.

A grateful nation can never ever say thank you enough to this fine young man and his family.

As a young man, Marcelino answered the call to serve in May 2022, quickly rising to the rank of lance corporal by August 2024. At just 28 years of age, Marcelino served with distinction as a combat engineer in the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division.

Marcelino's commitment took him across the world with distinction as a combat engineer and as a part of a Marine Rotational Force all the way to Darwin, Australia. His service was marked by distinction, earning him the National Defense Service Medal and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

We, the folks in the San Joaquin Valley, mourn his tragic loss. Our hearts are with his family, his friends, and his fellow marines. His courage and his service will never be forgotten.

Semper Fi, and God bless.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GUADALUPE CASTILLO

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the incredible life of another American, Guadalupe Castillo, a true American hero from my hometown of Fresno, California, from the San Joaquin Valley.

At just 18, he entered the United States Army to do his duty during World War II. He faced some of the toughest and fiercest battles that our Nation was engaged in at that time: the Battle of the Bulge, D-day at Omaha Beach, and the liberation of France from the tyranny of the Nazis.

Mr. Castillo's courage and sacrifice helped shape the course of the history of our Nation in the 20th century, but his service didn't just end there. After World War II, he came home and devoted 20 years to helping fellow veterans there with the Veterans Administration at the veterans hospital in Fresno, inspiring his son to follow in his footsteps. His son still works there today and is considered one of the anchors of the VA hospital in Fresno and, of course, with his dad.

I had the honor of meeting Mr. Castillo on an Honor Flight a number of years ago, and I saw him again just recently at the 75th anniversary of the VA hospital in Fresno before he passed away on Easter Sunday at 100 years of age.

In that short time, he made a lasting mark and impression on me and everyone whom he ever touched and met because he was a true American hero with wisdom, kindness, and an unwavering spirit of 100 years of a life well lived.

We celebrate that century of courage, service, and sacrifice, and we, as Americans, can never ever say thank you enough to Guadalupe Castillo, a true American hero from Fresno, California.

□ 1215

HONORING VICTIMS OF ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, on April 24, throughout the country and throughout the world, Armenians recognized the Armenian genocide that took place from 1915 to 1923 at the hands of the Ottoman Empire.

I stand here today to confront it, empowered by facts, and determined that we never, ever forget the Armenian genocide, the first genocide that took place in the 20th century. Obviously, the Holocaust was to follow later on. It is a dark history, but we should never, ever forget our history.

Azerbaijan's President Aliyev, much like Putin of Russia, has led an ethnic cleansing and weaponized starvation against Armenians still today, notwithstanding the Minsk agreements that he has violated.

Over 120,000 Armenians in the last 2 years have been driven out of their homeland of Nagorno-Karabakh, otherwise known as Artsakh. Many of them are still today imprisoned and abused, and Azerbaijan must be held accountable.

We cannot remain silent. I have joined my colleagues in urging Secretary Marco Rubio to enforce section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act, demanding an end to United States military assistance to the Nation of Azerbaijan. They do not need it. They have violated the peace agreement of Minsk.

America must make it clear: We stand together in unity and continue to tell stories of the past to ensure future generations never forget.

HONORING DONALD "DUDE" PAYNE

(Mr. WEBER of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the outstanding service of my dear friend, one Commissioner Donald "Dude" Payne, who has dedicated the last 24 years of his life to Brazoria County with an absolutely unmatched spirit of service as well as leadership.

Over these many years, Commissioner Payne has been a steadfast champion for the people of Brazoria County. He has tirelessly worked to meet the needs of our community, always treating everyone he encountered with dignity and respect. Whether it was assisting families in times of crises, whether it was spearheading critical infrastructure projects, or just simply supporting the growth of our local economy, Dude Payne never missed a beat, Madam Speaker. His hard work and selfless dedication have been the cornerstones of his service.

Dude set a gold standard for public service, one defined by integrity, compassion, as well as humility. His love for Brazoria County and its people shines brightly in everything he has done. As he enters this next chapter of life, I want to express my heartfelt

gratitude on behalf of Brazoria County and beyond. I thank Dude for his unwavering commitment to our beloved county.

Blessings to him, his wonderful wife, Deborah, his children, his grandchildren, and, yes, great-grandchildren.

We know he will be just as impactful in retirement as he was in public service. His leadership will leave a giant hole to fill in Brazoria County.

I congratulate my friend on a well-earned retirement. May God bless him richly.

HONORING JUDGE OGDEN BASS

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a dedicated public servant from Brazoria County, Judge Ogden Bass, who was called home to be with our Lord on November 23, 2024, at the young age of 90.

I had the privilege of knowing Judge Bass over the years, and his commitment to our community was absolutely unwavering. He was a proud veteran of the United States Army. He dedicated his career to the pursuit of justice, serving as Brazoria County District Attorney, Texas Assistant Attorney General, and presiding for three terms over the 300th District Court of Brazoria County.

Judge Bass was not only known for just his wisdom and fairness in the courtroom but also for his deep compassion. He made himself available to the people he served. He would often arrive at the courthouse at 6 a.m. in the morning and be there until 5 p.m. so that any resident who needed the opportunity to be heard had that opportunity. If you needed help, Judge Bass was there.

May God bless his family, especially his beloved bride of 70 years, Nan Gayle.

May the judge's legacy of integrity, service, and justice continue to guide Brazoria County for generations to come.

HONORING JOHN LEE SULLIVAN

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor a true Texan whose life reflected the very best our great State had to offer. John Lee Sullivan, a fifth-generation Galveston Island resident, went home to be with our Lord on December 24, 2024.

John's contributions to Texas were immeasurable. He served veterans through the General Land Office and Veterans Land Board. He launched successful ventures in real estate and poured his heart into the Sullivan Land and Cattle Company, caring deeply for the land and the livestock.

John also served his community with passion, sitting on the Galveston City Council, serving as mayor pro tem, and contributing to organizations like the Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. His leadership and his faith have left a lasting mark.

May God bless his family, including his beloved wife of 53 years, Cindy, and may his legacy continue to shine and be a beacon for Galveston.

REPUBLICANS PLAN TO CUT SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. LARSON of Connecticut was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise to first and foremost submit an article by—I hope everyone gets to read it. We will be circulating it to all Members—about the Trump plan to go after our university system and destroy the research that goes on at our universities and massive cuts. As Mr. Zakaria points out, this would decimate our economy, and I think every Member of Congress needs to know.

Madam Speaker, I also heard Representative John Kasich on television, just before I came here, talking about how Democrats don't have a plan; they don't have a plan that they are going to utilize. I have great respect for John, but I will say yes, under HAKEEM JEFFRIES, we do have a plan, especially as it relates to Social Security.

Our colleagues on the other side do not have a plan, or the plan that they have proposed is to cut benefits to Social Security.

Madam Speaker, I don't know if you realize how many Social Security recipients you have in your district, but there are over 170,000 of them, including 134,000 retirees, including 18,000 disabled workers, 8,000 widows, 3,000 spouses, and 9,000 children.

Madam Speaker, here is the most important thing. Most Members of Congress don't realize this. Do you know how much money comes into your district monthly to those recipients? That is \$318 million that Mr. Trump and Republican leadership want to cut.

A 20 percent cut across the board to Social Security would decimate people across all districts, including Iowa and Connecticut and every other district.

We have a plan. Here is our plan. Social Security—and the American people, especially the people in our audience today ought to understand—hasn't been enhanced by Congress since 1971. Richard Nixon was President of the United States. There are more than 70 million Americans who rely on Social Security. Of those 70 million, for over 30 million of them, this is the only retirement benefit that they have.

Madam Speaker, we want to make sure that there is an across-the-board increase. Under the leadership of HAKEEM JEFFRIES, that is what you will see, an across-the-board increase, a tax cut proposal for people who have to work out of necessity who would end up having to pay taxes on their Social Security. We pay for it to make sure that it doesn't impact the trust fund.

We also pay for the repeal of WEP and GPO because that is vitally important as well. We also make sure that there is no longer a waiting period for disability where we see that so many people have died waiting to receive their disability payment.

It is long overdue for the number one antipoverty program for the elderly

and for children of this country. More disability goes out to veterans from Social Security than goes out from the VA.

Congress needs to act. I would hope it would be bipartisan, but we can't even get a hearing, let alone pass a bill.

What is there to be afraid of? Every constituent listening to this ought to demand of their Member of Congress—if you disagree, if you have got a better plan, for God's sake, put it forward. How much longer do the American people have to wait to receive the benefits that they paid for?

This is an earned benefit. This is no entitlement like the other side calls it. People paid for it, and you can check it out right on your paycheck. It says FICA, Federal insurance contribution. Whose? Yours. You have paid for this benefit. Your government, your Congress, has let you down. They have not addressed this since 1971. It is long overdue that we not only address this but enhance this so that Americans get what they richly deserve, especially those in Iowa.

WISCONSIN IN THE NEWS

(Mr. GROTHMAN of Wisconsin was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, we had an interesting 2 weeks out of this building, and sadly my home State of Wisconsin made the news again, in an effort to remove not just any person here illegally but somebody who had broken the law, an abuser, somebody who under normal circumstances would not be viewed favorably.

We had a judge in Wisconsin stop the hearing. Oh, let's not worry about putting this guy in jail. Let's let him sneak out the back door so he is not removed from this country.

This was after about a month ago, our Governor, Tony Evers, nice guy, came out with a directive implying that State employees ought not be that gung ho when it came to removing State employees from this country if they were here illegally.

We have two examples in Wisconsin alone in which elected officials aren't on the page of addressing the immigration laws.

I think it is important that we all be articulate enough to explain to people back home why these immigration laws are necessary and be articulate enough to explain we are not being mean to immigrants.

I do not hear enough people talk about the fact that in the prior 3 years—it goes up and down by year—but if you take a rolling average, in the last 3 years, we have over 800,000 people every year sworn in as new citizens legally in this country. How often do you hear about that? There are 850,000 people who did it right. It is not impossible to make your way here.

By the way, that is historically a very high number. If you go back to the fifties and sixties, frequently that

number was only a little over 100,000. The number of people being sworn in as new citizens is already eight times what they were in the sixties and fifties.

□ 1230

Nobody should apologize or say that we are being mean or not letting people in here. When we let in people who came here illegally, what we are doing is kicking anybody who did it the right way in the face.

We know we have a housing crisis in this country. When you begin to flood this country with another 10 million people, as happened during the Biden administration, given the law of supply and demand, we know it is driving up rents, making it more difficult all the time for the average American to attain the American Dream.

I also point out that we have significant numbers of visas which allow people to come here, as well. We have about 900,000 temporary workers or trainees at any time. We have well over 5 million people here on visas for temporary visitors for business and pleasure. As far as college students are concerned, we allow another over 400,000 people into this country on student visas.

It is incredibly easy to get into this country. Rather, it is not always easy, but millions of people come into this country legally and are able to do so. We do not have to have sympathy for people who came here illegally.

I think it is important that we educate the American public on that because we are soon going to have to start the next phase where we not only get rid of the criminal element that came in here, but we have to get rid of the 10 million people who may not have broken a horrible law but broke the law just by coming here.

It is a complete kick in the teeth to anybody who wants to come here legally to allow the 10 million people who Joe Biden let in during the last 4 years stay here.

There is one more thing I will address as we begin to work on Donald Trump's big, beautiful bill. I remind people in this Chamber that we have a system of benefits right now whereby, if you are a single parent and you marry the father of your children or mother of your children, you can easily lose over \$25,000 a year. In other words, the U.S. Government spends \$25,000 a year bribing single parents not to get married.

I thought we were supposed to treat people equally in this country, but we don't treat people equally. We have an overwhelming bias in favor of keeping parents from being married. I hope Members in this Chamber remember that as we put together Donald Trump's big, beautiful bill. We should not pass that bill unless we do something first about the massive marriage hatred that we have.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS). 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 32 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BICE) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Holy and eternal God, the world grieves the death of Your own good and faithful servant, Pope Francis.

In his gentle and disarming manner, he showed the world the wide embrace of Your mercy. In his humble and unassuming way, he revealed the promise and strength of Your love for all creation.

By his commitment to the poor, the downtrodden, the overlooked, and the underappreciated, Pope Francis showed us how to live Your Gospel of compassion, kindness, and faith.

Truly, Pope Francis lived his life in honor of You, O Lord, and now in his death, he honors You still. Receive him into the eternal joy of Your kingdom.

May the testimony of his life and his death give evidence that whether we live or whether we die, we are Yours, O Lord.

May his witness be unto us an inspiration that we would choose, in the time allotted to us in our lives, to live as faithfully each day for You.

In Your eternal name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, since President Donald Trump earned a mandate, he has been winning on behalf of American families.

Among his achievements, President Trump announced illegal alien crossings hit a new record low, which is now 98 percent over last year. The latest inflation report showed consumer prices declined for the first time in nearly 3 years, including the largest monthly decline of prescription drug prices on record and plummeting gas prices.

Inflation dropped for the first time in 17 months, and Trump deregulations are saving nearly \$11,000 per family of four.

A national emergency has been declared to protect American workers and to level the playing field for American businesses.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent, as warned by the FBI.

Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength, exposing war criminal Putin's lies.

HONORING RICHARD BENSON

(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, I rise today to honor a remarkable leader, President Richard Benson, as he prepares to retire after 8 years of service to the University of Texas at Dallas.

Under his leadership, the university has soared to new heights: expanding research, increasing enrollment, and strengthening UTD's reputation as one of the top public research institutions in the Nation.

During his tenure, President Benson championed innovation, supported world-class faculty, and opened doors for thousands of students to achieve their dreams. Over the past 8 years, UTD has grown in size and stature. Its impact in the Dallas/Fort Worth region and the entire State of Texas has never been greater.

This includes opening the first phase of the Edith and Peter O'Donnell Jr. Athenaeum, which features the UT Dallas art museum. The museum showcases an array of Asian art exhibits, as well as pieces from the university's growing collection of Latin-American art.

President Benson's legacy will live on in every lab, in every classroom, and in every life changed by this incredible university.

I thank President Benson for his vision, his dedication, and his unwavering belief in the power of education. On behalf of the entire House and the people of Texas' 32nd Congressional District, we wish him all the best in his next chapter.

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.

MIRACLE ON ICE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. DAVIDSON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 452) to award 3 Congressional Gold Medals to the members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team, in recognition of their extraordinary achievement at the 1980 Winter Olympics where, being comprised of amateur collegiate players, they defeated the dominant Soviet hockey team in the historic "Miracle on Ice", revitalizing American morale at the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations and transforming the sport of hockey in the United States.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 452

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 "Miracle on Ice Congressional Gold Medal Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The USA Olympic men's ice hockey team competed at the 1980 Winter Olympics, officially the XIII Olympic Winter Games and known as the 1980 Lake Placid games, from February 13 to 24, 1980, in Lake Placid, New York.

(2) Team USA, comprised of collegiate players, defeated the defending Olympic champion the Soviet Union 4-3 on February 22, 1980, in the final round of the 1980 Winter Olympics men's hockey tournament.

(3) The 1980 USA Olympic men's hockey team roster included—

- (A) Bill Baker (Grand Rapids, MN);
- (B) Neal Broten (Roseau, MN);
- (C) Dave Christian (Warroad, MN);
- (D) Steve Christoff (Richfield, MN);
- (E) Jim Craig (North Easton, MA);
- (F) Mike Eruzione (Winthrop, MA);
- (G) John Harrington (Virginia, MN);
- (H) Steve Janaszak (Saint Paul, MN);
- (I) Mark Johnson (Madison, WI);
- (J) Rob McClanahan (Saint Paul, MN);
- (K) Ken Morrow (Flint, MI);
- (L) Jack O'Callahan (Charlestown, MA);
- (M) Mark Pavelich (Eveleth, MN);
- (N) Mike Ramsey (Minneapolis, MN);
- (O) Buzz Schneider (Grand Rapids, MN);
- (P) Dave Silk (Scituate, MA);
- (Q) Eric Strobel (Rochester, MN);
- (R) Bob Suter (Madison, WI);
- (S) Mark Wells (St. Clair Shores, MI); and
- (T) Phil Verchota (Duluth, MN).

(4) The "Miracle on Ice" USA-Soviet Union final round game aired on tape delay on February 22, 1980, from the Lake Placid Games and drew 34,200,000 average viewers. The match is remembered as a "miracle" as collegiate hockey players defied expectations in defeating a Soviet team that won 4 consecutive gold medals dating back to 1964.

(5) Team USA defeated Finland 4-1 in its final game to win the gold medal, its first gold medal since 1960 in men's hockey.

(6) Herb Brooks, the last player cut from the 1960 U.S. Olympic team that won gold at Squaw Valley, guided the 1980 team to its historic gold medal. Known as a motivator, Brooks molded a team built around hard work, belief in oneself and belief in teammates. He reminded his team when they played the Soviets, "you were born to be hockey players, everyone one of you . . . and you were meant to be here".

(7) The tournament occurred at a time when the United States was struggling with rampant stagflation, high gas prices, hostages held in Iran, and increased tensions with the Soviet Union whose invasion of Afghanistan led to the boycott of the 1980 Summer Olympics.

(8) The Miracle on Ice was a turning point for American hockey. The game was named the greatest sports moment of the 20th century by Sports Illustrated.

(9) The historic win brought hockey to the front-page of newspapers everywhere, and forever opened the door to the National Hockey League for American-born players. The impact of the event was far-reaching and is still being felt today.

(10) Since 1980 American interest in the sport of hockey has increased exponentially. Registrations with USA Hockey have increased by nearly 400 percent since 1980 from 136,000 to over 564,000, and the number of National Hockey League players from the United States has increased from 72 in 1980 to 245 in 2024.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDALS.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of 3 gold medals of appropriate design to the members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team, in recognition of their extraordinary achievement at the 1980 Olympic Winter Games where, being comprised of amateur collegiate players, they defeated the dominant Soviet hockey team in the historic "Miracle on Ice", revitalizing American morale at the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations and transforming the sport of hockey in the United States.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall strike gold medals with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) DISPOSITION OF MEDALS.—Following the award of the gold medals under subsection (a)—

(1) one gold medal shall be given to the Lake Placid Olympic Center in Lake Placid, NY, where it shall be displayed as appropriate and made available for research;

(2) one gold medal shall be given to the United States Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth, MN, where it shall be displayed as appropriate and made available for research; and

(3) one gold medal shall be given to the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Museum in Colorado Springs, CO, where it shall be displayed as appropriate and made available for research.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medals struck under section 3, at a price sufficient to cover the costs thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck under this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck pursuant to this Act.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—The amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIDSON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 452.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, no one has done more work on this than its originator, our esteemed colleague from the great State of Minnesota, PETE STAUBER.

I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER).

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 452, the Miracle on Ice Congressional Gold Medal Act.

Who can forget those words from legendary announcer Al Michaels: "Eleven seconds. You've got 10 seconds to go. The countdown going on right now. Tomorrow up to Silk. Five seconds left in the game. Do you believe in miracles? Yes."

Who can forget those legendary words on that Friday, February 22, 1980?

What that hockey team did for our country during that time was they beat the most powerful team in the world. These amateurs from our college ranks, they beat the best team in the world. They beat the best team in the world at the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid.

Nobody gave them a chance. In fact, that game was tape delayed because they didn't think it was going to be significant. That was the most powerful moment in the history of sports.

Madam Speaker, I will talk to you about the State of Minnesota. The State of Minnesota is the "State of Hockey." It is our way of life.

I am the first professional hockey player ever to be elected to the U.S. Congress. I have two other brothers who played professional hockey. My nephew plays with the Utah Hockey Club. Hockey is our way of life. What this 1980 Olympic team did is unimaginable for the sport of hockey.

Those Minnesotans from my district were Buzz Schneider, Mark Pavelich, Bill Baker, Phil Verchota, and John Harrington. Look at the small towns where they came from: Grand Rapids, Eveleth, Babbitt, Virginia, and Duluth. These players grew up loving the game.

They put that USA jersey on and were coached by Herb Brooks. We all remember the white jersey with "USA" on the front or a dark blue jersey with "USA" on the front.

Ten days before that game, Madam Speaker, they had an exhibition game, and they were blown out at Madison Square Garden. Yet, a few days later, Herb Brooks had them ready. They were conditioned. They were ready. They played as a team. Movies were made about it.

Growing up in Duluth, I had the privilege of watching many of these players play. Mark Johnson, who scored two goals in that game, was from the University of Wisconsin. I saw him play at the Duluth arena against Minnesota Duluth. He was magical.

Phil Verchota, from Duluth East, came from a hardworking, blue-collar family. He went to the University of Minnesota as a standout.

Bill Baker was from Grand Rapids. Mike Eruzione was from Boston University as well as Jack O'Callahan. Mark Wells was from Bowling Green. These players meant something to their communities.

In fact, it is really weird. I represent Babbitt, Minnesota. There is a Realtor up there, and it was just last year, Madam Speaker, that I asked the Realtor: Would you please bring me by Buzz Schneider's home, his small home in Babbitt? I want to see where he grew up.

It is the love of hockey. It is the love of the game. I know exactly where I was, Madam Speaker, when they won. I was at the Pine Valley Ice Shelter in Cloquet, Minnesota. It was my first year at Bantam, and one of our parents came running out of the Zamboni room. He had just watched the little black-and-white TV. He said: We beat the Russians. We beat the Russians.

I remember sitting on the bench, thinking: Why is he yelling that?

Little did I know it would be the sports moment of the century. Little did we know, 2 days later, on that Sunday, when they played Finland—it wasn't going to be a gimme game. They had to work hard and they beat Finland. Remember what Coach Herb Brooks said: If you lose this game, you are going to take it to your blankety-blank graves. They were ready for it.

I just replayed Al Michaels' last 11 seconds of the game. It gives me chills being from the State of Hockey, knowing these players.

Madam Speaker, it was just a little over a month ago that we brought four of those players to Washington, D.C., on Hockey Day on the Hill to promote this Congressional Gold Medal Act.

The night before, those players spoke to our conference. I had the privilege of going out to dinner with them. I was sitting right next to Captain Mike Eruzione. I remember he said: You know something, Pete. This game changed my life.

He was either going to be a member of the military, a police officer, or a firefighter.

He said: This game changed my life. That moment changed my life. He said: I did well in my life. He said: Pete, for the United States of America to give our 1980 Olympic team the Congressional Gold Medal, it is the cherry on top. We will never be able to do anything bigger than that.

□ 1415

To have that captain say that to me is why it was so important that I worked on both sides of the aisle. We got over 290 signatures to get it onto the House floor.

There will be three Congressional Gold Medals minted, Madam Speaker. One of them is going to go to the ice rink in Lake Placid where they won it. One is going to go to the United States Hockey Hall of Fame in Eveleth, Minnesota, the home of Mark Pavelich. The third one is going to go to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

We recognize that moment 45 years ago. I often wonder why we didn't do this sooner. Why didn't we do this sooner? We should have. That moment helped elevate the game of hockey across the United States. It helped elevate girls' hockey across the United States. I share that my younger brother, Rob, was the coach of the women's gold medal team in Pyeongchang, where they won in overtime.

Being an Olympic gold medalist following these men and their careers, they were heroes to those of us who laced up the skates. We couldn't wait to get that USA jersey on, even playing ball hockey in the driveway or in the street. It brought this Nation together like no other sporting event. We needed it at that time, and these young amateurs provided it for us.

Madam Speaker, I finish with a list of thank-yous.

First, I thank Congressman MIKE QUIGLEY, Republican Conference Chair LISA MCCLAIN, and Congressman BILL KEATING for co-leading this legislation with me. I thank Senators CRAMER and SCHUMER for spearheading the bill in the Senate. I also thank the other 293 Members of Congress who cosponsored this bill to give these men the honor that they deserve.

Second, I thank the National Hockey League and USA Hockey who have been championing this cause alongside me and have been instrumental in getting this bill onto the floor today.

Finally, I thank the players of the "Miracle On Ice" team: Bill Baker from Grand Rapids, Minnesota; Neal Broten from Roseau, Minnesota; Dave Christian from Warroad, Minnesota; Steve Christoff from Richfield, Minnesota; Jim Craig from North Easton, Massachusetts; Michael Eruzione from Winthrop, Massachusetts; John "Bah" Harrington from Virginia, Minnesota; Steve Janaszak from White Bear Lake, Minnesota; Mark Johnson from Madison, Wisconsin; Rob McClanahan from St. Paul, Minnesota; Ken Morrow from Flint, Michigan; Jack O'Callahan from Charlestown, Massachusetts; the late Mark Pavelich from Eveleth, Minnesota; Mike Ramsey from Minneapolis, Minnesota; Buzz Schneider from Babbitt, Minnesota; Dave Silk from Scituate, Massachusetts; Eric Strobel from Rochester, Minnesota; the late Bob Suter from Madison, Wisconsin; the late Mark Wells from St. Clair Shores, Michigan; Phil Verchota from Duluth, Minnesota; and, finally, the legendary and late Coach Herb Brooks from St. Paul, Minnesota, one of the best coaches ever in the game of hockey.

Madam Speaker, I am excited to vote on this bill shortly. I thank these young men for creating the most memorable moment in sports history and demonstrating to the world the unwavering strength of the American spirit.

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

Madam Speaker, I join in applauding the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER). I thank the gentleman from Minnesota, and I rise in support of his bill. I can't possibly do justice to the passion and the eloquence that the gentleman brought to this floor just a minute ago.

Madam Speaker, we vote today to honor the young men who reinspired a country at the height of the Cold War. The legislation awards three Congressional Gold Medals, as the gentleman from Minnesota outlined. They are going to three different locations. This is the highest civilian award, and it makes that award to the members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic men's ice hockey team, whose victory marked a pivotal moment in American sports history.

On February 13, 1980, the U.S. hockey team historically defeated the Soviet Union 4-3 at the Lake Placid Winter Games. Prior to their victory, the talented, yet untested U.S. team was deemed an underdog. Many of them were college players. They were, on average, 22 years old. They had played together only a few months.

Leading up to the game, the U.S. players took part in a 7-month training program designed to confront a Soviet team that many considered to be the best conditioned hockey team in the world. However, through steadfast commitment, grit, hope, and determination, the U.S. team emerged victorious and established a much-needed sense of national pride across this country.

Even decades later, I hope that these themes can continue to inspire us to confront the difficult challenges that we face as a nation today. The events of the "Miracle On Ice" serve as a critical reminder of the importance of rising to meet the challenges of our time through steadfast commitment and grit.

Madam Speaker, I applaud Mr. STAUBER, who spoke with such passion and such knowledge, and the other sponsors of this bill. I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 452. The bill awards Congressional Gold Medals to honor the 1980 U.S. Olympic men's hockey team.

Madam Speaker, it can't be stated any better than Mr. STAUBER did. It was such a beautiful, impassioned speech from someone who has lived so much of hockey.

Yet, the quote from Coach Herb Brooks that sticks out to me is: "Great moments are born from great opportunity."

We all know the line. It is an unforgettable one. They seized the moment at a time when I was too young to really comprehend what it meant. When you watch it later in life, as a guy who enlisted in the Army during the Cold War, to see moments like that that move the Nation and unite us, you see what sports can do.

At the same time, the Soviet Union had a hockey team that was dominant on the ice. They seemed insurmountable, but our American athletes showed that they were not. It showed the hope and optimism that it was possible within our country that we could defeat insurmountable odds. The coach and that team deserve the credit.

Madam Speaker, I am glad that we are taking this opportunity to honor them with a Congressional Gold Medal. These 20 men played with everything they had. They outskated, outplayed, and just fought harder, leaving everything on the ice to win that victory.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, this legislation awards three Congressional Gold Medals to members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic men's hockey team, whose hard work and commitment inspired a country at the height of the Cold War. I hope that, in recognizing this victory, their legacy will continue to inspire us and to unify a country that faces significant divisions.

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

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

Madam Speaker, in closing, I reiterate the importance of the 1980 Olym-

pic men's ice hockey team uniting during such a challenging and turbulent period in American history. Their unforgettable victory solidified the Nation's legacy of excellence, both on the ice and on the global stage.

We owe these men a great debt of gratitude for transforming and shaping the landscape of American hockey and, broadly, sport itself over these past four decades.

Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman STAUBER for his leadership and all of my colleagues for helping advance this important measure.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 452.

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.

AMERICAN MUSIC TOURISM ACT OF 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 617) to amend the Visit America Act to promote music tourism, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 617

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 "American Music Tourism Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR TRAVEL AND TOURISM.

(a) DOMESTIC TRAVEL AND TOURISM.—Section 605(b) of the Visit America Act (15 U.S.C. 9803(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking "; and" and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) identify locations and events in the United States that are important to music tourism and facilitate and promote domestic travel and tourism to those locations and events."

(b) FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND LEISURE TRAVEL.—Section 605 of the Visit America Act (15 U.S.C. 9803) is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

"(d) FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND LEISURE TRAVEL.—The Assistant Secretary, in coordination with relevant Federal agencies, shall strive to increase and facilitate international business and leisure travel to the United States and ensure competitiveness by—

"(1) facilitating large meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions in the United States;

"(2) emphasizing rural and other destinations in the United States that are rich in cultural heritage or ecological tourism, among other uniquely American destinations, as locations for hosting international

meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions;

“(3) facilitating and promoting international travel and tourism to sports and recreation events and activities in the United States; and

“(4) identifying locations and events in the United States that are important to music tourism and facilitating and promoting international travel and tourism to those locations and events.”.

(c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 605(f) of the Visit America Act (15 U.S.C. 9803(f)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) REPORT ON GOALS RELATING TO DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the American Music Tourism Act of 2025, and every 2 years thereafter, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report of activities, findings, achievements, and vulnerabilities relating to the goals described in subsections (a) through (d).”.

(d) DEFINITION.—Section 600 of title VI of division BB of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (15 U.S.C. 9801) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(2) by striking “In this title, the term ‘COVID-19 public health emergency’—” and inserting the following:

“In this title:

“(1) COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.—The term ‘COVID-19 public health emergency’—”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) MUSIC TOURISM.—The term ‘music tourism’ means—

“(A) the act of traveling to a State or locality to visit historic or modern day music-related attractions, including museums, studios, venues of all sizes, and other sites related to music; or

“(B) the act of traveling to a State or locality to attend a music festival, a concert, or other live musical performance or music-related special event.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam 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 in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 617, the American Music Tourism Act of 2025, led by the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER), my good friend and a great member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Madam Speaker, this bipartisan legislation directs the National Travel

and Tourism Office to promote domestic and international tourism to U.S. music festivals, concert venues, and other music-related attractions.

Music tourism is a significant economic driver. It is estimated that, by 2032, it will become a \$13.8 billion industry. By enhancing our promotion of music-related tourism, we can stimulate local economies, create jobs, and showcase America’s rich cultural heritage.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of H.R. 617, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 617, the American Music Tourism Act.

Madam Speaker, I know Republicans want to pretend like it is business as usual around here, but the daily chaos and illegal activity that we are seeing from the Trump administration is not business as usual.

The reality is that 15 of the 16 bills we are considering today from the Committee on Energy and Commerce, including this one, should already be law. They were already agreed to last year as part of a bipartisan, bicameral legislative package that was set to be passed and signed into law in December before Elon Musk intervened and killed the agreement.

□ 1430

That package included important provisions that would have lowered costs for hardworking Americans, but instead of passing it and sending it to the President’s desk to be signed into law, my Republican colleagues allowed Elon Musk to decide what becomes law.

What is especially upsetting about this is that my Republican colleagues know this was a good agreement that would have helped people. It included provisions to lower prescription drug prices, crack down on junk fees, lower gas prices, ensure our water is safe to drink, and fund community health centers and teaching health centers. Instead, Speaker JOHNSON chose to cave to Elon Musk.

Though it may be delayed, I am pleased to be supporting the passage today of the American Music Tourism Act. Americans are fortunate to have a rich musical heritage. Throughout the United States, you can find countless venues where talented musicians perform. These venues attract millions of people from around the country and the world who want to see their favorite artists or visit the place where famous musicians have launched their careers, all of which contribute significantly to our local communities.

Music and musical venues are very important to my district in New Jersey. Asbury Park has been the home of the legendary Stone Pony for over 50 years, one of the places where New Jersey’s famous son, Bruce Springsteen,

got his start. Redbank, New Jersey, is the site of the Count Basie Theatre named in honor of William “Count” Basie, who revolutionized jazz music and whose legacy continues through the theater, which continues to support and inspire new generations of local musicians.

This is why I am pleased to support the American Music Tourism Act. This bill would direct the National Travel and Tourism Office to promote domestic and international travel and tourism to U.S. venues like The Stone Pony and the Count Basie Theatre. It will help expand the already significant economic contributions that these venues bring to our local and national economies.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative BARRAGÁN for her leadership on this issue and encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

These bills, for the most part, that we are going to be considering today were part of that original package that Elon Musk negated, but we are going to try to move those bills today despite what he did to try to scuttle everything.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER), my good friend.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Chairman GUS BILIRAKIS, who I affectionately call Gus, and Ranking Member PALLONE for supporting this act.

We have the opportunity today to vote on legislation centered around something that brings us all together, and that is music. Today, we will take the American Music Tourism Act under consideration. It is a bipartisan piece of legislation that I am proud to have led through the House alongside my co-lead, Representative NANETTE BARRAGÁN.

It will require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Travel and Tourism to develop a plan to boost music tourism, welcoming both domestic and international visitors to experience the rich musical heritage we have across America.

It also ensures that Congress stays informed, with regular reports on our progress, our success, and any challenges that we face.

Importantly, let me emphasize this bill will not require any additional taxpayer dollars. It is a smart, efficient, and unique way to support our economy without increasing spending.

Whether it is New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz; Seattle, where they rock out to grunge; the cradles of hip hop, which are L.A. and New York; or Austin, which proudly calls itself the Live Music Capital of the World, our Nation is overflowing with the rich history of music.

For those of us in Tennessee’s First District, which I represent, this bill is especially personal. We are home to

treasures like Dollywood in Pigeon Forge, the home of Dolly Parton, and the Birthplace of Country Music, which is in Bristol, Tennessee—places that just don't celebrate our culture but also drive tourism, create jobs, and strengthen our communities. I can't forget a little town in my district called Sneedville, Tennessee, and that is the home of Morgan Wallen. My favorite song is "The Way I Talk." I thought for a long time, Mr. Speaker, that he wrote that about me, but I have come to find out that he didn't.

As a tribute to Dolly Parton, all I have to say is that we have been working longer than "9 to 5" to get this bill across the finish line. I am so thankful for the strong bipartisan partnership that made it possible today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this bill, as I said, was part of that bipartisan package that we had hoped would be passed last December but for Elon Musk.

This bill is important. I know that back in Asbury Park, in particular, they will be very happy to know that our Congress is paying so much attention to American music tourism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for support on both sides of the aisle for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, let me tell you, the speaker on the floor of the House of Representatives in the great State of Florida used to begin his speeches by saying, "I am fired up." I am fired up, Mr. Speaker, because we are going to pass a great bill that promotes America.

With the previous bill honoring the 1980 USA Gold Medal hockey team, this is a great day in D.C. and all over the United States of America.

In closing, I urge a "yes" vote on this particular bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BEAN of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 617.

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.

SETTING CONSUMER STANDARDS FOR LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 973) to establish consumer standards for lithium-ion batteries.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 973

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 "Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act".

SEC. 2. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARD FOR CERTAIN BATTERIES.

(a) CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARD REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (referred to in this section as the "Commission") shall promulgate, under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, the provisions of ANSI/CAN/UL 2271—Standard for Batteries for Use in Light Electric Vehicle Applications, ANSI/CAN/UL 2849—Standard for Safety for Electrical Systems for eBikes, and ANSI/CA/UL 2272—Standard for Electrical Systems for Personal E-Mobility Devices, as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, as final consumer product safety standards.

(b) CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION DETERMINATION OF SCOPE.—In adopting the standards under subsection (a), the Commission shall limit the application of such standards to consumer products as defined in section 3(a)(5) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052(a)(5)).

(c) REVISION OF VOLUNTARY STANDARDS.—

(1) NOTICE TO COMMISSION.—If the provisions of ANSI/CAN/UL 2271—Standard for Batteries for Use in Light Electric Vehicle Applications, ANSI/CAN/UL 2849—Standard for Safety for Electrical Systems for eBikes, or ANSI/CAN/UL 2272—Standard for Electrical Systems for Personal E-Mobility Devices, are revised following the enactment of this Act, the organization that revised the requirements of such standard shall notify the Commission after the final approval of the revision.

(2) TREATMENT OF REVISION.—The revised voluntary standard shall be considered to be a consumer product safety standard issued by the Commission under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058), effective 180 days after the date on which the organization notifies the Commission (or such later date specified by the Commission in the Federal Register) unless, within 90 days after receiving that notice, the Commission notifies the organization that it has determined that the proposed revision, in whole or in part, does not improve the safety of the consumer product covered by the standard and that the Commission is retaining the existing consumer product safety standard.

(d) TREATMENT OF STANDARD.—A standard promulgated under this section, including a revision of such standard adopted by the Commission, shall be treated as a consumer product safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058).

(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, a report regarding fires, explosions, and other hazards relating to lithium-ion batteries used in micromobility products during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on the report date.

(2) CONTENT.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall describe, at a minimum—

(A) the source of the information that was provided to the Commission regarding the fire, explosion, or other hazard;

(B) the make and model of the lithium-ion battery and micromobility product that resulted in a fire, explosion, or other hazard, if known;

(C) whether a lithium-ion battery involved in a fire, explosion, or other hazard complied

with the standard required by this section, if known; and

(D) if known, the manufacturer and country of manufacture of a lithium-ion battery that resulted in a fire, explosion, or other hazard.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 973, the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act, led by Representative TORRES.

H.R. 973 requires the Consumer Product Safety Commission to issue consumer product safety standards for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in micromobility devices, addressing the serious fire hazards they pose.

Tragically, defective batteries, particularly those imported from China, have already claimed too many lives.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Representative TORRES, Representative LANGWORTHY, Representative CLARKE, and Representative GARBARINO, for their bipartisan leadership to protect consumers and first responders.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of H.R. 973, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 973, the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act.

This legislation will protect Americans from fires caused by lithium-ion batteries. It directs the Consumer Product Safety Commission to require manufacturers to comply with safety standards for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries in micromobility devices, like electric bicycles and scooters.

Fires caused by faulty or misused batteries are on the rise. Between 2019 and 2023, there were more than 400 fires, 300 injuries, and 12 deaths from fires caused by lithium-ion batteries in New York City alone. In February, a fire caused by lithium-ion batteries at a recycling facility in my home State of New Jersey required the evacuation of over 100 residents from their homes and caused massive property damage. Last month, in California, a 6-year-old girl and her grandmother and great-grandmother were all tragically killed in a house fire caused by a lithium-ion battery.

We are witnessing all of these tragic accidents in communities across the Nation, yet there is no mandatory Federal standard to ensure lithium-ion batteries are safe.

As electric bikes and scooters grow in popularity, we must ensure that the CPSC adopts a strong Federal safety standard for lithium-ion batteries. Consumers deserve to know that the products they buy are thoroughly tested and safe, and this legislation would do just that.

I have to say that compliance with this bill depends on enforcement by the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Like other legislation we are considering this afternoon, it depends on the existence of a strong, bipartisan, and independent CPSC to protect Americans from unsafe products.

At the same time that our Republican colleagues vote for this bill, they will continue to remain silent as President Trump's callous willingness to risk the safety of all Americans continues by his planning to eliminate the CPSC and fold its mission into the Department of Health and Human Services, which itself will have a dramatically smaller workforce and narrower mission.

Eliminating the existing CPSC or stripping it of the independent and bipartisan structure that Congress has mandated puts children and all Americans' physical safety in grave danger.

The CPSC is a small agency tasked with a massive job to protect consumers from hazards associated with a vast array of consumer products, from infant car seats to window blinds to home repair equipment. American consumers deserve to have peace of mind that the products we are bringing into our homes are safe.

I hope my Republican colleagues will finally begin to speak up against President Trump's dangerous plan to consolidate power in the White House and eliminate the critical agency that does a lot of this enforcement work at the expense of our children's safety.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representative TORRES for his leadership on this issue, and I also thank Representative CLARKE for championing this bill in our committee. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Again, I will stress that without CPSC enforcement, this legislation is not going to mean much.

Mr. Speaker, again, I don't want to take away from these bills. Each of the bills that we have today is bipartisan and came out of our committee, but it is a shame that they weren't passed already in December but for Elon Musk. It certainly would not be helpful—oh, I am sorry. Mr. TORRES is here, so I can't close yet, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES), the Democratic sponsor of the bill.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my bipartisan bill titled the Setting Con-

sumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply grateful to Chair GUTHRIE, Ranking Member PALONE, Chair BILIRAKIS, and all the members of the Energy and Commerce Committee for their support. I am equally grateful to my partners in this effort, Congress Members YVETTE CLARKE, ANDREW GARBARINO, and NICK LANGWORTHY.

At the heart of our legislative progress has been the tireless advocacy of the FDNY, the finest and bravest fire department in the Nation.

The sheer speed and scale of destruction caused by a lithium-ion battery fire is nothing short of staggering. In the Bronx, we witnessed one of our few neighborhood supermarkets, 2096 Grand Concourse, instantaneously reduced to rubble by a five-alarm fire caused by a malfunctioning lithium-ion battery. These fires are happening with greater frequency and ferocity across America.

Nowhere has this crisis been more acute than in New York City, which has emerged as the epicenter of lithium-ion battery fires, with more than a thousand incidents since 2019. The number of fires has been rising relentlessly, from 30 in 2019 to 44 in 2020, 104 in 2021, 219 in 2022, 268 in 2023, and 279 in 2024. In just 4 years, America's largest city has seen an over 800 percent surge in these fires, creating an unprecedented crisis in public safety.

□ 1445

Poorly manufactured lithium-ion batteries often imported from China are hidden ticking time bombs waiting to detonate in American homes and neighborhoods. The danger has become too great to ignore.

Today, the House is poised to pass bipartisan legislation that will finally empower the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish mandatory safety standards for the manufacture of lithium-ion batteries in e-mobility devices.

In doing so, we are acting to prevent needless fires, save lives, and safeguard communities across our Nation, and we are honoring our most sacred duty: to protect the American people.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters of support from a coalition of stakeholders in favor of this bipartisan legislation.

FDNY.

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

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON: I'm writing to urge you to pass the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act (H.R. 973). If signed into law, it would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety standard for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in micromobility devices. Given that the bill is uncontroversial, enjoys bipartisan support, and ensures Americans' safety nationwide, you can lead on this issue by advancing H.R. 973 as soon as possible.

In recent years, New York City has seen a proliferation of lithium-ion battery-powered

micromobility devices, such as electronic bicycles, mopeds, and scooters. Many New Yorkers, including numerous delivery workers, rely on these devices as a convenient mode of transportation. However, as these devices continue to appear, the number of fire incidents has rapidly increased. Whereas a fire incident relating to a lithium-ion battery was uncommon in 2019 with only 30 incidents, in 2024, we experienced 279 incidents and are on pace for even more this year. Lithium-ion batteries were the cause of 18 fatal fires in 2023 and six fatal fires in 2024. They also present an acute danger to the firefighters who are called upon to respond.

This issue is a problem well beyond New York City. The Underwriters Laboratory Fire Safety Research Institute states that, nationwide, there were at least 445 lithium-ion battery fires, 214 injuries, and 38 deaths in 2023. They also note that the toxic smoke from these fires decreases the usual three-minute escape time to less than one minute, making these fires a rapid death trap. These fires present unique safety risks and create major hazards like flames, exploding projectiles, and thermal runaway. This causes an explosive, domino effect within the cells of a battery making it especially challenging for first responders to mitigate using traditional fire suppression methods. In addition to the explosion and fire, these battery fires produce thick, highly toxic smoke that endangers the lives of first responders responding to an incident.

Yet, the incidence of battery fires can be notably reduced by following best practices, such as purchasing certified devices and batteries, and not tampering with batteries. The Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act would be a strong step forward in tackling this ongoing crisis and ensuring safety for life and property.

Therefore, we ask for your leadership on this important issue by passing H.R. 973. Doing so will save lives and strengthen the safety of firefighters across the country.

Sincerely,

ROBERT S. TUCKER,
FDNY COMMISSIONER,
Fire Department, City of New York.

CONSUMER REPORTS,
April 25, 2025.

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

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Democratic Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND LEADER JEFFRIES: On behalf of Consumer Reports (CR), the independent, non-profit, non-partisan member organization, we write to state for the record our endorsement of H.R. 973, the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act, in advance of the U.S. House of Representatives' possible consideration of the bill under suspension of the rules the week of April 28, 2025. We support this bipartisan product safety legislation, which would ensure that the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) can set federal safety standards for micromobility devices, such as e-bikes, e-scooters, and hoverboards, in a timely manner.

Micromobility products can be a useful, cost-effective, and fun way to get around. They have soared in popularity, and many of them are manufactured abroad and imported to the United States. Unfortunately, fires and explosions linked to the products have also proliferated. Since 2021, micromobility devices using high energy density batteries have been linked to hundreds of fires and dozens of fatalities, including the deaths of multiple children. While specific information on the manufacturers or brands tied to these

fires is not publicly available, fire experts have stated they suspect that low-quality batteries from overseas are often to blame.

A federal safety standard enforced by the CPSC would level the playing field and help ensure that manufacturers and sellers put safety first. Thankfully, the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act (H.R. 973) would address this emerging, but addressable, hazard. On April 9, 2025, the Energy and Commerce Committee approved H.R. 973 by a voice vote with overwhelming support, and we are pleased it is now headed to the House floor.

Consumer Reports supports H.R. 973 and urges every member to support this sensible bill on the House floor. Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM WALLACE,
Director, Safety Advocacy.

GABE KNIGHT,
Senior Safety Policy Analyst.

APRIL 25, 2025.

Re H.R. 973—Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act.

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

As organizations committed to the build-out of electric charging infrastructure in New York City, we support H.R. 973—the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act. This legislation will issue a consumer product safety standard for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in micromobility devices, such as electric bicycles and scooters, to protect against the risk of fires.

As New York City looks to diversify its modes of transportation, we must ensure that these alternatives are clean and safe. Rechargeable, personal vehicles present a great opportunity to expand transportation alternatives, but their adoption must be met with safety precautions in mind. This legislation would allow for cities such as New York City to foster a responsible transportation sector and protect consumers and property from the threats of unsafe standards.

We request that this legislation be taken up for consideration by the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

NEW YORK LEAGUE OF
CONSERVATION VOTERS.
OPEN PLANS.
TRI-STATE
TRANSPORTATION
CAMPAIGN.
TRANSPORTATION
ALTERNATIVES.
EQUITABLE COMMUTE
PROJECT.
REGIONAL PLAN
ASSOCIATION.

NVFC,

Washington, DC, April 25, 2025.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER, I am writing to you on behalf of the National Volunteer Fire Council and the nation's volunteer fire service to express my support for H.R. 973, the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act. If enacted, this bill would significantly reduce the number of fires caused by lithium-ion batteries in e-mobility devices like e-bikes and scooters.

H.R. 973 would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to issue a

safety standard for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in e-mobility devices. While lithium-ion batteries in e-mobility devices have added a great deal of convenience to our lives, these batteries can be volatile and produce intense fires very quickly. This is especially the case if these lithium-ion batteries are of inferior quality, many of which are cheaply produced in China. A CPSC standard for lithium-ion batteries would protect consumers from the dangers of these inferior batteries.

As lithium-ion battery powered devices become more common, it is crucial that the safety and wellbeing of those we serve is preserved. Passing the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act would do just that. I request that the House of Representatives pass this important legislation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

STEVEN W. HIRSCH,
Chairman, National Volunteer Fire Council.

BOMA INTERNATIONAL.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND LEADER JEFFRIES: I am writing on behalf of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International to express our strong support for the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act, this critical legislation will help protect the public from the rising number of fires, injuries, and tragic deaths caused by faulty lithium-ion batteries used in e-bikes, e-scooters, and other micromobility devices.

As the popularity of micromobility options continues to grow, so too has the frequency of incidents related to unregulated or poorly manufactured batteries. Between January 2021 and November 2022, there were 208 reports of micromobility device fires across 39 states, resulting in at least 19 deaths. These devices, often essential for low-cost and sustainable transportation, should not pose a danger to users or communities. This bill takes a decisive and necessary step by requiring the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to establish a, enforceable safety standard for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in these products.

Most lithium-ion batteries are being imported from China, and Chinese manufacturers are not complying with CPSC's directive. By mandating uniform consumer protections, this legislation will help ensure that only safe, reliable batteries are brought to market—saving lives and preventing devastating property damage. It also levels the playing field for responsible manufacturers and retailers who already prioritize battery safety.

I respectfully urge you and your colleagues to support the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act and help move this important public safety measure forward without delay.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this urgent issue.

Sincerely,

MANUEL MORENO,
BOMA International Chair and CEO.

DOORDASH,
April 25, 2025.

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

Hon. STEVE SCALISE,
Majority Leader, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND LEADER SCALISE: DoorDash applauds you for advancing H.R. 973, the *Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act*. It is critical that the United States establish battery safety standards for mobility devices so that people can use these products without putting

themselves, their families, and their communities at risk. Your continued leadership on this issue will make a real difference in the lives of everyday Americans.

DoorDash empowers local businesses to reach more customers and enables millions of Americans to earn supplemental income when, where, and how they want. We are committed to keeping our communities safe, which is why we strongly support H.R. 973, which will keep unsafe batteries off of the market.

Electrically-powered micromobility is quickly becoming an essential part of our nation's transportation system, especially in urban areas. These micromobility devices also enable flexible earning opportunities for workers across the country, including the couriers—we call them “Dashers”—who provide delivery services facilitated by the DoorDash platform.

However, the benefits of micromobility can only be realized if the devices used are safe. Battery fires in New York City and across the country have made clear the danger posed by lithium-ion batteries that do not meet established and recognized safety standards. Consumers should not have to guess whether a product is safe when they purchase it, nor should our communities bear the risk of faulty products entering the market unchecked. Delivery workers, many of whom own devices powered by lithium-ion batteries and use them to earn supplemental income, are particularly at risk in the absence of these safety standards.

This legislation is a vital step forward in addressing this problem. By requiring the adoption of well-established voluntary standards like UL 2271, UL 2849, and UL 2272, H.R. 973 ensures a strong federal framework to protect consumers and workers. This measure will help shut down the flow of unsafe products and prevent needless harm to families, first responders, and communities.

DoorDash has partnered with e-bike suppliers and rental services to expand access to safe, certified micromobility devices, and we have invested in education campaigns to raise awareness about battery safety. Your leadership in bringing this bill forward is not only timely—it is necessary.

We are grateful for your commitment to consumer protection, public safety, and responsible innovation. Thank you again for your leadership.

Sincerely,

JOHN HORTON,
Head of North America Public Policy, DoorDash, Inc.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF FIRE CHIEFS,
McLean, VA, April 28, 2025.

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

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Minority Leader, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: On behalf of the nearly 11,000 members of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), I ask that you support H.R. 973, the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act. This bipartisan legislation would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to issue safety standards on lithium-ion batteries in micromobility devices.

All over America, communities struggle with fire safety effects of lithium-ion batteries in micromobility devices. These batteries are found in micromobility devices like e-bikes, e-scooters and hoverboards. Fires caused by these batteries produce a phenomenon called thermal runaway. When

the individual cells inside a lithium-ion battery become unstable it creates thermal runaway, which leads to fires. As we have seen time and time again, being nearby an unstable micromobility device can lead to injury or even death. Often, these fires impact multiple homes or apartments, causing damage or injury to close by neighbors and their adjacent property.

We humbly ask that you support H.R. 973, the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act. By passing this act, Congress can help ensure that safety is not compromised when the public utilizes alternative options for transportation. We look forward to working with you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

FIRE CHIEF JOSH WALDO, CFO, EFO,
IAFC President and Board Chair, 2024–2025.

TIC COUNCIL AMERICAS,
April 25, 2025.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: TIC Council Americas, representing the Testing, Inspection, and Certification (“TIC”) industry, supports the Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act, HR 973—a badly needed step in solving the problem of lithium-ion battery fires. Lives and property are at stake, and we urge passage of this legislation when it is before you on the floor.

Lithium-ion batteries present a major challenge due to their range of sizes, construction, frequently unknown origin, and potential for ignition if damaged or defective. While there are consensus standards to address the safety of lithium-ion batteries and battery-powered consumer products, they are not consistently followed, nor are there federal safety requirements that must be met. As evidenced by hundreds of fires and too many deaths traced to these batteries, we fully agree that Congressional action is badly needed now.

TIC Council Americas and its members remain ready to support the implementation of this legislation, whether or not independent verification of conformity is ultimately required. Most important is the increased safety that will accrue to consumers when this legislation becomes law.

Mr. Speaker, we appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on this important issue. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

RICH O'BRIEN,
Executive Director.

GRUBHUB,
April 28, 2025.

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

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON: I write to express Grubhub's strong support for the passage of H.R. 973, Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act. Thank you for your leadership on this important issue and for ensuring this critical legislation will be considered by the full House of Representatives.

This legislation would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to create a federal safety standard for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in micromobility products, such as e-bikes and e-scooters. Micromobility products can be a cost-effective, sustainable, and efficient mode of transportation. These devices have soared in popularity in recent years, and many are manufactured overseas and imported to the U.S. to meet the unprecedented demand. Unfortunately, the increase in these

subpar products has led to a troubling rise in fires and explosions, some fatal.

Many food delivery couriers rely on safe, efficient transportation like e-bikes to sustain their livelihoods, especially in dense urban areas. These delivery partners are essential to thousands of communities and businesses, including ours. Ensuring their safety—and the safety of all Americans—is a matter of public health, but also of fairness and economic opportunity. Instituting a federal safety standard for these products will help keep dangerous, foreign-made products from proliferating throughout our communities and ensure that consumers can access reliable, safe micromobility devices.

While local jurisdictions have tried to address this issue, the scale of the problem demands a national solution. Only a federal standard, enforced by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, can provide the comprehensive protection needed.

Grubhub applauds Congress for its diligence on this urgent safety and national security issue and for taking this opportunity to address it. This bipartisan legislation is well positioned to tackle the growing occurrence of fires linked to uncertified lithium-ion batteries, and will ultimately protect lives and ensure public safety.

Sincerely,

JR STARRETT,
Director of Government Affairs, Grubhub.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I encourage a “yes” vote, and I congratulate Representative TORRES and others for this great bill.

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

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

Again, I hate to keep repeating, but these bills are all good that we are considering this afternoon, and they should have already become law but for Elon Musk. Again, it is important that we reauthorize these programs or authorize these programs for the first time.

However, unless we have enforcement ability from agencies like the Consumer Product Safety Commission, they are not going to mean much because they require enforcement and investigation. Basically the agencies are the ones that make sure that this type of legislation is effective.

I hope that my Republican colleagues will see fit to speak out against the abolition of the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Putting it in another department is not going to help because they will have less workforce and less ability to function.

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 Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 973.

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. BILIRAKIS. 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.

TRANSPARENCY IN CHARGES FOR KEY EVENTS TICKETING ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1402) to require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1402

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 “Transparency In Charges for Key Events Ticketing Act” or the “TICKET Act”.

SEC. 2. ALL INCLUSIVE TICKET PRICE DISCLOSURE.

Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, it shall be unlawful for a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange to offer for sale an event ticket unless the ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange—

(1) clearly and conspicuously displays the total event ticket price, if a price is displayed, in any advertisement, marketing, or price list wherever the ticket is offered for sale;

(2) clearly and conspicuously discloses to any individual who seeks to purchase an event ticket the total event ticket price at the time the ticket is first displayed to the individual and anytime thereafter throughout the ticket purchasing process; and

(3) provides an itemized list of the base event ticket price and each event ticket fee prior to the completion of the ticket purchasing process.

SEC. 3. SPECULATIVE TICKETING BAN.

(a) PROHIBITION.—Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange that does not have actual or constructive possession of an event ticket shall not sell, offer for sale, or advertise for sale such event ticket.

(b) SERVICES PERMITTED.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), a secondary market ticket issuer or secondary market ticket exchange may sell, offer for sale, or advertise for sale a service to an individual to obtain an event ticket on behalf of such individual if the secondary market ticket issuer or secondary market ticket exchange complies with the following:

(1) Does not market or list the service as an event ticket.

(2) Maintains a clear, distinct, and easily discernible separation between the service and event tickets that persists throughout the entire service selection and purchasing process.

(3) Clearly and conspicuously discloses before selection of the service that the service is not an event ticket and that the purchase of the service does not guarantee an event ticket.

SEC. 4. DISCLOSURES.

A ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange—

(1) if offering an event ticket for resale, shall provide a clear and conspicuous statement, before a consumer purchases the event ticket from the ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange, that the issuer or exchange is engaged in the secondary sale of event tickets;

(2) shall not state that the ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange is affiliated with or endorsed by a venue, team, or artist, as applicable, including by using words like “official” in promotional materials, social media promotions, or paid advertising, unless a partnership agreement has been executed or the issuer or exchange has the express written consent of the venue, team, or artist, as applicable; and

(3) shall not include the name of the venue, including any misspelling of any such name, in a domain name, or any subdomain thereof, in the URL of the secondary market ticket issuer or secondary market ticket exchange unless authorized by the owner of the venue.

SEC. 5. REFUND REQUIREMENTS.

(a) CANCELLATION.—Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, if an event is canceled or postponed (except for a case in which an event is canceled or postponed due to a cause beyond the reasonable control of the issuer, including a natural disaster, civil disturbance, or otherwise unforeseeable impediment), a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange shall provide the purchaser of an event ticket from the issuer or exchange for the canceled or postponed event, at a minimum—

(1) if the event is cancelled, a full refund for the total event ticket price;

(2) subject to availability, if the event is postponed for not more than 6 months and the original event ticket is no longer valid for entry to the rescheduled event, a replacement event ticket for the rescheduled event in the same or a comparable location once the event has been rescheduled; or

(3) if the event is postponed for more than 6 months, at the option of the purchaser—

(A) a full refund for the total event ticket price; or

(B) if the original event ticket is no longer valid for entry to the rescheduled event, a replacement event ticket for the rescheduled event in the same or a comparable location once the event has been rescheduled.

(b) DISCLOSURE OF GUARANTEE AND REFUND POLICY REQUIRED.—Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange shall disclose clearly and conspicuously to a purchaser before the completion of an event ticket sale the guarantee or refund policy of such ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange, including under what circumstances any refund issued will include a refund of any event ticket fee.

(c) DISCLOSURE OF HOW TO OBTAIN A REFUND REQUIRED.—Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange shall provide a clear and conspicuous explanation of how to obtain a refund of the total event ticket price.

SEC. 6. REPORT BY THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION ON BOTS ACT OF 2016 ENFORCEMENT.

Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report on enforcement of the Better Online Ticket Sales Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-274; 15 U.S.C. 45c), including any enforcement action taken, challenges with enforcement and coordination with State Attorneys General, and recommendations on how to improve enforcement and industry compliance.

SEC. 7. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACT OR PRACTICE.—A violation of this Act shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair

or deceptive act or practice under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

(b) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall enforce this Act in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act.

(2) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—Any person who violates this Act shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(3) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ARTIST.—The term “artist” means any performer, musician, comedian, producer, ensemble or production entity of a theatrical production, sports team owner, or similar person.

(2) BASE EVENT TICKET PRICE.—The term “base event ticket price” means, with respect to an event ticket, the price of the event ticket excluding the cost of any event ticket fees.

(3) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(4) EVENT.—The term “event” means any live concert, theatrical performance, sporting event, show, or similarly scheduled live activity, that is—

(A) taking place in a venue with a seating or attendance capacity exceeding 200 persons;

(B) open to the general public; and

(C) promoted, advertised, or marketed in interstate commerce, or for which event tickets are generally sold or distributed in interstate commerce.

(5) EVENT TICKET; TICKET ISSUER.—The terms “event ticket” and “ticket issuer” have the meaning given those terms in the Better Online Ticket Sales Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-274).

(6) EVENT TICKET FEE.—The term “event ticket fee”—

(A) means a charge for an event ticket that must be paid in addition to the base event ticket price in order to obtain an event ticket from a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange, including any service fee, charge and order processing fee, delivery fee, facility charge fee, tax, and any other charge; and

(B) does not include any charge or fee for an optional product or service associated with the event that may be selected by a purchaser of an event ticket.

(7) OPTIONAL PRODUCT OR SERVICE.—The term “optional product or service” means a product or service that an individual does not need to purchase to use or take possession of an event ticket.

(8) RESALE; SECONDARY SALE.—The terms “resale” and “secondary sale” mean any sale of an event ticket that occurs after the initial sale of the event ticket by a ticket issuer.

(9) SECONDARY MARKET TICKET EXCHANGE.—The term “secondary market ticket exchange” means any person that in the regular course of trade or business of that person operates a platform or exchange for advertising, listing, or selling resale tickets, on behalf of itself, vendors, or a secondary market ticket issuer.

(10) SECONDARY MARKET TICKET ISSUER.—The term “secondary market ticket issuer” means any person, including a ticket issuer,

that resells or makes a secondary sale of an event ticket to the general public in the regular course of the trade or business of the person.

(11) TOTAL EVENT TICKET PRICE.—The term “total event ticket price” means, with respect to an event ticket, the total cost of the event ticket, including the base event ticket price and any event ticket fee.

(12) URL.—The term “URL” means the uniform resource locator associated with an internet website.

(13) VENUE.—The term “venue” means a physical space at which an event takes place.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. 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 in the RECORD on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1402, the Transparency In Charges for Key Events Ticketing Act, or the TICKET Act. I am proud to lead this bill alongside the ranking member, my good friend, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

This legislation is about empowering consumers and ensuring fans can enjoy live events by improving ticket price transparency.

H.R. 1402 requires all platforms selling event tickets to show the complete price, with all required fees, right from the start. People budget, Mr. Speaker, for these games, concerts, or what have you. They need to know up front what the price is going to be. It also guarantees customers can get their money back if an event is canceled or rescheduled. It also cracks down on misleading ticket sites. It is a great bill.

This bill further prohibits the sale of tickets the seller doesn't yet have, a practice known as speculative selling. Eliminating this tactic helps level the playing field so more fans have a fair shot at attending events. They deserve that.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of this very good bill, H.R. 1402. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1402, the TICKET Act. This bipartisan legislation creates a fairer and more transparent event ticketing marketplace. It ends the surprise fees on tickets for concerts and sporting events that understandably frustrate consumers. With this legislation, the price you see when you are shopping for event tickets will be the price that

you pay. There will be no hidden fees raising the price at the checkout point.

This bill also prohibits companies from selling tickets they don't have, requires refunds for events that are canceled or postponed more than 6 months into the future, and cracks down on fraudulent ticketing websites.

American consumers need and deserve these commonsense protections.

Yet, these protections are meaningless without strong and consistent enforcement. House Republicans are standing by in silence as the Federal Trade Commission, the agency entrusted with enforcing this bill and several others under consideration this afternoon, is compromised by the Trump administration and the President's illegal political attempt to fire the two Democratic commissioners.

This unlawful decision undermines the legitimacy and transparency of the agency's decisions, sending a message that no commissioner, regardless of party, is safe, and no business that harms consumers should fear accountability, so long as it shows sufficient loyalty to the President.

I urge my Republican colleagues to recognize that restoring the FTC as an independent agency, as this Congress intended, is essential to ensuring this bill and similar efforts to protect consumers are fully effective and enforced without fear or favor.

I thank the wide range of stakeholders who worked on this bill, and particularly the consumer groups for their unwavering support of this bill.

Of course, I particularly want to commend Subcommittee Chair BILIRAKIS and Ranking Member SCHAKOWSKY for their years of hard work on this legislation.

Finally, I need to acknowledge, Mr. Speaker, the contribution of my late colleague and dear friend from New Jersey, Congressman Bill Pascrell. He was a tireless advocate and leader on improving the ticketing experience for consumers.

I am proud to have partnered with him on his longtime efforts that are included in the bill we have before us today. When the TICKET Act was on the floor last year, Bill gave an impassioned speech in support of all-in pricing and the other consumer protections in this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation, the TICKET Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), the Democratic sponsor of this bill, who has worked on this legislation for such a long time.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank FRANK PALLONE for his support

and leadership. GUS BILIRAKIS and I have been working for over 2 years now on this piece of legislation that is going to bring such delight and security for artists and for consumers who really want to benefit from being able to get the wonderful products that they can put their money into so that they can have their families enjoy so many events.

We know that there have been hidden fees. These companies say that this is how much it is going to cost you to be able to go to an event, to be able to go to a concert. You think, and the people who are trying to buy these tickets think, that these are going to be the fees that they are going to have to pay. Sure enough, by the time the product is ready to be paid for, often it can go as much as 40 percent higher. That is really cheating the people who are spending their money.

We know that with passage of the TICKET Act that consumers will be paying only the amount that they believe they are paying the first time. That is the money that you are going to pay, no more.

It is about time that the scammers who are going and raising the price of these events are now going to not be able to do that. People are going to get exactly what they had asked for, what they had paid for.

The passage of the TICKET Act is really a happy event. We need to pass this legislation. I know that lots and lots of people and people who are artists are going to really do better. I look forward to finally, after a couple of years, passing this bill. This bill passed the House of Representatives overwhelmingly in the last Congress.

It is time for us to get this done. I thank GUS for his bipartisanship. It has been a pleasure to work with him.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the remarks of the gentlewoman from Illinois. I just want to say it has been great working with Representative SCHAKOWSKY on a number of bills over the years. She has really been very cooperative, and we are doing good things for the American consumer.

I will also say that this is a very profamily bill. We have got to get our kids out to some of these ball games and some of these concerts together as a family, but it is very difficult to budget when you don't know exactly what the price is going to be ultimately.

I want to commend some of the artists such as Kid Rock. He will buy the tickets and give them to people that deserve those tickets that otherwise would not be able to afford them. My good friend Tony Orlando, as well, does this. They are just wonderful artists that do so much for our country, particularly our military and our veterans.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I agree with Mr. BILIRAKIS. This is important

consumer protection, and I am glad to see that our committee and the subcommittee headed by Mr. BILIRAKIS as chair and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY as the ranking member has taken on so many of these consumer issues today and in the future. I ask for support on both sides of the aisle, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage a "yes" vote in the memory of Bill Pascrell who did such a wonderful job on this particular issue. I am glad we are getting it across the finish line.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage a "yes" vote on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1402.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. 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.

□ 1500

YOUTH POISONING PROTECTION ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1442) a bill to ban the sale of products with a high concentration of sodium nitrate to individuals, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1442

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Youth Poisoning Protection Act".

SEC. 2. BANNING OF PRODUCTS CONTAINING A HIGH CONCENTRATION OF SODIUM NITRITE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Any consumer product containing a high concentration of sodium nitrite shall be considered to be a banned hazardous product under section 8 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2057).

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to—

(1) prohibit any commercial or industrial purpose in which high concentration sodium nitrite is not customarily produced or distributed for sale to, or use or consumption by, or enjoyment of, a consumer; and

(2) apply to high concentration sodium nitrite that meets the definition of a drug, device, or cosmetic (as such terms are defined in subsections (g), (h), and (i) of section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321(g), (h), and (i))), or food (as defined in section 201(f) of such Act (21 U.S.C. 321(f))), including poultry and poultry products (as such terms are defined in subsections (e) and (f) of section 4 of the Poultry

Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 453(e) and (f)), meat and meat food products (as such terms are defined in section 1(j) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601(j))), and eggs and egg products (as such terms are defined in section 4 of the Egg Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 1033)).

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) CONSUMER PRODUCT.—The term “consumer product” has the meaning given that term under section 3(a)(5) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052(a)(5)).

(2) HIGH CONCENTRATION OF SODIUM NITRITE.—The term “high concentration of sodium nitrite” means a concentration of 10 or more percent by weight of sodium nitrite.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1442, the Youth Poisoning Protection Act, led by Representative TRAHAN.

Since 2017, the United States has experienced a troubling increase in self-poisoning cases involving sodium nitrite, many of which stem from easy online access to high-concentration products.

This bill aims to confront that threat by implementing a narrowly focused prohibition on the sale of consumer products containing sodium nitrite at concentrations above 10 percent.

I thank Representative TRAHAN for her strong bipartisan leadership on this piece of legislation. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of H.R. 1442, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1442, the Youth Poisoning Protection Act.

Sodium nitrite is a highly toxic substance. Ingesting even a small amount is likely to be fatal. Unfortunately, online forums are providing detailed instructions and real-time guidance on how to acquire and use this substance to take their own lives. Sadly, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this has led to a sharp increase in self-poisoning using sodium nitrite.

By banning the sale of high-concentrate sodium nitrite to consumers, H.R. 1442 will make it less accessible to

people contemplating suicide. Experts have made it clear that there is no good reason for consumers to purchase sodium nitrite at such high concentrations.

I commend Representative TRAHAN for her leadership on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Mrs. TRAHAN), the sponsor of the bill.

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, as well as his leadership and that of Chair BILIRAKIS on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I introduced the Youth Poisoning Protection Act alongside Representative MIKE CAREY because we are facing an urgent and deeply troubling trend, the promotion of sodium nitrite, a toxic chemical, as a method to die by suicide.

In 2022, The New York Times revealed the existence of online suicide forums that don't just discuss suicide, they promote it. Anonymous users on these platforms encourage vulnerable children and young adults to end their lives, and they often suggest using this chemical to do it.

Now, most Americans have never heard of sodium nitrite, but for families who have lost loved ones, it is something they will never forget. In lower concentrations, it is a chemical used safely to cure meats and fish, but in higher concentrations it is deadly. For the few who have survived attempts to end their lives using sodium nitrite, they report agonizing pain as the chemical deprives their body of oxygen.

After learning how easy it is to purchase high-concentration sodium nitrite, my office worked with retailers to limit access to businesses with a proven use for the chemical, but some sites still openly market it as part of a so-called suicide kit to people in crisis.

There is no Federal law that allows us to stop this. That is where this bipartisan legislation comes in. The Youth Poisoning Protection Act would restrict sales of sodium nitrite above 10 percent concentration to businesses with verified industrial or commercial use. That threshold is based on expert recommendations for safe handling and won't interfere with legitimate industries like food processing.

This bill is focused and reasonable. It targets bad actors who are exploiting a loophole to profit off tragedy, and it does so without burdening responsible businesses. That is why, last Congress, this bill passed the Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously before passing it here on the floor with overwhelming support. Now we must finish the job.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Youth Poisoning Protection Act.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared

to close after Mr. PALLONE. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close. Mr. Speaker, as you can see, a lot of these consumer protection bills that we are considering today are actually very important, as is this. I urge bipartisan support and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage a “yes” vote on this particular bill. Again, I commend Representatives TRAHAN and CAREY. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CAREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bill that will prevent deadly chemicals from falling into the hands of children, our Youth Poisoning Protection Act.

It's a parent's worst nightmare: a nameless, faceless stranger over the internet teaching your child how to take their own life, and your child, in a moment of vulnerability, listening to them.

That's exactly what happened to Kristine Jonsson, a vibrant sixteen-year-old from Hilliard, Ohio whose life was cut tragically short in September 2020.

Kristine was open with her parents about her mental health struggles, but it was behind closed doors on an internet forum that she learned about sodium nitrite.

With the coaching of sinister strangers online, Kristine was able to purchase sodium nitrite on Amazon and get it nondescriptly shipped to her front door, all under her parents' noses.

Sodium nitrite is a chemical used in the preservation of meat and fish, which in high concentrations is deadly if ingested.

In fact, one spoonful of the chemical is one hundred times more lethal than other poisons. High concentrations of some chemicals can be harmful if used improperly, which is why they are usually highly regulated or banned for sale to consumers.

Thanks to online forums like the one Kristine saw, the number of suicide deaths using sodium nitrite is rising. In recent years, the share of sodium nitrite usage as a method of self-poisoning has grown nine times over.

By passing this bill, we can save lives.

The Youth Poisoning Protection Act would prevent the commercial sale of highly-concentrated sodium nitrite, so it can never fall into the hands of a vulnerable young person.

With the support of my colleagues and friends across the aisle, we are one step closer to preventing these senseless tragedies in our communities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1442, as amended.

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. BILIRAKIS. 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.

TOOLS TO ADDRESS KNOWN EXPLOITATION BY IMMOBILIZING TECHNOLOGICAL DEEPFAKES ON WEBSITES AND NETWORKS ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 146) to require covered platforms to remove nonconsensual intimate visual depictions, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 146

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 “Tools to Address Known Exploitation by Immobilizing Technological Deepfakes on Websites and Networks Act” or the “TAKE IT DOWN Act”.

SEC. 2. CRIMINAL PROHIBITION ON INTENTIONAL DISCLOSURE OF NON-CONSENSUAL INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 223 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (i); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

“(h) INTENTIONAL DISCLOSURE OF NON-CONSENSUAL INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.—

“(I) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) CONSENT.—The term ‘consent’ means an affirmative, conscious, and voluntary authorization made by an individual free from force, fraud, duress, misrepresentation, or coercion.

“(B) DIGITAL FORGERY.—The term ‘digital forgery’ means any intimate visual depiction of an identifiable individual created through the use of software, machine learning, artificial intelligence, or any other computer-generated or technological means, including by adapting, modifying, manipulating, or altering an authentic visual depiction, that, when viewed as a whole by a reasonable person, is indistinguishable from an authentic visual depiction of the individual.

“(C) IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL.—The term ‘identifiable individual’ means an individual—

“(i) who appears in whole or in part in an intimate visual depiction; and

“(ii) whose face, likeness, or other distinguishing characteristic (including a unique birthmark or other recognizable feature) is displayed in connection with such intimate visual depiction.

“(D) INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICE.—The term ‘interactive computer service’ has the meaning given the term in section 230.

“(E) INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTION.—The term ‘intimate visual depiction’ has the meaning given such term in section 1309 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (15 U.S.C. 6851).

“(F) MINOR.—The term ‘minor’ means any individual under the age of 18 years.

“(2) OFFENSE INVOLVING AUTHENTIC INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.—

“(A) INVOLVING ADULTS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), it shall be unlawful for any person, in interstate or foreign commerce, to use an interactive computer service to knowingly publish an intimate visual depiction of an identifiable individual who is not a minor if—

“(i) the intimate visual depiction was obtained or created under circumstances in which the person knew or reasonably should have known the identifiable individual had a reasonable expectation of privacy;

“(ii) what is depicted was not voluntarily exposed by the identifiable individual in a public or commercial setting;

“(iii) what is depicted is not a matter of public concern; and

“(iv) publication of the intimate visual depiction—

“(I) is intended to cause harm; or

“(II) causes harm, including psychological, financial, or reputational harm, to the identifiable individual.

“(B) INVOLVING MINORS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), it shall be unlawful for any person, in interstate or foreign commerce, to use an interactive computer service to knowingly publish an intimate visual depiction of an identifiable individual who is a minor with intent to—

“(i) abuse, humiliate, harass, or degrade the minor; or

“(ii) arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person.

“(C) EXCEPTIONS.—Subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall not apply to—

“(i) a lawfully authorized investigative, protective, or intelligence activity of—

“(I) a law enforcement agency of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision of a State; or

“(II) an intelligence agency of the United States;

“(ii) a disclosure made reasonably and in good faith—

“(I) to a law enforcement officer or agency;

“(II) as part of a document production or filing associated with a legal proceeding;

“(III) as part of medical education, diagnosis, or treatment or for a legitimate medical, scientific, or education purpose;

“(IV) in the reporting of unlawful content or unsolicited or unwelcome conduct or in pursuance of a legal, professional, or other lawful obligation; or

“(V) to seek support or help with respect to the receipt of an unsolicited intimate visual depiction;

“(iii) a disclosure reasonably intended to assist the identifiable individual;

“(iv) a person who possesses or publishes an intimate visual depiction of himself or herself engaged in nudity or sexually explicit conduct (as that term is defined in section 2256(2)(A) of title 18, United States Code); or

“(v) the publication of an intimate visual depiction that constitutes—

“(I) child pornography (as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code); or

“(II) a visual depiction described in subsection (a) or (b) of section 1466A of title 18, United States Code (relating to obscene visual representations of the sexual abuse of children).

“(3) OFFENSE INVOLVING DIGITAL FORGERIES.—

“(A) INVOLVING ADULTS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), it shall be unlawful for any person, in interstate or foreign commerce, to use an interactive computer service to knowingly publish a digital forgery of an identifiable individual who is not a minor if—

“(i) the digital forgery was published without the consent of the identifiable individual;

“(ii) what is depicted was not voluntarily exposed by the identifiable individual in a public or commercial setting;

“(iii) what is depicted is not a matter of public concern; and

“(iv) publication of the digital forgery—

“(I) is intended to cause harm; or

“(II) causes harm, including psychological, financial, or reputational harm, to the identifiable individual.

“(B) INVOLVING MINORS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), it shall be unlawful for any person, in interstate or foreign

commerce, to use an interactive computer service to knowingly publish a digital forgery of an identifiable individual who is a minor with intent to—

“(i) abuse, humiliate, harass, or degrade the minor; or

“(ii) arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person.

“(C) EXCEPTIONS.—Subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall not apply to—

“(i) a lawfully authorized investigative, protective, or intelligence activity of—

“(I) a law enforcement agency of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision of a State; or

“(II) an intelligence agency of the United States;

“(ii) a disclosure made reasonably and in good faith—

“(I) to a law enforcement officer or agency;

“(II) as part of a document production or filing associated with a legal proceeding;

“(III) as part of medical education, diagnosis, or treatment or for a legitimate medical, scientific, or education purpose;

“(IV) in the reporting of unlawful content or unsolicited or unwelcome conduct or in pursuance of a legal, professional, or other lawful obligation; or

“(V) to seek support or help with respect to the receipt of an unsolicited intimate visual depiction;

“(iii) a disclosure reasonably intended to assist the identifiable individual;

“(iv) a person who possesses or publishes a digital forgery of himself or herself engaged in nudity or sexually explicit conduct (as that term is defined in section 2256(2)(A) of title 18, United States Code); or

“(v) the publication of an intimate visual depiction that constitutes—

“(I) child pornography (as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code); or

“(II) a visual depiction described in subsection (a) or (b) of section 1466A of title 18, United States Code (relating to obscene visual representations of the sexual abuse of children).

“(4) PENALTIES.—

“(A) OFFENSES INVOLVING ADULTS.—Any person who violates paragraph (2)(A) or (3)(A) shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both.

“(B) OFFENSES INVOLVING MINORS.—Any person who violates paragraph (2)(B) or (3)(B) shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 3 years, or both.

“(5) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—For purposes of paragraphs (2) and (3)—

“(A) the fact that the identifiable individual provided consent for the creation of the intimate visual depiction shall not establish that the individual provided consent for the publication of the intimate visual depiction; and

“(B) the fact that the identifiable individual disclosed the intimate visual depiction to another individual shall not establish that the identifiable individual provided consent for the publication of the intimate visual depiction by the person alleged to have violated paragraph (2) or (3), respectively.

“(6) THREATS.—

“(A) THREATS INVOLVING AUTHENTIC INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.—Any person who intentionally threatens to commit an offense under paragraph (2) for the purpose of intimidation, coercion, extortion, or to create mental distress shall be punished as provided in paragraph (4).

“(B) THREATS INVOLVING DIGITAL FORGERIES.—

“(i) THREATS INVOLVING ADULTS.—Any person who intentionally threatens to commit

an offense under paragraph (3)(A) for the purpose of intimidation, coercion, extortion, or to create mental distress shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 18 months, or both.

“(ii) **THREATS INVOLVING MINORS.**—Any person who intentionally threatens to commit an offense under paragraph (3)(B) for the purpose of intimidation, coercion, extortion, or to create mental distress shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 30 months, or both.

“(7) **FORFEITURE.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The court, in imposing a sentence on any person convicted of a violation of paragraph (2) or (3), shall order, in addition to any other sentence imposed and irrespective of any provision of State law, that the person forfeit to the United States—

“(i) any material distributed in violation of that paragraph;

“(ii) the person’s interest in property, real or personal, constituting or derived from any gross proceeds of the violation, or any property traceable to such property, obtained or retained directly or indirectly as a result of the violation; and

“(iii) any personal property of the person used, or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit or to facilitate the commission of the violation.

“(B) **PROCEDURES.**—Section 413 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 853), with the exception of subsections (a) and (d), shall apply to the criminal forfeiture of property under subparagraph (A).

“(8) **RESTITUTION.**—The court shall order restitution for an offense under paragraph (2) or (3) in the same manner as under section 2264 of title 18, United States Code.

“(9) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the application of any other relevant law, including section 2252 of title 18, United States Code.”

(b) **DEFENSES.**—Section 223(e)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223(e)(1)) is amended by striking “or (d)” and inserting “, (d), or (h)”.

(c) **TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Subsection (i) of section 223 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223), as so redesignated by subsection (a), is amended by inserting “**DEFINITIONS.**—” before “For purposes of this section”.

SEC. 3. NOTICE AND REMOVAL OF NONCONSENSUAL INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—

(1) **NOTICE AND REMOVAL PROCESS.**—

(A) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, a covered platform shall establish a process whereby an identifiable individual (or an authorized person acting on behalf of such individual) may—

(i) notify the covered platform of an intimate visual depiction published on the covered platform that—

(I) includes a depiction of the identifiable individual; and

(II) was published without the consent of the identifiable individual; and

(ii) submit a request for the covered platform to remove such intimate visual depiction.

(B) **REQUIREMENTS.**—A notification and request for removal of an intimate visual depiction submitted under the process established under subparagraph (A) shall include, in writing—

(i) a physical or electronic signature of the identifiable individual (or an authorized person acting on behalf of such individual);

(ii) an identification of, and information reasonably sufficient for the covered platform to locate, the intimate visual depiction of the identifiable individual;

(iii) a brief statement that the identifiable individual has a good faith belief that any intimate visual depiction identified under clause (ii) is not consensual, including any relevant information for the covered platform to determine the intimate visual depiction was published without the consent of the identifiable individual; and

(iv) information sufficient to enable the covered platform to contact the identifiable individual (or an authorized person acting on behalf of such individual).

(2) **NOTICE OF PROCESS.**—A covered platform shall provide on the platform a clear and conspicuous notice, which may be provided through a clear and conspicuous link to another web page or disclosure, of the notice and removal process established under paragraph (1)(A) that—

(A) is easy to read and in plain language; and

(B) provides information regarding the responsibilities of the covered platform under this section, including a description of how an individual can submit a notification and request for removal.

(3) **REMOVAL OF NONCONSENSUAL INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTIONS.**—Upon receiving a valid removal request from an identifiable individual (or an authorized person acting on behalf of such individual) using the process described in paragraph (1)(A)(ii), a covered platform shall, as soon as possible, but not later than 48 hours after receiving such request—

(A) remove the intimate visual depiction; and

(B) make reasonable efforts to identify and remove any known identical copies of such depiction.

(4) **LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.**—A covered platform shall not be liable for any claim based on the covered platform’s good faith disabling of access to, or removal of, material claimed to be a nonconsensual intimate visual depiction based on facts or circumstances from which the unlawful publishing of an intimate visual depiction is apparent, regardless of whether the intimate visual depiction is ultimately determined to be unlawful or not.

(b) **ENFORCEMENT BY THE COMMISSION.**—

(1) **UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.**—A failure to reasonably comply with the notice and takedown obligations under subsection (a) shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or a deceptive act or practice under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

(2) **POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subparagraph (D), the Commission shall enforce this section in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this section.

(B) **PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.**—Any person who violates this section shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(C) **AUTHORITY PRESERVED.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the authority of the Federal Trade Commission under any other provision of law.

(D) **SCOPE OF JURISDICTION.**—Notwithstanding sections 4, 5(a)(2), or 6 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 44, 45(a)(2), 46), or any jurisdictional limitation of the Commission, the Commission shall also enforce this section in the same manner provided in subparagraph (A), with respect to organizations that are not organized to carry

on business for their own profit or that of their members.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **COMMISSION.**—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) **CONSENT; DIGITAL FORGERY; IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL; INTIMATE VISUAL DEPICTION.**—The terms “consent”, “digital forgery”, “identifiable individual”, “intimate visual depiction”, and “minor” have the meaning given such terms in section 223(h) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 223), as added by section 2.

(3) **COVERED PLATFORM.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “covered platform” means a website, online service, online application, or mobile application—

(i) that serves the public; and

(ii) (I) that primarily provides a forum for user-generated content, including messages, videos, images, games, and audio files; or

(II) for which it is in the regular course of trade or business of the website, online service, online application, or mobile application to publish, curate, host, or make available content of nonconsensual intimate visual depictions.

(B) **EXCLUSIONS.**—The term “covered platform” shall not include the following:

(i) A provider of broadband internet access service (as described in section 8.1(b) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or successor regulation).

(ii) Electronic mail.

(iii) Except as provided in subparagraph (A)(ii)(II), an online service, application, or website—

(I) that consists primarily of content that is not user generated but is preselected by the provider of such online service, application, or website; and

(II) for which any chat, comment, or interactive functionality is incidental to, directly related to, or dependent on the provision of the content described in subclause (I).

SEC. 5. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act, or an amendment made by this Act, is determined to be unenforceable or invalid, the remaining provisions of this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not be affected.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the **RECORD** on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in strong support of S. 146, the **TAKE IT DOWN** Act by Senator TED CRUZ. The bill addresses a serious gap in our current law, a loophole that came to light in my own district.

I had a meeting on this particular issue with the sheriff in Pasco County, Florida, Sheriff Nocco, and then I also talked to Senator CRUZ about one of his constituents. This is how we get things done. The best ideas come from the people, and this is very necessary.

A teacher in my district used AI to create explicit content of his students incorporating real images of his students taken from a yearbook. Under current law, only the use of the actual photos is illegal, the AI-generated, sexually explicit content is not.

Because of this gap, law enforcement was unable to fully charge this particular individual, this sick individual, in my opinion, for the scope of the images in his possession. Had this bill been in effect, his actions would have been criminalized in full.

As technology evolves, so must our laws. We need to keep pace, there is no question. We must. We must continue working hand in hand with our law enforcement partners to stay ahead of these emerging threats and safeguard our most vulnerable.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of S. 146. The House sponsor is the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. SALAZAR). She is a great friend of mine. Let's get this done. We need to be protecting our children.

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

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

I rise to speak in support of S. 146, the TAKE IT DOWN Act. The legislation addresses the nonconsensual sharing of intimate images online, one of the most significant harms proliferating on the internet in recent years.

Advances in generative artificial intelligence and other photo manipulation software have enabled the creation of digital forgeries that place victims in sexually explicit situations that never actually occurred but can still cause massive reputational and financial damage to those who were targeted.

Some of the platforms hosting actual and computer-generated nonconsensual intimate images have promised to address such abuses online and protect their users but, nevertheless, victims report great difficulty in getting such images removed from the internet. They tell us they feel powerless as it spreads or even resurfaces years later.

The TAKE IT DOWN Act will require social media and other online public platforms to provide a mechanism for people to notify the platform of nonconsensual intimate images in which they are depicted. It also requires the platforms to take reasonable steps to remove the images from their platforms within 48 hours.

I thank Representatives DEAN and DINGELL for their leadership on this issue, and I encourage my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation. I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. SALAZAR), the House sponsor of this particular bill, who is my good friend and a very effective Member of Congress.

Ms. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, every generation of Congress faces moments

that test our commitment to justice, and today is one of those moments.

I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on S. 146, the TAKE IT DOWN Act. The Senate has already done its job. They passed this legislation unanimously. Now, it is our turn in the House of Representatives. This is our moment to stand up to protect our children and make this the law of the land.

The name of the legislation is the TAKE IT DOWN Act. The mission of this bill is simple, profound, and long lasting. It stops cyber abuse. It prevents the bullying of one child against another and, even more importantly, prevents suicide born out of shame.

It is outrageously sick to use images—the face, the voice, the likeness—of a young vulnerable female to manipulate them, to extort them, and to humiliate them publicly just for fun, just for revenge. That is why we created this bill, to stop the abuse spreading like wildfire right now on social media.

It is widely known that 99 percent of the time, the victims, most of them girls, don't even know their faces, their bodies, their intimate parts are being circulated around the internet in fake, compromising pornographic images. Unfortunately, in life, perception is reality. Even though the images are fake, the consequences are very, very real.

Even though, as I said, the images do not belong to them, those girls are paying for them dearly with shame, humiliation, and the unbearable suffering when you are 14, 15 years old. Up until now, there was no recourse. Just imagine waking up one morning to find yourself trapped in a nightmare that you never created. This is exactly what is happening to our children, and this is why we must act.

□ 1515

Mr. Speaker, the bill called the TAKE IT DOWN Act finally sends a very loud and clear message to Big Tech. If you, Big Tech, do not remove these fake images within 48 hours, you are as guilty and as responsible as the predators who created them.

I am talking to Snapchat, to Instagram, and to TikTok. All of them will have to comply within 48 hours when a victim calls and demands and tells you that you have to remove those images. There are no more excuses. You, Big Tech, have to take it down.

Let's talk to the bullies, to the predators, to the perverts who are hiding behind a computer, the ones who created this fake material. If you dare to do this again to another innocent child, most of them girls, you are going to prison. You will be in jail for a long time. Don't do it, and don't dare to do it anymore. Prison is a great place where you can sit and ponder what you have done to another human being.

Today, we take away the power from the aggressors and the accomplices, and we give it back to the victims and their families. Up until now, the par-

ents of the victims found that the schools couldn't do anything. The police couldn't do anything. Big Tech would not even pay attention to them but no more. Now they can because we are passing this law.

What a great honor it is for me to be part of this initiative, one that the First Lady has personally championed. The President of the United States endorsed this legislation during the recent state of the Union that he conducted in front of Congress. The President explained this as a vital step to defend our sons and daughters against online predators.

My fellow colleagues, this is not about politics. This is about basic human dignity. This is about protecting children who are the most vulnerable among us. As I just mentioned, the Commander in Chief called on us to act on this law in this very Chamber a few weeks ago.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House of Representatives to vote "yes" on the TAKE IT DOWN Act. Let's make history today. Let's protect our children. Let's just take it down.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN).

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman BILIRAKIS and Ranking Member PALLONE for bringing this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the TAKE IT DOWN Act. Senate bill 146 was my bill, and it is still my bill. I thank Congresswoman SALAZAR for her leadership on this. I thank Congresswoman DINGELL for her longtime leadership on this and for leading this effort with me on the House side. I thank Senators CRUZ and KLOBUCHAR for their strong leadership on this.

As we speak, the internet is awash with real and fake nonconsensual intimate imagery. Mr. Speaker, the consequences, as you just heard, are devastating for every victim, their family, and their community. It happens to men and boys, to women and girls. Most often, it happens to women and girls.

As AI becomes more prevalent in our everyday lives, Congress must meet this moment. We must empower and protect victims from bad actors who share their intimate images, real or fake, without consent and from the most harmful developments of AI.

During the 2023–2024 school year, 15 percent of high school students reported hearing about deepfakes of nonconsensual intimate images that depicted kids at their schools. It happened to one of my hometown constituents, a 20-year-old, bright college student named Jack Sullivan. He was sextorted by two men claiming to be a woman on Instagram. They threatened Jack. They told him they would post intimate images of him unless he paid huge sums of money. He paid and he paid. When he could no longer pay their demands, Jack took his own life. We must do better for Jack and every other victim of these crimes.

As a former educator, and a mother, and as a grandmother, this sickens me. As an elected official, I am moved to protect our children. Congress must create guardrails to protect Americans' privacy and dignity at a time when online exploitation is easier than ever.

That is what our bill does. The TAKE IT DOWN Act criminalizes the publication of real or fake AI-generated intimate images. It requires websites to react, to respond, and to remove these horrifying images and videos within 48 hours of a victim's report. I suggest they act even faster. Finally, we will hold online platforms and social media companies accountable. This cannot wait.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have bipartisan support for this bill. I thank Representative SALAZAR and Senators CRUZ and KLOBUCHAR. I thank the First Lady and the President for their leadership on this. I implore all of my colleagues to join us in supporting this important bill.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE), the great chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and a good friend of mine who is doing an outstanding job, in my opinion.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 146, the TAKE IT DOWN Act. I echo the sentiments of Representative DEAN and my friend Representative SALAZAR. I appreciate the comments that they just made. I thank Congresswoman DINGELL and Senator CRUZ for their determination in combating this crisis of malicious, deepfake pornography.

Last month, I joined a bipartisan group convened by the First Lady. We heard from young survivors and their parents who were targeted by those abhorrent practices. I thank the First Lady for her leadership and for shining a light on this dark and destructive crisis.

I am sad to say that this issue struck close to home with the heartbreaking death of my constituent, 16-year-old Elijah Heacock. He tragically fell victim to an online extortion scheme, showing my community the dangers of predators targeting our kids online.

I sat with his mom, his dad, and his brother just this last week. We talked about the tragedy that happened in his life and their determination to see that we move forward in this Congress, not only on this bill but others to make sure that it doesn't happen to other families like theirs. We are all praying for that dear family.

Mr. Speaker, the heart-wrenching stories we have heard tell us all we need to know. It is time to send the TAKE IT DOWN Act to the President's desk so we can give survivors and law enforcement the tools they need to combat this crisis. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from

Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL), a member of our committee.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GUTHRIE. I thank Ranking Member, FRANK PALLONE, who often puts up with my intensity on this subject. I also thank Chairman BILIRAKIS and my co-leads, Representatives SALAZAR, DEAN, and PFLUGER, as well as Senator CRUZ and Senator KLOBUCHAR, my compatriot many days, who works to prioritize violence against women.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a strong and unwavering advocate for women, children, and survivors of abuse and in support of a bill that I helped lead, S. 146, the TAKE IT DOWN Act.

The rise of deepfake pornography and nonconsensual intimate images is a growing crisis that demands urgent action now. We need to work together to protect women and children from these evolving threats. New generative artificial intelligence tools are being weaponized to humiliate, silence, and terrorize women and children.

We have seen it used against children as young as middle school as a tool to create revenge porn. We have seen it used against women in public life, on both sides of the aisle, including our own colleagues.

None of my colleagues think this is acceptable, and it is a crisis that demands immediate action. We have a responsibility to act now and not tomorrow, not next year, not after more damage is done. The TAKE IT DOWN Act gives victims a clear, fast pathway to have these images removed from online platforms, hold perpetrators accountable, and ensure that tech companies do their part. They have responsibility.

This is just one piece of a broader fight. It is one I have been in for years, and I will not stop fighting. We will end violence against women, address coercive control, and stop the misuse of technology to harm survivors.

Let me be clear. This bill should already be law. It passed the Senate unanimously. It was included in Congress' year-end package last year until it was stripped out at the end. I won't get political on that because I want everybody to vote on it right now. It should never have happened.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the TAKE IT DOWN Act. Let's get this across the finish line and deliver for the women and children who are counting on us.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge unanimous support for this legislation. Once again, this is another very important bill as part of this consumer protection agenda today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the President of the United States for shedding light on

this particular bill at the state of the Union. I thank our great First Lady as well for her support on this particular bill.

I thank Representatives DEAN and DINGELL, and, of course, Representative SALAZAR who was also the main sponsor of the bill in the House. I thank Senator CRUZ who worked so very hard to get this done.

This is a bipartisan accomplishment, and we will protect our kids if we pass this particular bill. It will go to the President once we pass this bill. Let's get it done. Let's pass it unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, again, I encourage a "yes" vote on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 146.

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. BILIRAKIS. 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.

HOTEL FEES TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1479) to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1479

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 "Hotel Fees Transparency Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING OF HOTEL ROOMS AND OTHER SHORT-TERM RENTAL PRICES.

(a) PROHIBITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for a covered entity to display, advertise, market, or offer in interstate commerce, including through direct offerings, third-party distribution, or metasearch referrals, a price for covered services that does not clearly, conspicuously, and prominently—

(A) display the total services price, if a price is displayed, in any advertisement, marketing, or price list wherever the covered services are displayed, advertised, marketed, or offered for sale;

(B) disclose to any individual who seeks to purchase covered services the total services price at the time the covered services are first displayed to the individual and anytime thereafter throughout the covered services purchasing process; and

(C) disclose, prior to the final purchase, any tax, fee, or assessment imposed by any government entity, quasi-government entity, or government-created special district or program on the sale of covered services.

(2) INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS.—Provided that such displays are less prominent than the total service price required in paragraph (1), nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit the display of—

(A) individual components of the total price; or

(B) details of other items not required by paragraph (1).

(3) INDEMNIFICATION PROVISIONS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit any covered entity from entering into a contract with any other covered entity that contains an indemnification provision with respect to price or fee information disclosed, exchanged, or shared between the covered entities that are parties to the contract.

(b) ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) ENFORCEMENT BY THE COMMISSION.—

(A) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of subsection (a) shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

(B) POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall enforce this section in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act.

(ii) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—Any person who violates this section shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(iii) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

(2) ENFORCEMENT BY STATES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the attorney general of a State has reason to believe that an interest of the residents of the State has been or is being threatened or adversely affected by a practice that violates subsection (a), the attorney general of the State may, as *parens patriae*, bring a civil action on behalf of the residents of the State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate relief.

(B) RIGHTS OF THE COMMISSION.—

(1) NOTICE TO THE COMMISSION.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subclause (III), the attorney general of a State, before initiating a civil action under subparagraph (A) shall notify the Commission in writing that the attorney general intends to bring such civil action.

(II) CONTENTS.—The notification required by subclause (I) shall include a copy of the complaint to be filed to initiate the civil action.

(III) EXCEPTION.—If it is not feasible for the attorney general of a State to provide the notification required by subclause (I) before initiating a civil action under subparagraph (A), the attorney general shall notify the Commission immediately upon instituting the civil action.

(i) INTERVENTION BY THE COMMISSION.—The Commission may—

(I) intervene in any civil action brought by the attorney general of a State under subparagraph (A); and

(II) upon intervening—

(aa) be heard on all matters arising in the civil action; and

(bb) file petitions for appeal.

(C) INVESTIGATORY POWERS.—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to prevent the attorney general of a State from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general by the laws of the State to conduct investigations, to administer oaths or affir-

mations, or to compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary or other evidence.

(D) ACTION BY THE COMMISSION.—Whenever a civil action has been instituted by or on behalf of the Commission for violation of subsection (a), no attorney general of a State may, during the pendency of that action, institute an action under subparagraph (A) against any defendant named in the complaint in that action for a violation of subsection (a) alleged in such complaint.

(E) VENUE; SERVICE OF PROCESS.—

(i) VENUE.—Any action brought under subparagraph (A) may be brought in—

(I) the district court of the United States that meets applicable requirements relating to venue under section 1391 of title 28, United States Code; or

(II) another court of competent jurisdiction.

(ii) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—In an action brought under subparagraph (A), process may be served in any district in which—

(I) the defendant is an inhabitant, may be found, or transacts business; or

(II) venue is proper under section 1391 of title 28, United States Code.

(F) ACTIONS BY OTHER STATE OFFICIALS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—In addition to civil actions brought by an attorney general under subparagraph (A), any other officer of a State who is authorized by the State to do so may bring a civil action under subparagraph (A), subject to the same requirements and limitations that apply under this paragraph to civil actions brought by attorneys general.

(ii) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to prohibit an authorized official of a State from initiating or continuing any proceeding in a court of the State for a violation of any civil or criminal law of the State.

(3) AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE.—In any action pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2), an intermediary or third-party online seller may assert an affirmative defense if such intermediary or third-party online seller—

(A) established procedures to receive up-to-date price information from hotels or short-term rentals, or agents acting on behalf of a hotel or short-term rental;

(B) relied in good faith on information provided to the intermediary or third-party online seller by a hotel or short-term rental, or agent acting on behalf of such hotel or short-term rental, and such information was inaccurate at the time it was provided to the intermediary or third-party online seller; and

(C) took prompt action to remove or correct any false or inaccurate information about the total services price after receiving notice that such information was false or inaccurate.

(c) PREEMPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A State, or political subdivision of a State, may not maintain, enforce, prescribe, or continue in effect any law, rule, regulation, requirement, standard, or other provision having the force and effect of law of the State, or political subdivision of the State, that prohibits a covered entity from advertising, displaying, marketing, or otherwise offering, or otherwise affects the manner in which a covered entity may advertise, display, market, or otherwise offer, for sale in interstate commerce, including through a direct offering, third-party distribution, or metasearch referral, a price of a reservation for a covered service, and that requires fee disclosure, unless such provision requires the total services price to include each service fee in accordance with subsection (a)(1).

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This section may not be construed to—

(A) preempt any law of a State or political subdivision of a State relating to contracts or torts; or

(B) preempt any law of a State or political subdivision of a State to the extent that such law relates to an act of fraud, unauthorized access to personal information, or notification of unauthorized access to personal information.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) BASE SERVICES PRICE.—The term “base services price”—

(A) means, with respect to the covered services provided by a hotel or short-term rental, the price in order to obtain the covered services of the hotel or short-term rental; and

(B) does not include—

(i) any service fee;

(ii) any taxes or fees imposed by a government or quasi-government entity;

(iii) assessment fees of a government-created special district or program; or

(iv) any charges or fees for an optional product or service associated with the covered services that may be selected by a purchaser of covered services.

(2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(3) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered entity” means a person, partnership, or corporation with respect to whom the Commission has jurisdiction under section 5(a)(2) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 45(a)(2)), including—

(A) a hotel or short-term rental;

(B) a third-party online seller; or

(C) an intermediary.

(4) COVERED SERVICES.—The term “covered services”—

(A) means the temporary provision of a room, building, or other lodging facility; and

(B) does not include the provision of a meeting room, banquet services, or catering services.

(5) HOTEL.—The term “hotel” means an establishment that is—

(A) primarily engaged in providing a covered service to the general public; and

(B) promoted, advertised, or marketed in interstate commerce or for which such establishment’s services are sold in interstate commerce.

(6) INTERMEDIARY.—The term “intermediary” means an entity that operates either as a business-to-business platform, consumer-facing platform, or both, that displays, including through direct offerings, third-party distribution, or metasearch referral, a price for covered services or price comparison tools for consumers seeking covered services.

(7) OPTIONAL PRODUCT OR SERVICE.—The term “optional product or service” means a product or service that an individual does not need to purchase to use or obtain covered services.

(8) SERVICE FEE.—The term “service fee”—

(A) means a charge imposed by a covered entity that must be paid in order to obtain covered services; and

(B) does not include—

(i) any taxes or fees imposed by a government or quasi-government entity;

(ii) any assessment fees of a government-created special district or program; or

(iii) any charges or fees for an optional product or service associated with the covered services that may be selected by a purchaser of covered services.

(9) SHORT-TERM RENTAL.—The term “short-term rental” means a property, including a single-family dwelling or a unit in a condominium, cooperative, or time-share, that provides covered services (either with respect to the entire property or a part of the property) to the general public—

(A) in exchange for a fee;

(B) for periods shorter than 30 consecutive days; and

(C) is promoted, advertised, or marketed in interstate commerce or for which such property's services are sold in interstate commerce.

(10) **STATE**.—The term “State” means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and any territory or possession of the United States.

(11) **THIRD-PARTY ONLINE SELLER**.—The term “third-party online seller” means any person other than a hotel or short-term rental that sells covered services or offers for sale covered services with respect to a hotel or short-term rental in a transaction facilitated on the internet.

(12) **TOTAL SERVICES PRICE**.—The term “total services”—

(A) means, with respect to covered services, the total cost of the covered services, including the base services price and any service fees; and

(B) does not include—

(i) any taxes or fees imposed by a government or quasi-government entity;

(ii) any assessment fees of a government-created special district or program; or

(iii) any charges or fees for an optional product or service associated with the covered services that may be selected by a purchaser of covered services.

(e) **EFFECTIVE DATE**.—The prohibition under subsection (a) shall take effect 450 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply to advertisements, displays, marketing, and offers of covered services of a covered entity made on or after such date.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. **BILIRAKIS**) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. **PALLONE**) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

□ 1530

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. **BILIRAKIS**. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the **RECORD** on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1479, the Hotel Fees Transparency Act of 2025, led by Representative **KIM**.

This bipartisan legislation aims to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other short-term lodging by requiring that all mandatory fees, including resort fees, be included in the advertised price.

Hidden fees can significantly inflate the cost of accommodations, leading to consumer frustration and eroding trust in the hospitality industry. By ensuring transparent pricing, we empower consumers to make informed decisions and promote fair competition among lodging providers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of this par-

ticular bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1479, the Hotel Fees Transparency Act.

Far too often, when consumers go to check out of their hotel rooms, they are hit with surprise fees. Hotels and online travel agencies have many names for these types of fees: resort fees, amenities fees, and facilities fees, to name just a few. Regardless of what they are called, surprise fees that consumers do not expect make it impossible to comparison shop and impose undue burdens on household finances.

H.R. 1479, the Hotel Fees Transparency Act, is a bipartisan bill that would ensure that companies disclose all mandatory fees when they advertise the price of a hotel room or other place of short-term lodging.

This bill would also require hotels and other providers of short-term lodging to provide the total cost of a room to any internet website or other third party that the provider has allowed to advertise, market, display, or otherwise offer the short-term lodging for sale.

By ensuring everyone in the short-term lodging ecosystem displays the full price of a stay, we will protect consumers from being caught paying extra when they go to check out.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives **CASTOR**, **MULLIN**, **KIM**, and **FRY** for their bipartisan leadership on this issue, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. **BILIRAKIS**. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from the State of California (Mrs. **KIM**), who is a very effective lawmaker.

Mrs. **KIM**. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative **BILIRAKIS** for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my bill, H.R. 1479, the Hotel Fees Transparency Act.

Hidden fees on short-term lodging, whether it is at hotels, motels, inns, resorts, or rentals, make it harder for families to plan for a trip.

Too often, what looks like an affordable overnight stay online turns out to be far more expensive once these deceptive charges are added. Additionally, the way these prices are advertised are fragmented and not uniform.

Americans deserve price transparency so that they can appropriately budget for their travels.

The Hotel Fees Transparency Act requires providers of short-term lodging to disclose upfront the full cost of a stay, including all mandatory and service fees. It would also require the lodging and booking industries to clearly display the final price of a stay, providing transparency for consumers and improving American tourism and hospitality.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives **CASTOR**, **FRY**, and **MULLIN** for their collaboration on this bipartisan, common-sense, pro-consumer legislation, and I

urge my colleagues to support the Hotel Fees Transparency Act.

Mr. **PALLONE**. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. **CASTOR**), who is the Democratic sponsor of the bill and who is also the ranking member of our committee's Energy Subcommittee.

Ms. **CASTOR** of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. **PALLONE** for yielding the time, and I thank Chairman **BILIRAKIS** for his partnership in this endeavor, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1479, the Hotel Fees Transparency Act, to help families save money and to ensure that their hard-earned vacations go as planned. I thank Representatives **KIM**, **MULLIN**, and **FRY** for partnering with me on this bipartisan legislation that will increase cost transparency for hotels, motels, and short-term rentals.

Mr. Speaker, have you ever planned a vacation and when you searched online, you thought you found a great deal at a hotel or a short-term rental, but then you were surprised at check-in or check-out that there were a lot of surprise fees added on?

This piece of legislation will prohibit that kind of unfair or misleading price advertising for hotels and rentals. It will require accurate price listings that must include all mandatory and resort fees.

I have to say that it is a privilege to represent the State of Florida in the Congress, and I know my friend, Mr. **BILIRAKIS**, will agree. We enjoy welcoming visitors from all across the Nation and all across the globe to Florida for their vacations.

Unfortunately—it is not just in Florida—but sometimes visitors arrive and are surprised by a lot of these resort fees and add-ons that were not part of the bargain.

That is not fair. Consumers deserve to see upfront prices when they plan their budgets and vacations. They shouldn't have to play a guessing game when planning a trip about what the final cost of their vacation will be. The cost of living right now is very high, and it is just not fair to allow this kind of unfair behavior to continue.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues in the House to pass the Hotel Fees Transparency Act. It will be a win for families and consumers. It is about fairness, transparency, and allowing hardworking families to focus on making memories together and not worrying about surprise charges and costs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote.

Mr. **PALLONE**. Mr. Speaker, I urge bipartisan support for this legislation. It is another consumer protection bill, like the **TICKET** Act, that provides transparency where it doesn't exist right now.

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

Mr. **BILIRAKIS**. Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote. I thank, again, Representatives **KIM**, **MULLIN**, **FRY**, and **KATHY CASTOR** of Florida, my good

friend, and others who worked for this particular bill, a good consumer bill. Again, let's get this done as soon as possible.

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 Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1479.

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.

SECURING SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAINS ACT OF 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2480) to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2480

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 Semiconductor Supply Chains Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. SELECTUSA DEFINED.

In this Act, the term "SelectUSA" means the SelectUSA program of the Department of Commerce established by Executive Order No. 13577 (76 Fed. Reg. 35715).

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Semiconductors underpin the United States and global economies, including manufacturing sectors. Semiconductors are also essential to the national security of the United States.

(2) A shortage of semiconductors, brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and other complex factors impacting the overall supply chain, has threatened the economic recovery of the United States and industries that employ millions of United States citizens.

(3) Addressing current challenges and building resilience against future risks requires ensuring a secure and stable supply chain for semiconductors that will support the economic and national security needs of the United States and its allies.

(4) The supply chain for semiconductors is complex and global. While the United States plays a leading role in certain segments of the semiconductor industry, securing the supply chain requires onshoring, reshoring, or diversifying vulnerable segments, such as for—

(A) fabrication;

(B) advanced packaging; and

(C) materials and equipment used to manufacture semiconductor products.

(5) The Federal Government can leverage foreign direct investment and private dollars to grow the domestic manufacturing and production capacity of the United States for vulnerable segments of the semiconductor supply chain.

(6) The SelectUSA program of the Department of Commerce, in coordination with other Federal agencies and State-level eco-

nomics development organizations, is positioned to boost foreign direct investment in domestic manufacturing and to help secure the semiconductor supply chain of the United States.

SEC. 4. COORDINATION WITH STATE-LEVEL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Executive Director of SelectUSA shall solicit comments from State-level economic development organizations—

(1) to review—

(A) what efforts the Federal Government can take to support increased foreign direct investment in any segment of semiconductor-related production;

(B) what barriers to such investment may exist and how to amplify State efforts to attract such investment;

(C) public opportunities those organizations have identified to attract foreign direct investment to help increase investment described in subparagraph (A); and

(D) resource gaps or other challenges that prevent those organizations from increasing such investment; and

(2) to develop recommendations for—

(A) how SelectUSA can increase such investment independently or through partnership with those organizations; and

(B) working with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to ensure that foreign adversaries (as defined in section 8(c)(2) of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1607(c)(2))) do not benefit from United States efforts to increase such investment.

SEC. 5. REPORT ON INCREASING FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN SEMICONDUCTOR-RELATED MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION.

Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Executive Director of SelectUSA, in coordination with the Federal Interagency Investment Working Group established by Executive Order No. 13577 (76 Fed. Reg. 35715; relating to establishment of the SelectUSA Initiative), shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(1) a review of the comments SelectUSA received from State-level economic development organizations under section 4;

(2) a description of activities SelectUSA is engaged in to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production; and

(3) an assessment of strategies SelectUSA may implement to achieve an increase in such investment and to help secure the United States supply chain for semiconductors, including by—

(A) working with other relevant Federal agencies; and

(B) working with State-level economic development organizations and implementing any strategies or recommendations SelectUSA received from those organizations.

SEC. 6. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. 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 in the RECORD on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2480, the Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act of 2025, led by Representative LANDSMAN.

This legislation directs the Department of Commerce's SelectUSA program to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production.

Semiconductors are critical to our national security and economic prosperity, yet recent shortages have exposed vulnerabilities in our supply chains. By fostering investment in domestic semiconductor production, this bill aims to enhance supply chain resilience and reduce dependence on foreign sources.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of H.R. 2480, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 2480, the Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act.

Semiconductors are a necessary component of everything from consumer electronics to automobiles to our national defense weapons systems. The United States, once a global powerhouse in semiconductor fabrication, has become dangerously reliant on other countries to manufacture these chips, which are vital to both our national economic and security interests.

That is why I was proud to help lead the passage of the CHIPS and Science Act, a transformational law passed in 2022 that strengthens our manufacturing base and helps create good-paying jobs for American workers, unleashes more innovation, and lowers costs for consumers. That law is investing over \$52 billion in domestic semiconductor production, research, and development.

Reshoring America's semiconductor supply chains requires carefully crafted policy, economic and market stability, and State and Federal Government partners empowered to support the industry. The Trump administration is offering our country none of these things and is instead pulling the rug out from under this critical sector by increasing their construction costs with tariffs on critical trading partners, creating unstable market conditions through careless policy, in my opinion, and abruptly firing the government workers and domestic manufacturers who depend on it. This weakens our manufacturing sector and

hinders our ability to bring good jobs back to the United States, and it will increase costs for American families who are already struggling to make ends meet.

The legislation before us today will provide valuable information about how we can take well-informed steps to increase foreign direct investment to further advance our efforts to strengthen the semiconductor supply chains, create more jobs, and continue to revitalize American manufacturing.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representative LANDSMAN for his leadership on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LANDSMAN), who is the sponsor of this legislation and a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member PALLONE for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act, as has been said, is a very straightforward, commonsense bill. It will help strengthen our domestic semiconductor industry and grow U.S. manufacturing.

Semiconductors are the foundation of modern technology and core to our national security. They power everything from our cell phones, laptops, cars, medical devices, and critical infrastructure. They are key to the way in which we live our lives, and they are, in fact, very important in terms of national security.

The more we can build these semiconductors here the better. That means we don't rely on other countries.

What this bill does is it directs the Department of Commerce to work with State economic development agencies to better understand how to attract not just American investment but foreign investment into America's semiconductor industry.

It will help identify the gaps, barriers, and opportunities to bring these new investments and then inform Congress so that we can boost investments from our allies and partners.

There is way too much uncertainty in our economy right now. This bill is smart, bipartisan, and a good way to protect and grow our supply chains.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I urge support for this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I encourage a "yes" vote on this particular bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2480.

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.

□ 1545

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE MANUFACTURING FEASIBILITY ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1721) to direct the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study on the feasibility of manufacturing in the United States products for critical infrastructure sectors, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1721

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 "Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act".

SEC. 2. STUDY ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE MANUFACTURING IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) STUDY.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall conduct a study to—

(1) identify, within each critical infrastructure sector, any product that is in high demand and is being imported due to a manufacturing, material, or supply chain constraint in the United States;

(2) analyze the costs and benefits of manufacturing in the United States any product identified under paragraph (1), including any effects on—

(A) jobs, employment rates, and labor conditions in the United States; and

(B) the cost of the product;

(3) identify any product identified under paragraph (1) that feasibly may be manufactured in the United States; and

(4) analyze the feasibility of, and any impediments to, manufacturing any product identified under paragraph (3) in—

(A) a rural area;

(B) an industrial park; or

(C) an industrial park in a rural area.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) submit to Congress a report containing the results of the study required by subsection (a), with recommendations relating to manufacturing in the United States products identified under subsection (a)(3); and

(2) make the report available to the public on the website of the Department of Commerce.

(c) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—This section may not be construed to provide the Secretary of Commerce with authority to compel a person to provide information described in this section.

(d) DEFINITION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR.—In this section, the term "critical infrastructure sector" means each of the 16 designated critical infrastructure sectors identified in Presidential Policy Directive 21 of February 12, 2013 (Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1721, the Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act, led by Representative MILLER-MEEKS, my good friend. She is an outstanding Representative. We are very fortunate to have her on the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, manufacturing is vital to the United States, not only for economic stability and job creation but for maintaining our global leadership in emerging technologies.

To sustain this leadership, it is crucial that we identify and address barriers to making critical products here at home. Otherwise, we risk becoming reliant on countries like China.

This legislation will advance domestic manufacturing while safeguarding our economy and national security. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this particular bill, a very important bill, very critical, H.R. 1721, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1721, the Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act.

Our Nation's manufacturing base was once the envy of the world. Unfortunately, it faced steady headwinds for decades. The United States' share of global manufacturing activity declined from 28 percent in 2002 to less than 16 percent in 2021.

Fortunately, the work we did under the Biden administration, passing the bipartisan infrastructure law, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the CHIPS and Science Act, started to turn the tide. Our Nation added over 700,000 manufacturing jobs during President Biden's time in office.

However, we must not allow President Trump to put this great progress in jeopardy with his chaotic trade wars and uncertain tariff policies. I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to stand with the domestic manufacturers they claim to support by speaking out against the uncertain market environment that this administration has thrown manufacturing into. We should be working together on commonsense investments and legislation to strengthen domestic supply chains and manufacturing, as we have done before, instead of allowing President Trump and his friends to crash our economy, including the manufacturing sector, with careless policies.

H.R. 1721 will commission the Department of Commerce to study the

costs, benefits, and feasibility of manufacturing products within critical infrastructure sectors so we can take well-informed and strategic next steps to bolster our Nation's supply chains.

I thank our Democratic sponsor, Representative SCHRIER, for her work on this bill. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consumer to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chair BILIRAKIS for yielding.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1721, the Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act. This bipartisan legislation that I co-lead with Representative SCHRIER directs the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a comprehensive study examining the feasibility of manufacturing critical infrastructure products here in the United States.

At a time when we have a President who is going to make good on the promise to onshore manufacturing and have a resurgence of manufacturing in the United States, there is nothing more important we can do than to reauthorize the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and pass H.R. 1721.

The challenges we face regarding our supply chains and manufacturing capabilities have been brought into sharp focus in recent years. We cannot continue to allow foreign competitors, particularly China and the Chinese Communist Party, to control our supply chains and create economic vulnerabilities.

Consider our infrastructure and emerging technologies. We have seen how foreign control of critical minerals needed for solar panels and battery production has created bottlenecks in our renewable energy transition and also in the manufacturing of vehicles.

Similarly, the components required for data centers that power our artificial intelligence, or augmented intelligence capabilities, are largely manufactured overseas, creating significant vulnerabilities in these strategically important sectors.

These examples demonstrate with painful clarity that our Nation's critical infrastructure, spanning 16 designated sectors including energy, communications, transportation, healthcare, military, and more, cannot be dependent on foreign supply chains.

This bill takes a measured, data-driven approach to addressing these vulnerabilities. Within one 1 year of enactment, the Secretary of Commerce would be required to identify high-demand critical infrastructure with manufacturing constraints, do a cost-benefit analysis of domestic production, and determine the feasibility of such production.

By supporting this bill, we are taking an important step toward rebuilding American manufacturing capability in

strategic sectors. We are creating a roadmap for revitalizing rural communities that have been sidelined for far too long while critical infrastructure components are manufactured overseas.

This legislation not only shields America from global supply chain disruptions but also identifies which rural areas are well positioned to become manufacturing hubs.

The strength of our Nation is enhanced when the materials used in our critical infrastructure and the products Americans purchase are produced domestically and American made. When manufacturing happens on American soil, we retain the innovation, the intellectual property, the economic benefits, and the long-term prosperity that comes with it in rebuilding the middle class.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense, bipartisan measure to strengthen America's critical infrastructure, create opportunities for American workers, and enhance our economic security.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank, again, Representative MILLER-MEEKS and Representative SCHRIER for this great piece of legislation. I encourage a "yes" vote on this particular bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1721.

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.

SECURE SPACE ACT OF 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2458) to amend the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from granting a license or United States market access for a geostationary orbit satellite system or a nongeostationary orbit satellite system, or an authorization to use an individually licensed earth station or a blanket-licensed earth station, if the license, grant of market access, or authorization would be held or controlled by an entity that produces or provides any covered communications equipment or service or an affiliate of such an entity, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2458

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 "Secure Space Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON GRANT OF CERTAIN SATELLITE LICENSES, UNITED STATES MARKET ACCESS, OR EARTH STATION AUTHORIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 10 and 11 as sections 11 and 12, respectively; and

(2) by inserting after section 9 the following:

"SEC. 10. PROHIBITION ON GRANT OF CERTAIN SATELLITE LICENSES, UNITED STATES MARKET ACCESS, OR EARTH STATION AUTHORIZATIONS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may not grant a license for, or a petition for a declaratory ruling to access the United States market using, a geostationary orbit satellite system or a nongeostationary orbit satellite system, or an authorization to use an individually licensed earth station or a blanket-licensed earth station, if such license, grant of market access, or authorization would be held or controlled by—

"(1) an entity that produces or provides any covered communications equipment or service; or

"(2) an affiliate (as defined in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153)) of an entity described in paragraph (1).

"(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) BLANKET-LICENSED EARTH STATION.—The term 'blanket-licensed earth station' means an earth station that is licensed with a geostationary orbit satellite system or a nongeostationary orbit satellite system.

"(2) GATEWAY STATION.—The term 'gateway station' means an earth station or a group of earth stations that—

"(A) supports the routing and switching functions of a geostationary orbit satellite system or a nongeostationary orbit satellite system;

"(B) may also be used for telemetry, tracking, and command transmissions;

"(C) does not originate or terminate communication traffic; and

"(D) is not for the exclusive use of any customer.

"(3) INDIVIDUALLY LICENSED EARTH STATION.—The term 'individually licensed earth station' means—

"(A) an earth station (other than a blanket-licensed earth station) that sends a signal to, and receives a signal from, a geostationary orbit satellite system or a nongeostationary orbit satellite system; or

"(B) a gateway station."

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Section 10 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019, as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to the grant of a license, petition, or authorization on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) RULES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall issue rules to implement section 10 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019, as added by subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD for this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2458, the Secure Space Act.

Advancements in satellite technology have enabled broadband internet to be deployed at commercial scale. We must protect these systems from foreign adversaries. The Secure Space Act would prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from granting a license for geostationary orbit and nongeostationary orbit satellite systems if they are owned or controlled by an entity that provides communications equipment that pose an unacceptable risk to U.S. national security. That is common sense.

I thank Chairman GUTHRIE and Ranking Member PALLONE for their leadership on this particular bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2458, the Secure Space Act, bipartisan legislation that I introduced last month with Energy and Commerce Chair GUTHRIE.

There is no question that we are once again in the midst of a new space age. It is opening a variety of new frontiers, curiosity, and innovation, including the use of satellites in space to provide broadband and other communications services.

As the demand for satellite services increases, so does the need to protect these communications networks from untrusted actors and equipment. We can't risk having our satellite networks face the same challenges we have seen in some of our other communications networks, which may be more challenging given the fact that satellites operate globally. It is, therefore, imperative that we ensure the satellite marketplace and its relevant supply chains are protected from threats by nontrusted actors.

H.R. 2458 helps meet these objectives. This legislation will extend the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act framework to the licensing of both geostationary and nongeostationary orbit satellites as well as the authorization of U.S. Earth stations. Effectively, this legislation will prevent entities identified as national security risks from gaining a license or authorization to access the U.S. satellite market. This is especially relevant given that the combined satellite fleets of China and Russia have grown by about 70 percent in the last few years.

By applying the Secure and Trusted framework to the satellite industry, we will take another crucial step toward protecting the public from untrusted entities and our foreign adversaries. The requirements in this legislation will not only benefit our Nation but will also help further the United

States' ability to protect our allies, as they, too, rely on these global satellite networks for broadband and emergency services.

I thank Chair GUTHRIE for working with me on this bipartisan bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this timely legislation to protect Americans from untrusted actors seeking to use our communications networks against us.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge a "yes" vote on this particular bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2458.

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.

□ 1600

PROMOTING RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAINS ACT OF 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2444) to establish a critical supply chain resiliency and crisis response program in the Department of Commerce, and to secure American leadership in deploying emerging technologies, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2444

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INDUSTRY AND ANALYSIS.

In addition to the responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall have the following responsibilities:

(1) Promote the stability and resilience of critical supply chains and critical and emerging technologies that strengthen the national security of the United States.

(2) Lead the Working Group established pursuant to section 3 and consult covered nongovernmental representatives, industry, institutions of higher education, and State and local governments in order to—

(A) promote resilient critical supply chains; and

(B) identify, prepare for, and respond to supply chain shocks to—

(i) critical industries;

(ii) critical supply chains; and

(iii) critical and emerging technologies.

(3) Encourage the growth and competitiveness of United States production and manufacturing in the United States of emerging technologies.

(4) Assess the resilience, diversity, and strength of critical supply chains and critical and emerging technologies.

(5) In consultation with the Secretary of State and the United States Trade Representative, support the availability of critical goods from domestic manufacturers, domestic enterprises, and manufacturing operations in countries that are allies or key international partner nations.

(6) Assist the Federal Government in preparing for and responding to supply chain shocks to critical supply chains, including by improving flexible manufacturing capacities and capabilities in the United States.

(7) Consistent with United States obligations under international agreements, encourage and incentivize the reduced reliance of domestic enterprises and domestic manufacturers on critical goods from countries that are described in section 7(2)(B).

(8) Encourage the relocation of manufacturing facilities that manufacture critical goods from countries that are described in section 7(2)(B) to the United States and countries that are allies or key international partner nations to strengthen the resilience, diversity, and strength of critical supply chains.

SEC. 3. CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE WORKING GROUP.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall establish a working group to be known as the "Supply Chain Resilience Working Group" (in this title referred to as the "Working Group") composed of the Federal agencies that rely upon the Industry and Analysis Business unit analysis, including agencies enumerated in subsection (c).

(b) ACTIVITIES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall carry out the following activities:

(1) In consultation with the Working Group—

(A) assessing, mapping, and modeling critical supply chains, including for critical and emerging technologies, which may include—

(i) modeling the impact of supply chain shocks on critical industries (including for critical and emerging technologies), and critical supply chains;

(ii) assessing the demand for and supply of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology needed for critical supply chains, including critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology obtained by or purchased from a person outside of the United States or imported into the United States; and

(iii) assessing manufacturing, warehousing, transportation, and distribution related to critical supply chains;

(B) identifying high priority gaps and vulnerabilities in critical supply chains and critical industries (including critical industries for critical and emerging technologies) that—

(i) exist as of the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(ii) are anticipated to occur after the date of the enactment of this Act;

(C) identifying potential supply chain shocks to a critical supply chain that may disrupt, strain, or eliminate the critical supply chain;

(D) evaluating the capability and capacity of domestic manufacturers or manufacturers located in countries that are allies or key international partner nations to serve as sources for critical goods, production equipment, or manufacturing technology needed in critical supply chains;

(E) evaluating the effect on market stability that may result from the disruption, strain, or elimination of a critical supply chain;

(F) evaluating the state of the manufacturing workforce, including by—

(i) identifying the needs of domestic manufacturers; and

(ii) identifying opportunities to create high-quality manufacturing jobs; and

(G) identifying and describing necessary tools, including commercially available risk assessment tools, that leverage data and industry expertise to provide insights into critical supply chain vulnerabilities, including how such tools fulfill the requirements described in subparagraphs (A) through (F).

(2) In consultation with State and local governments, the Working Group, and (as appropriate) countries that are allies or key international partner nations—

(A) identifying opportunities to reduce gaps and vulnerabilities in critical supply chains and critical industries;

(B) encouraging consultation between the Federal Government, industry, covered nongovernmental representatives, institutions of higher education, and State and local governments to—

(i) better respond to supply chain shocks to critical supply chains and critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies); and

(ii) coordinate response efforts to supply chain shocks;

(C) encouraging consultation between the Federal Government and the governments of countries that are allies or key international partner nations;

(D) identifying opportunities to build the capacity of the United States in critical supply chains, critical industries, and emerging technologies;

(E) identifying opportunities to build the capacity of countries that are allies or key international partner nations in critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) and critical supply chains; and

(F) developing and assessing contingency plans and coordination mechanisms to improve the response of critical supply chains and critical industries to supply chain shocks.

(c) **WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP.**—The Working Group shall include a representative from each Federal agency that relies on the analysis of the Industry and Analysis business unit, including—

- (1) the Department of State;
- (2) the Department of Defense;
- (3) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (4) the Department of Transportation;
- (5) the Department of Energy;
- (6) the Department of Agriculture;
- (7) the Department of the Interior;
- (8) the Department of Health and Human Services;

(9) the Office of the Director of National Intelligence; and

(10) the Small Business Administration.

(d) **DESIGNATIONS.**—The Assistant Secretary shall—

(1) not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, designate—

- (A) critical industries;
- (B) critical supply chains; and
- (C) critical goods;

(2) provide for a period of public comment and review in carrying out paragraph (1); and

(3) update the designations made pursuant to paragraph (1) not less frequently than once every 4 years, including designations for technologies that are not described in section 7(2)(B) that the Assistant Secretary considers necessary.

(e) **IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the relevant committees of Congress a report that—

(1) details supply chain activities, including applicable activities described in subsection (b) and responsibilities described in

section 2, that the Assistant Secretary has conducted over the past year;

(2) describes supply chain data collected, retained, and analyzed by the Assistant Secretary over the past year;

(3) identifies and describes necessary tools, including commercially available risk assessment tools, that leverage data and industry expertise to provide insights into critical supply chain vulnerabilities, including how such tools fulfill each responsibility described in subsection (b);

(4) identifies and describes all Federal agencies with authorities or responsibilities described in subsection (b); and

(5) identifies Federal agencies, programs, and bureaus with duplicative purposes to fulfill any of the authorities or responsibilities described in subsection (b).

(f) **NATIONAL STRATEGY AND REVIEW ON CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCY AND MANUFACTURING IN THE UNITED STATES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with the Working Group, covered nongovernmental representatives, industries, institutions of higher education, and State and local governments, shall submit to the relevant committees of Congress a report that—

(A) identifies—

- (i) critical infrastructure that may assist in fulfilling the responsibilities described in section 2;

(ii) critical and emerging technologies that may assist in fulfilling the responsibilities described in section 2, including such technologies that may be critical to addressing preparedness, weaknesses, and vulnerabilities relating to critical supply chains;

(iii) critical industries, critical supply chains, and critical goods designated pursuant to subsection (d);

(iv) other supplies and services that are critical to the crisis preparedness of the United States;

(v) substitutes for critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology;

(vi) methods and technologies, including blockchain technology, distributed ledger technology, and other critical and emerging technologies, as appropriate, for the authentication and traceability of critical goods; and

(vii) countries that are allies or key international partner nations;

(B) describes the matters identified and evaluated under subsection (b)(1), including—

(i) the manufacturing base, critical supply chains, and emerging technologies in the United States, including the manufacturing base and critical supply chains for—

- (I) critical goods;
- (II) production equipment; and
- (III) manufacturing technology; and
- (ii) the ability of the United States to—

(I) maintain readiness with respect to preparing for and responding to supply chain shocks; and

(II) in response to a supply chain shock—

- (aa) surge production in critical industries;
- (bb) surge production of critical goods and production equipment; and

(cc) maintain access to critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology;

(C) assesses and describes—

(i) the demand and supply of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology;

(ii) the production of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology by domestic manufacturers;

(iii) the capability and capacity of domestic manufacturers and manufacturers in countries that are allies or key international partner nations to manufacture critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology; and

(iv) how supply chain shocks could affect rural, Tribal, and underserved communities;

(D) identifies threats and supply chain shocks that may disrupt, strain, or eliminate critical supply chains, critical goods, and critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies);

(E) with regard to any threat identified under subparagraph (D), lists any threat or supply chain shock that may originate from a country, or a company or individual from a country, that is described in section 7(2)(B);

(F) assesses—

(i) the resilience and capacity of the manufacturing base, critical supply chains, and workforce of the United States and countries that are allies or key international partner nations that can sustain critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) through a supply chain shock; and

(ii) the effect innovation has on domestic manufacturers;

(G) assesses the flexible manufacturing capacity and capability available in the United States in the case of a supply chain shock; and

(H) develops a strategy for the Department of Commerce to support the resilience, diversity, and strength of critical supply chains and critical and emerging technologies to—

(i) support sufficient access to critical goods by mitigating vulnerabilities in critical supply chains, including critical supply chains concentrated in countries that are described in section 7(2)(B);

(ii) consult with other relevant agencies to assist countries that are allies or key international partner nations in building capacity for manufacturing critical goods;

(iii) recover from supply chain shocks;

(iv) identify, in consultation with the Working Group and other relevant agencies, actions relating to critical supply chains or emerging technologies that the United States may take to improve responses to supply chain shocks;

(v) protect against supply chain shocks relating to critical supply chains from countries that are described in section 7(2)(B); and

(vi) make specific recommendations to implement the strategy under this section and improve the security and resiliency of manufacturing capacity and supply chains for critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) by—

(I) developing long-term strategies;

(II) increasing visibility into the networks and capabilities of domestic manufacturers and suppliers of domestic manufacturers;

(III) identifying and mitigating risks, including—

(aa) significant vulnerabilities to supply chain shocks; and

(bb) exposure to gaps and vulnerabilities in domestic capacity or capabilities and sources of imports needed to sustain critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) or critical supply chains;

(IV) identifying opportunities to reuse and recycle critical goods, including raw materials, to increase resilient critical supply chains;

(V) consulting with countries that are allies or key international partner nations on—

(aa) sourcing critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology; and

(bb) developing, sustaining, and expanding production and availability of critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology during a supply chain shock; and

(VI) providing guidance to other relevant agencies with respect to critical goods, supply chains, and critical industries (including critical industries for emerging technologies) that should be prioritized to support United States leadership in the deployment of such technologies.

(2) **PROHIBITION.**—The report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) may not include—

(A) critical supply chain information that is not aggregated;

(B) confidential business information of a private sector entity; or

(C) classified information.

(3) **FORM.**—The report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1), and any update submitted thereafter, shall be submitted to the relevant committees of Congress in unclassified form and may include a classified annex.

(4) **PUBLIC COMMENT.**—The Assistant Secretary shall provide for a period of public comment and review in developing the report submitted pursuant to paragraph (1).

(g) **CONSULTATION.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the head of any relevant agency to obtain any information, data, or assistance that the Assistant Secretary determines necessary to conduct the activities described in subsection (b).

(h) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section may be construed to require any private entity—

(1) to share information with the Secretary or Assistant Secretary;

(2) to request assistance from the Secretary or Assistant Secretary; or

(3) to implement any measure or recommendation suggested by the Secretary or Assistant Secretary in response to a request by the private entity.

(i) **PROTECTION OF VOLUNTARILY SHARED CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN INFORMATION.**—

(1) **PROTECTION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, critical supply chain information (including the identity of the submitting person or entity) that is voluntarily submitted under this section to the Department of Commerce for use by the Department for purposes of this section, when accompanied by an express statement described in subparagraph (B)—

(i) shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “Freedom of Information Act”);

(ii) is not subject to any agency rules or judicial doctrine regarding ex parte communications with a decision-making official;

(iii) may not, without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information, be used directly by the Department of Commerce, any other Federal, State, or local authority, or any third party, in any civil action arising under Federal or State law if such information is submitted in good faith;

(iv) may not, without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information, be used or disclosed by any officer or employee of the United States for purposes other than the purposes of this section, except—

(I) in furtherance of an investigation or the prosecution of a criminal act; or

(II) when disclosure of the information would be—

(aa) to either House of Congress, or to the extent of matter within its jurisdiction, any committee or subcommittee thereof, any joint committee thereof, or any subcommittee of any such joint committee; or

(bb) to the Comptroller General of the United States, or any authorized representative of the Comptroller General, in the course of the performance of the duties of the Government Accountability Office;

(v) may not, if provided to a State or local government or government agency—

(I) be made available pursuant to any State or local law requiring disclosure of information or records;

(II) otherwise be disclosed or distributed to any party by such State or local government or government agency without the written consent of the person or entity submitting such information; or

(III) be used other than for the purpose of carrying out this section, or in furtherance of an investigation or the prosecution of a criminal act; and

(vi) does not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege or protection provided under law, such as trade secret protection.

(B) **EXPRESS STATEMENT.**—The express statement described in this subparagraph, with respect to information or records, is—

(i) in the case of written information or records, a written marking on the information or records substantially similar to the following: “This information is voluntarily submitted to the Federal Government in expectation of protection from disclosure as provided by the provisions of the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2025.”; or

(ii) in the case of oral information, a written statement similar to the statement described in clause (i) submitted within a reasonable period following the oral communication.

(2) **LIMITATION.**—No communication of critical supply chain information to the Department of Commerce made pursuant to this section may be considered to be an action subject to the requirements of chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) **INDEPENDENTLY OBTAINED INFORMATION.**—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to limit or otherwise affect the ability of a State, local, or Federal Government entity, agency, or authority, or any third party, under applicable law to obtain critical supply chain information in a manner not covered by paragraph (1), including any information lawfully and properly disclosed generally or broadly to the public and to use such information in any manner permitted by law. For purposes of this subsection, a permissible use of independently obtained information includes the disclosure of such information under section 2302(b)(8) of title 5, United States Code.

(4) **TREATMENT OF VOLUNTARY SUBMITTAL OF INFORMATION.**—The voluntary submittal to the Department of Commerce of information or records that are protected from disclosure by this section may not be construed to constitute compliance with any requirement to submit such information to an agency under any other provision of law.

(5) **INAPPLICABILITY TO SEMICONDUCTOR INCENTIVE PROGRAM.**—This subsection does not apply to the voluntary submission of critical supply chain information in an application for Federal financial assistance under section 9902 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283).

SEC. 4. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT.

(a) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—The Secretary shall produce a report—

(1) identifying the duties, responsibilities, resources, programs, and expertise within the offices and bureaus of the Department of Commerce relevant to critical supply chain resilience and manufacturing innovation;

(2) identifying and assessing the purpose, legal authority, effectiveness, efficiency, and

limitations of each office or bureau identified under paragraph (1); and

(3) providing recommendations to enhance the activities related to critical supply chain resilience and manufacturing innovation of the Department of Commerce, including—

(A) improving the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of the offices and bureaus identified under paragraph (1);

(B) coordinating across offices and bureaus identified under paragraph (1); and

(C) consulting with agencies implementing similar activities related to critical supply chain resilience and manufacturing innovation.

(b) **SUBMISSION OF REPORT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the relevant committees of Congress the report required by subsection (a), along with a strategy to implement, as appropriate and as determined by the Secretary, the recommendations contained in the report.

SEC. 5. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title.

SEC. 6. SUNSET.

This title and all requirements, responsibilities, and obligations under this title shall terminate on the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

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

(2) **ALLY OR KEY INTERNATIONAL PARTNER NATION.**—The term “ally or key international partner nation”—

(A) means a country that is critical to addressing critical supply chain weaknesses and vulnerabilities; and

(B) does not include—

(i) a country that poses a significant risk to the national security or economic security of the United States; or

(ii) a country that is described in section 503(b) of the RANSOMWARE Act (title V of division BB of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023; Public Law 117-328; 136 Stat. 5564).

(3) **ASSISTANT SECRETARY.**—The term “Assistant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary of Commerce assigned by the Secretary to direct the office of Industry and Analysis.

(4) **COVERED NONGOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE.**—The term “covered nongovernmental representative” means a representative as specified in the second sentence of section 135(b)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155(b)(1)), except that such term does not include a representative of a non-Federal government.

(5) **CRITICAL GOOD.**—The term “critical good” means any raw, in process, or manufactured material (including any mineral, metal, or advanced processed material), article, commodity, supply, product, or item for which an absence of supply would have a debilitating impact on—

(A) the national security or economic security of the United States; and

(B) either—

(i) critical infrastructure; or

(ii) an emerging technology.

(6) **CRITICAL INDUSTRY.**—The term “critical industry” means an industry that—

(A) is critical for the national security or economic security of the United States; and

(B) produces or procures a critical good.

(7) **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.**—The term “critical infrastructure” has the meaning given that term in section 1016 of the Critical Infrastructures Protection Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c).

(8) **CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN.**—The term “critical supply chain” means a supply chain for a critical good.

(9) **CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN INFORMATION.**—The term “critical supply chain information” means information that is not customarily in the public domain and relates to—

(A) sustaining and adapting a critical supply chain during a supply chain shock;

(B) critical supply chain risk mitigation and recovery planning with respect to a supply chain shock, including any planned or past assessment, projection, or estimate of a vulnerability within the critical supply chain, including testing, supplier network assessments, production flexibility, supply chain risk evaluations, supply chain risk management planning, or risk audits; or

(C) operational best practices, planning, and supplier partnerships that enable enhanced resilience of a critical supply chain during a supply chain shock, including response, repair, recovery, reconstruction, insurance, or continuity.

(10) **DOMESTIC ENTERPRISE.**—The term “domestic enterprise” means an enterprise that conducts business in the United States and procures a critical good.

(11) **DOMESTIC MANUFACTURER.**—The term “domestic manufacturer” means a business that conducts in the United States the research and development, engineering, or production activities necessary for manufacturing a critical good.

(12) **EMERGING TECHNOLOGY.**—The term “emerging technology” means a technology that is critical for the national security or economic security of the United States, including the following:

(A) Technologies included in the American COMPETE Act (title XV of division FF of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021; Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 3276).

(B) The following technologies:

(i) Artificial intelligence.

(ii) Automated vehicles and unmanned delivery systems.

(iii) Blockchain and other distributed ledger, data storage, data management, and cybersecurity technologies.

(iv) Quantum computing and quantum sensing.

(v) Additive manufacturing.

(vi) Advanced manufacturing and the Internet of Things.

(vii) Nano technology.

(viii) Robotics.

(ix) Microelectronics, optical fiber ray, and high performance and advanced computer hardware and software.

(x) Semiconductors.

(xi) Advanced materials science, including composition 2D, other next generation materials, and related manufacturing technologies.

(13) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(14) **MANUFACTURE.**—The term “manufacture”—

(A) means any activity that is necessary for the development, production, processing, distribution, or delivery of any raw, in process, or manufactured material (including any mineral, metal, and advanced processed material), article, commodity, supply, product, critical good, or item of supply; and

(B) does not include software unrelated to the manufacturing process.

(15) **MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY.**—The term “manufacturing technology” means a technology that is necessary for the manufacturing of a critical good.

(16) **PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT.**—The term “production equipment” means any component, subsystem, system, equipment, tool-

ing, accessory, part, or assembly necessary for the manufacturing of a critical good.

(17) **RELEVANT COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—The term “relevant committees of Congress” means the following:

(A) The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

(B) The Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(18) **RESILIENT CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAIN.**—The term “resilient critical supply chain” means a critical supply chain that—

(A) ensures that the United States can sustain critical industry, including emerging technologies, production, critical supply chains, services, and access to critical goods, production equipment, and manufacturing technology during a supply chain shock; and

(B) has key components of resilience that include—

(i) effective private sector risk management and mitigation planning to sustain critical supply chains and supplier networks during a supply chain shock; and

(ii) minimized or managed exposure to a supply chain shock.

(19) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce.

(20) **STATE.**—The term “State” means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, and each federally recognized Indian Tribe.

(21) **SUPPLY CHAIN SHOCK.**—The term “supply chain shock”—

(A) means an event causing severe or serious disruption to normal operations or capacity in a supply chain; and

(B) includes—

(i) a natural disaster;

(ii) a pandemic;

(iii) a biological threat;

(iv) a cyber attack;

(v) a geopolitical conflict;

(vi) a terrorist or geopolitical attack;

(vii) a trade disruption caused by—

(I) a country described in paragraph (2)(B);

or

(II) an entity or an individual subject to the jurisdiction of such a country; and

(viii) an event for which the President declares a major disaster or an emergency under section 401 or 501, respectively, of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170; 42 U.S.C. 5191).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam 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 in the RECORD on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2444, the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2025, led by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. JAMES), my good friend and a very effective Member of Congress.

I thank my colleagues, Representative JAMES, Representative HOUCIN,

Representative DINGELL, who is now the ranking member at this particular time, and Representative KELLY of Illinois for their bipartisan legislation.

During the pandemic, our country saw all too well the effects that weak supply chains can have on businesses and the American people. It is important that we, as a country, better prevent and mitigate insecurities within our supply chains to better protect our economic and national security.

This legislation is paramount to protecting such American security. By mapping and monitoring our supply chains and mitigating future vulnerabilities, we will also secure our global leadership in the advancement and development of emerging technologies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this particular bill, H.R. 2444, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2444, the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act. I thank my co-leads of this bill, Representatives JOHN JAMES, ROBIN KELLY, and ERIN HOUCIN.

This bipartisan bill builds on the work we have done in recent years to strengthen American manufacturing, foster innovation, and protect both our economic and national security. It gives the Federal Government the tools and the authorities needed to map, monitor, and respond to supply chain vulnerabilities before they escalate into full-blown crises.

This legislation includes critical provisions from last Congress' Supply Chains Act, which I co-led, including a provision to designate the Assistant Secretary of Commerce to lead a governmentwide supply chain resilience effort.

It also ensures input from the Department of Labor and lays out a national strategy to coordinate action and prevent future disruptions. Leaving our manufacturers and suppliers vulnerable creates fragile supply chains that threaten both our economic and national security. This bill is a critical step toward preventing debilitating shortages.

Mr. Speaker, we must invest, rebuild, and protect our industrial base from threats to innovation and competitiveness. For too long, poorly negotiated trade deals, job outsourcing, and the decline of unionization have hollowed out our industrial base, leaving manufacturers and suppliers vulnerable. We have a responsibility to rebuild American manufacturing and protect workers because doing so is essential to both our economic strength and our national security.

Supply chain legislation is vital to our long-term competitiveness as a country, and I am glad to see that progress is being made on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 2444, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. JAMES), my good friend and a very effective Member of Congress.

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 2444, the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2025.

I especially thank my chairman, friend, and mentor, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), for his leadership and support. I also thank my good friend, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL), who has been a mentor to me on the ways of D.C. and bipartisanship. The gentlewoman has been a family friend for such a long time.

I also have the pleasure of sharing the opportunity on this bill with ERIN HOUGHIN, my classmate; ROBIN KELLY; and PAT RYAN, my West Point classmate. This is an example of Congress coming together, reaching across the aisle, and working in the best interests of the American people. There are so many more instances of this type of bipartisanship than what may be seen on the news. Yet, Mr. Speaker, this is exactly how Congress is supposed to work, and I am very proud of my bill.

No matter how you slice it and no matter what industry, there is not a single American who isn't impacted by supply chains. In Michigan's 10th Congressional District, supply chains are the equivalent of rocket fuel, providing the firepower for the number one manufacturing district in the entire country to power Michigan's local and State economy.

Having strong, reliable supply chains is essential to ensuring that every American can get the food, fuel, medication, and every other consumer good that they desire.

This bipartisan bill is about bringing jobs back home and lowering costs for hardworking families. In today's world, supply chains are no longer just about cheaper prices at Meijer or Wal-Mart, they are vital to America's national security interests, as well.

Mr. Speaker, we must do everything in our power to ensure that our Nation's supply chain is resilient, shock resistant, and protected from nefarious foreign adversaries; this includes the Chinese Communist Party. The threat from China is real, and the time to act is now.

During COVID, we witnessed the risks of depending on a hostile supply chain with shortages in medicine, PPE, ventilators, and critical healthcare supplies when they forced us to rely on our adversaries for these lifesaving resources.

I will say that again. During a pandemic caused by a Chinese-made virus, the American people were forced to depend on the CCP for lifesaving supplies. That will never happen again.

It is ludicrous and absurd, a clear wake-up call that we would be foolish not to heed. To achieve a strong, resilient supply chain, we must have a co-

ordinated, whole-of-government approach that decreases our dependence on adversaries and leverages American ingenuity. It is crucial for our economic and national security.

Promoting resilient supply chains is a step in the right direction. This legislation specifically will create a supply chain resiliency program to identify and address gaps in critical industries and emerging technologies, establish an early warning system to predict and prevent supply chain disruption, and reduce dependence on adversarial nations by incentivizing domestic manufacturing.

Resilient global supply chains are the cornerstone of American innovation and leadership, and we must take clear and decisive action in the global competition.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation, H.R. 2444, the Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2025.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 2444, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, again, I commend Representative JAMES for his great work on this particular bill. It is very necessary.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage a "yes" vote on the bill, obviously, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2444.

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.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2482) to reauthorize the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2482

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "National Telecommunications and Information Administration Reauthorization Act of 2025" or the "NTIA Reauthorization Act of 2025".

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION

Sec. 101. Reauthorization of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act.

Sec. 102. NTIA Consolidated Reporting Act.

TITLE II—OFFICE OF SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT

Sec. 201. Office of Spectrum Management.

TITLE III—OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Sec. 301. Office of International Affairs.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Federal Communications Commission.

(2) NTIA.—The term "NTIA" means the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

(3) UNDER SECRETARY.—The term "Under Secretary" means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION

SEC. 101. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZATION ACT.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 151 of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act is amended by striking "\$17,600,000 for fiscal year 1992 and \$17,900,000 for fiscal year 1993" and inserting "\$57,000,000 for fiscal year 2025 and \$57,000,000 for fiscal year 2026".

(b) UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION.—

(1) UNDER SECRETARY; DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY.—

(A) UNDER SECRETARY.—The National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 901 et seq) is amended by striking "Assistant Secretary" each place it appears and inserting "Under Secretary".

(B) DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY.—Section 103(a) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 902(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(3) DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY.—The Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information shall—

"(A) be the principal policy advisor of the Under Secretary;

"(B) perform such other functions as the Under Secretary shall from time to time assign or delegate; and

"(C) act as Under Secretary during the absence or disability of the Under Secretary or in the event of a vacancy in the office of the Under Secretary."

(2) CONTINUATION OF CIVIL ACTIONS.—This subsection, and the amendments made by this subsection, shall not abate any civil action commenced by or against the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information before the date of the enactment of this Act, except that the Under Secretary shall be substituted as a party to the action on and after such date.

(3) CONTINUATION IN OFFICE.—The individual serving as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information and the individual serving as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act may serve as the Under Secretary and the Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, respectively, on and after that date without the need for renomination or reappointment.

(4) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information shall, on and after the date of the enactment of this Act, be deemed to be a reference to the Under Secretary.

(5) EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(i) in section 5314, by adding at the end the following:

“Under Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.”; and

(ii) in section 5315, in the item relating to the Assistant Secretaries of Commerce, by striking “(11)” and inserting “(10)”.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subparagraph (A) (establishing the annual rate of the basic pay of the Under Secretary) shall take effect on the first day of the first pay period beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(C) AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—

(1) COORDINATION OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH VIEWS ON MATTERS BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.—Section 105(a)(1) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 904(a)(1)) is amended—

(A) by striking “to ensure that the conduct” and inserting the following: “to ensure that—

“(A) the conduct”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) the views of the executive branch on matters presented to the Commission are, consistent with section 103(b)(2)(J)—

“(i) appropriately coordinated; and

“(ii) reflective of executive branch policy.”.

(2) ASSIGNED FUNCTIONS.—Section 103(b)(2) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 902(b)(2)) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “, some of which were” before “transferred to the Secretary”; and

(B) in subparagraph (M), by inserting “, publish reports,” after “studies”.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in the amendments made by paragraphs (1) and (2) may be construed to expand or contract the authority of the Commission.

(D) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS FINANCING ACT OF 1978.—Section 106(c) of the Public Telecommunications Financing Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. 5316 note; Public Law 95-567) is amended by striking “The position of Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, established in Department of Commerce Organization Order Numbered 10-10 (effective March 26, 1978),” and inserting “The position of Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, established under section 103(a) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 902(a)),”.

(2) COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.—Section 344(d)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 344(d)(2)) is amended by striking “Assistant Secretary” and inserting “Under Secretary”.

(3) HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002.—Section 1805(d)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 575(d)(2)) is amended by striking “Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information of the Department of Commerce” and inserting “Under Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information”.

(4) AGRICULTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2018.—Section 6212 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 950bb-6) is amended—

(A) in subsection (d)(1), in the heading, by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(B) by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”.

(5) TITLE 17, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 1201(a)(1)(C) of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking “Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information of the Department of Commerce” and inserting “Under Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information”.

(6) UNLOCKING CONSUMER CHOICE AND WIRELESS COMPETITION ACT.—Section 2(b) of the Unlocking Consumer Choice and Wireless Competition Act (17 U.S.C. 1201 note; Public Law 113-144) is amended by striking “Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information of the Department of Commerce” and inserting “Under Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information”.

(7) COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE ACT OF 1962.—Section 625(a)(1) of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 (47 U.S.C. 763d(a)(1)) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Assistant Secretary” and inserting “Under Secretary of Commerce”.

(8) SPECTRUM PIPELINE ACT OF 2015.—The Spectrum Pipeline Act of 2015 (47 U.S.C. 921 note; title X of Public Law 114-74) is amended—

(A) in section 1002(1), in the heading, by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(B) by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”.

(9) WARNING, ALERT, AND RESPONSE NETWORK ACT.—Section 606 of the Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act (47 U.S.C. 1205) is amended—

(A) by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”; and

(B) in subsection (b), in the first sentence, by striking “for Communications” and inserting “for Communications”.

(10) AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009.—Section 6001 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (47 U.S.C. 1305) is amended by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”.

(11) MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2012.—Title VI of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) is amended—

(A) in section 6001 (47 U.S.C. 1401)—

(i) by striking paragraph (4);

(ii) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (32) as paragraphs (4) through (31), respectively; and

(iii) by inserting after paragraph (31), as so redesignated, the following:

“(32) UNDER SECRETARY.—The term ‘Under Secretary’ means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.”; and

(B) by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”.

(12) RAY BAUM’S ACT OF 2018.—The RAY BAUM’S Act of 2018 (division P of Public Law 115-141; 132 Stat. 348) is amended by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”.

(13) SECURE AND TRUSTED COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS ACT OF 2019.—Section 8 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1607) is amended—

(A) in subsection (c)(1), in the heading, by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(B) by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”.

(14) TITLE 51, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 50112(3) of title 51, United States Code, is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”.

(15) CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021.—The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260) is amended—

(A) in title IX of division N—

(i) in section 902(a)(2), in the heading, by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(ii) in section 905—

(I) in subsection (a)(1), in the heading, by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(II) in subsection (c)(3)(B), in the heading, by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(III) in subsection (d)(2)(B), in the heading, by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(iii) by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears (except the place such term appears in section 905(a)(13)(E)) and inserting “Under Secretary”; and

(B) in title IX of division FF—

(i) in section 903(g)(2), in the heading, by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(ii) by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”.

(16) INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT.—The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) is amended—

(A) in section 27003, by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”; and

(B) in division F—

(i) in section 60102—

(I) in subsection (a)(2)(A), by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(II) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(III) in subsection (h)—

(aa) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(bb) in paragraph (5)(B)(iii), by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(ii) in title III—

(I) in section 60302(5), by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(II) in section 60305(d)(2)(B)(ii), by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(iii) in section 60401(a)(2), by striking “ASSISTANT SECRETARY” and inserting “UNDER SECRETARY”; and

(iv) by striking “Assistant Secretary” each place the term appears and inserting “Under Secretary”; and

(C) in division J, in title I, in the matter under the heading “distance learning, telemedicine, and broadband program” under the heading “Rural Utilities Service” under the heading “RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS”, by striking “Assistant Secretary” and inserting “Under Secretary”.

SEC. 102. NTIA CONSOLIDATED REPORTING ACT.

(a) ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN OUTDATED OR COMPLETED REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) BTOP QUARTERLY REPORT.—Section 6001(d) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (47 U.S.C. 1305(d)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting “; and”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “; and” and inserting a period; and

(C) by striking paragraph (4).

(2) CERTAIN REPORTS REQUIRED BY NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZATION ACT.—Sections 154, 155, and 156 of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act are repealed.

(3) INITIAL REPORT REQUIRED BY SECTION 9202(a)(1)(G) OF THE NDAA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021.—Section 9202(a)(1)(G) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (47 U.S.C. 906(a)(1)(G)) is amended—

(A) in clause (ii), by redesignating subclauses (I), (II), and (III) as clauses (i), (ii), and (iii), respectively, and conforming the margins of such clauses accordingly; and

(B) by striking “REPORTS TO CONGRESS” and all that follows through “For each fiscal year” and inserting “ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—For each fiscal year”.

(4) REPORT TO PRESIDENT.—Section 105(a) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 904(a)) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (2); and

(B) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2).

(5) EFFECT ON AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this subsection or the amendments made by this subsection may be construed to expand or contract the authority of the Secretary, the Under Secretary, the NTIA, or the Commission.

(6) OTHER REPORTS.—Nothing in this subsection or the amendments made by this subsection may be construed to prohibit or otherwise prevent the Secretary, the Under Secretary, the NTIA, or the Commission from producing any additional reports otherwise within the authority of the Secretary, the Under Secretary, the NTIA, or the Commission, respectively.

(b) CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the first quarter of each calendar year, the Under Secretary shall publish on the website of the NTIA and submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that contains the reports described in paragraph (2) for the fiscal year ending most recently before the beginning of such quarter.

(2) REPORTS DESCRIBED.—The reports described in this paragraph are the following:

(A) The report required by section 903(c)(2)(C) of division FF of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (47 U.S.C. 1307(c)(2)(C)).

(B) If amounts in the Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund established by section 9202(a)(1)(A)(i) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (47 U.S.C. 906(a)(1)(A)(i)) were available for the fiscal year described in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the report required by section 9202(a)(1)(G) of such Act (47 U.S.C. 906(a)(1)(G)).

(C) If the Under Secretary awarded grants under section 60304(d)(1) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (47 U.S.C. 1723(d)(1)) in the fiscal year described in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the report required by section 60306(a)(1)(A) of such Act (47 U.S.C. 1725(a)(1)(A)).

(3) TIMING OF UNDERLYING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) REPORT OF OFFICE OF INTERNET CONNECTIVITY AND GROWTH.—Section 903(c)(2)(C) of division FF of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (47 U.S.C. 1307(c)(2)(C)) is amended—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(I) by striking “Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter,” and inserting “In the first quarter of each calendar year,”; and

(II) by inserting “, for the fiscal year ending most recently before the beginning of such quarter,” after “a report”; and

(ii) in clause (i), by striking “for the previous year”.

(B) REPORT ON DIGITAL EQUITY GRANT PROGRAMS.—Section 60306(a)(1) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (47 U.S.C. 1725(a)(1)) is amended—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Not later than 1 year” and all that follows through “shall—” and inserting the following: “For the first fiscal year in which the Under Secretary awards grants under section 60304(d)(1), and each fiscal year thereafter in which the Under Secretary awards grants under such section, the Under Secretary shall—”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by inserting “in the first quarter of the first calendar year that begins after the end of such fiscal year,” before “submit”; and

(II) by striking “, for the year covered by the report”.

(4) SATISFACTION OF UNDERLYING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the publication and submission of a report as required by paragraph (1) in the first quarter of a calendar year shall be treated as satisfying any requirement to publish or otherwise make publicly available or to submit to Congress or to a committee of Congress a report described in paragraph (2) for the fiscal year ending most recently before the beginning of such quarter.

(B) CERTAIN SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS.—At the time when the Under Secretary submits a report required by paragraph (1) to the committees described in such paragraph, the Under Secretary shall submit any portion of such report that relates to a report described in paragraph (2)(C) to each committee of Congress not described in paragraph (1) to which such report would (without regard to subparagraph (A) of this paragraph) be required to be submitted.

(5) APPLICABILITY.—Paragraph (1), and the amendments made by paragraph (3), shall apply beginning on January 1 of the first calendar year that begins after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) EXTENSION OF CERTAIN AUDIT AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 902(c)(4)(A) of division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (47 U.S.C. 1306(c)(4)(A)) is amended by striking “fiscal years 2021 and 2022” and inserting “fiscal years 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024”.

(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce.

TITLE II—OFFICE OF SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT

SEC. 201. OFFICE OF SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT.

Part A of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 901 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: “SEC. 106. OFFICE OF SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the NTIA an Office of Spectrum Management (in this section referred to as the ‘Office’).

“(b) HEAD OF OFFICE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of the Office shall be an Associate Administrator for Spectrum Management (in this section referred to as the ‘Associate Administrator’).

“(2) REQUIREMENT TO REPORT.—The Associate Administrator shall report to the Under Secretary (or a designee of the Under Secretary).

“(c) DUTIES.—The Associate Administrator shall, at the direction of the Under Secretary—

“(1) carry out responsibilities under section 103(b)(2)(A) (relating to frequency assignments for radio stations belonging to and operated by the United States), make frequency allocations for frequencies that will be used by such stations, and develop and maintain techniques, databases, measurements, files, and procedures necessary for such allocations;

“(2) carry out responsibilities under section 103(b)(2)(K) (relating to establishing policies concerning spectrum assignments and use by radio stations belonging to and operated by the United States) and provide Federal agencies with guidance to ensure that the conduct of telecommunications activities by such agencies is consistent with such policies;

“(3) represent the interests of Federal agencies in the process through which the Commission and the NTIA jointly determine the National Table of Frequency Allocations, and coordinate with the Commission in the development of a comprehensive long-range plan for improved management of all electromagnetic spectrum resources;

“(4) appoint the chairpersons of and provide secretariat functions for the Interdepartmental Radio Advisory Committee;

“(5) carry out responsibilities under section 103(b)(2)(B) (relating to authorizing a foreign government to construct and operate a radio station at the seat of Government of the United States) and assign frequencies for use by such stations;

“(6) provide advice and assistance to the Under Secretary and coordinate with the Associate Administrator for International Affairs in carrying out spectrum management aspects of the international policy responsibilities of the NTIA, including spectrum-related responsibilities under section 103(b)(2)(G);

“(7) carry out spectrum-related responsibilities under section 103(b)(2)(H) (relating to coordination of the telecommunications activities of the executive branch and assistance in the formulation of policies and standards for such activities);

“(8) carry out spectrum-related responsibilities under section 103(b)(2)(Q) (relating to certain activities with respect to telecommunications resources); and

“(9) carry out any other duties of the NTIA with respect to spectrum policy that the Under Secretary may designate.”.

TITLE III—OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

SEC. 301. OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Part A of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 901 et seq.), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 107. OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the NTIA an Office of International Affairs (in this section referred to as the ‘Office’).

“(b) HEAD OF OFFICE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of the Office shall be an Associate Administrator for International Affairs (in this section referred to as the ‘Associate Administrator’).

“(2) REQUIREMENT TO REPORT.—The Associate Administrator shall report to the Under Secretary (or a designee of the Under Secretary).

“(c) DUTIES.—The Associate Administrator shall, at the direction of the Under Secretary—

“(1) in coordination with the Secretary of State, conduct analysis of, review, and formulate international telecommunications and information policy;

“(2) present on international telecommunications and information policy—

“(A) before the Commission, Congress, and others; and

“(B) in coordination with the Secretary of State, before international telecommunications bodies, including the International Telecommunication Union;

“(3) conduct or obtain analysis on economic and other aspects of international telecommunications and information policy;

“(4) formulate, and recommend to the Under Secretary, policies and plans with respect to preparation for and participation in international telecommunications and information policy activities;

“(5) in coordination with the Secretary of State, coordinate NTIA and interdepartmental economic, technical, operational, and other preparations related to participation by the United States in international telecommunications and information policy conferences and negotiations;

“(6) ensure NTIA representation with respect to international telecommunications and information policy meetings and the activities related to preparation for such meetings;

“(7) in coordination with the Secretary of State, coordinate with Federal agencies and private organizations engaged in activities involving international telecommunications and information policy matters and maintain cognizance of the activities of United States signatories with respect to related treaties, agreements, and other instruments;

“(8) provide advice and assistance related to international telecommunications and information policy to other Federal agencies charged with responsibility for international negotiations, to strengthen the position and serve the best interests of the United States in the conduct of negotiations with foreign nations;

“(9) provide advice and assistance to the Under Secretary with respect to evaluating the international impact of matters pending before the Commission, other Federal agencies, and Congress;

“(10) carry out, at the request of the Secretary, the responsibilities of the Secretary under the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 (47 U.S.C. 701 et seq.) and other Federal laws related to international telecommunications and information policy; and

“(11) carry out any other duties of the NTIA with respect to international telecommunications and information policy that the Under Secretary may designate.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. 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 in the RECORD on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2482, as amended, the NTIA Reauthor-

ization Act, led by my good friend, Chairman LATTA.

Mr. Speaker, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration plays a critical role in today's communications ecosystem, but Congress has not reauthorized NTIA since 1992.

The NTIA Reauthorization Act ensures that NTIA has the tools it needs for today's needs. It elevates the head of the NTIA to an Undersecretary of Commerce to reflect the important role that NTIA plays. It eliminates unnecessary reports, codifies two critical offices, and authorizes NTIA for 2 years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2482, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2482, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Reauthorization Act.

Over the 4 years of the Biden administration, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, or NTIA, did tremendous work to help connect all Americans to high-speed, reliable, and affordable broadband. The historic \$65 billion in broadband investments that we included in the bipartisan infrastructure law are helping supercharge these efforts.

It is now time for the Trump administration's NTIA to unleash the rest of this funding so that States can connect as many Americans as possible to fast, reliable, and affordable internet.

Congress has also tasked NTIA with other meaningful responsibilities. The agency manages Federal spectrum and its users, as well as coordinates with the Federal Communications Commission to ensure that our airwaves are effectively managed in a safe and secure manner. It is also charged with advising the President on advanced technologies.

Mr. Speaker, a lot has changed since the NTIA was last reauthorized in 1992. We should ensure that it continues to have the authorities it needs to implement many of our Nation's broadband efforts and technological advancements in such areas as spectrum management and artificial intelligence.

H.R. 2482 helps achieve this goal. This bipartisan bill reauthorizes the NTIA and elevates its leadership by making its administrator an undersecretary within the Department of Commerce. Taking these important steps will better reflect NTIA's importance as the President's primary adviser on telecommunications and technology policy. This bill also includes important provisions to codify NTIA's current work and responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Subcommittee on Communications and Technology Ranking Member MATSUI and Representative LATTA for their bipartisan work on this bill. With this legislation, we ensure that NTIA has the authori-

ties it needs to continue connecting all Americans to high-speed, reliable, and affordable broadband and overseeing innovative technology development.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA), the chairman of the Energy Committee and my good friend, a legislative machine in my opinion.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), for yielding. I really support and thank the gentleman for the work that he has done on this legislation to get it to where we are today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2482, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Reauthorization Act of 2025, which I am pleased to lead with the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, my good friend, the gentlewoman from the Seventh District of California (Ms. MATSUI).

The NTIA is an agency within the Department of Commerce tasked with advising the President on matters related to telecommunications policy. It is responsible for a variety of activities, which include Federal spectrum management, administration of broadband grants, internet governance, representing the United States in international telecommunication forums, and developing cybersecurity policy.

As the chairman has mentioned, Congress has not reauthorized NTIA since 1992, before many of these responsibilities existed or were relevant. This legislation ensures that NTIA has the right structure and resources to fulfill its 21st century mission as directed by Congress.

Today's NTIA plays a key role in our effort to maintain global leadership in wireless communications. NTIA has important statutory obligations to manage Federal spectrum, which is especially important as Federal and non-Federal use of spectrum has intensified with the explosion of mobile phones and new connected technologies.

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We must make sure NTIA's leadership reflects the important role it plays today, both domestically and internationally.

This legislation elevates the NTIA Administrator from an Assistant Secretary of Commerce to an Under Secretary of Commerce. This elevation will help NTIA best represent the United States as it coordinates with other agencies and works with other countries.

Finally, this legislation will codify two key offices within the NTIA, the Office of Spectrum Management and the Office of International Affairs.

NTIA's role has drastically changed since it was last reauthorized, and I appreciate the work from the agency and my colleagues to update its authorizing statute.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2482, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI), the ranking member of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee and a leader in this field.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative DINGELL for yielding me time, and I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA), my friend, for his bipartisan partnership on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the NTIA Reauthorization Act. We introduced this bill to ensure America continues to stand as a global leader in communications and technology.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration, or NTIA, plays a vital role in ensuring the United States' strong technological leadership.

This Federal agency is integral for getting people connected, ensuring we can communicate in emergencies, and bolstering our cybersecurity infrastructure. Yet, Congress has not reauthorized NTIA in over 30 years.

The pace of innovation and demand for connectivity has increased dramatically over the last few years. We need strong leadership and expertise to help us meet this demand.

NTIA advises on the rapid deployment of artificial intelligence and manages the efficient uses of our airways. NTIA is also charged with carrying out the bipartisan infrastructure law's historic \$65 billion investment to expand affordable and reliable high-speed internet access to communities across America, communities like the Sacramento region where, just 20 minutes outside the city, rural areas still suffer major gaps in broadband coverage.

Progress to close the digital divide, however, is currently at a standstill. This critical broadband funding must not be delayed. We cannot risk changes that waste taxpayer dollars and strand Americans with less affordable and more expensive internet.

We need NTIA to get back to helping our communities access Federal funding. This includes giving our States the flexibility to move ahead with their plans to expand affordable internet to the tens of millions of Americans who still lack access.

While I am glad and very happy to co-lead this bipartisan bill to modernize NTIA's mission in areas like Federal spectrum management and international negotiations, I know there is a lot of work ahead.

Today, we must pass this legislation to empower NTIA to keep the United States as the leader of global tech.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY).

Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise in strong support of H.R. 2482.

Today, I am so pleased to support this long-overdue reauthorization of NTIA, a small but mighty agency housed within the Department of Commerce.

This important agency is esteemed by both public and private stakeholders around the globe, and it is staffed by incredibly experienced engineers, technical experts, and tech policy professionals who understand the breadth and depth of telecom and AI impacting our country.

I say this because I had the privilege of recently serving as the Deputy Assistant Secretary and Deputy Administrator of NTIA, this amazing agency. I well understand how much the world and telecom policy have changed since NTIA was reauthorized by Congress over three decades ago. A lot has happened since then.

This legislation, as my colleague said, does make it better "fit for purpose" by codifying the important Office of Spectrum Management, the division which oversees the spectrum allocations for our country's agencies. During the past few years, I watched it work to finalize our national strategy on spectrum and represent our country at the ITU World Radio Conference and other technical conferences.

This is important because this technical work is key and underpins our U.S. competitiveness and national security and paves the way for new technologies to thrive through the reallocation of spectrum, spectrum like 6G, and its work on technical standards vis-à-vis China and other international players.

Moreover, this legislation codifies its international office to work on tech issues raised in international venues, such as the EU and ITU, public wireless supply chains, and national competitiveness issues. As my colleague said, it is very important for the resources for the broadband division in its work on finally rolling out the rest of the broadband grants for universal high-speed internet access and to finally close the digital divide.

Lastly, I can't help but say the public safety division is essential for NG911 services and FirstNet.

I commend the committee for this much-needed network, and I ask my colleagues to join me in support.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge our colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 2482, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman LATTA and Ranking Member MATSUI for this very important, vital bill.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage a "yes" vote on this particular bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2482, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVING OUR UNSECURE TECHNOLOGIES TO ENSURE RELIABILITY AND SECURITY ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 866) 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, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 866

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 "Removing Our Unsecure Technologies to Ensure Reliability and Security Act" or the "ROUTERS Act".

SEC. 2. STUDY OF RISKS POSED BY CERTAIN ROUTERS AND MODEMS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall conduct a study of the national security risks and cybersecurity vulnerabilities posed by consumer routers, modems, and devices that combine a modem and router that are designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned by, controlled by, or subject to the influence of a covered country.

(b) *REPORT TO CONGRESS.*—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

(c) *CONSULTATION WITHIN DEPARTMENT.*—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with appropriate bureaus and offices within the Department of Commerce.

(d) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

(1) *COVERED COUNTRY.*—The term "covered country" means a country specified in section 4872(f)(2) of title 10, United States Code.

(2) *SECRETARY.*—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 866, the ROUTERS Act, led by Chairman LATTA, my good friend.

Nearly everyone in America has a router or a modem in their home, but these devices can have security vulnerabilities that can be exploited by our adversaries, unfortunately.

The ROUTERS Act would direct the Department of Commerce to study the national security risks and cybersecurity vulnerabilities posed by routers and modems produced by companies with ties to foreign adversaries. This study will help Congress understand the security of these devices.

This legislation passed by voice vote last Congress, and I urge my colleagues to support it once again.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 866, the Removing Our Unsecure Technologies to Ensure Reliability and Security Act, or the ROUTERS Act.

This legislation is an important step to provide Americans with the confidence to trust that the devices they use in their homes to connect to the internet are free from the influence of our foreign adversaries.

H.R. 866 accomplishes this objective by requiring the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, to study the national security risks and cybersecurity vulnerabilities in American homes posed by routers and modems manufactured or sold by entities with ties to our foreign adversary countries. The Secretary must also deliver a report to Congress of this study within 1 year.

It is crucial that we understand the cybersecurity and national security risks networks face from equipment that originates from our foreign adversaries. This is especially true given that our Nation's communication networks are an integral component of nearly every facet of American life, which also makes them prime targets for attack.

This legislation will help us better protect American families and our country from bad actors who want to carry out malicious attacks.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives KELLY and LATTA for their bipartisan work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 866, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the chair of the subcommittee, for yielding.

I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 866, the ROUTERS Act.

Routers and modems play a key role in communications networks. They are the entry point through which the public accesses the internet. Thus, we make sure that they are secure.

Bad actors can exploit vulnerabilities in routers to infect users' computers, access their information, or disrupt their network.

National security agencies, including the Director of National Intelligence, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Homeland Security, have reported on the threat posed by vulnerabilities in routers and how some Chinese Communist Party-sponsored hackers have used these vulnerabilities to launch attacks. We should take these reports seriously.

Further, we know that companies with ties to the CCP could be forced to support Chinese intelligence activities. We can imagine how they could use vulnerabilities in their equipment to aid these efforts.

That is why I am pleased to sponsor the ROUTERS Act, which would direct the Secretary of Commerce through the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information to study the national security risk posed by routers and modems produced by companies with ties to foreign adversaries. This study will help Congress understand the scope and risk of this threat and will inform whether we need to remove this equipment from our networks.

The legislation builds on our bipartisan efforts to remove untrusted equipment from our communications ecosystem. In the past 5 years, we passed the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act to remove Huawei and ZTE equipment from our networks and the Secure Equipment Act, which prohibits the Federal Communications Commission from authorizing equipment from untrusted vendors.

It is imperative we move forward with these efforts to mitigate the widespread availability of this equipment.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 866, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1630

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to protect American citizens and support the ROUTERS Act.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge a "yes" vote on this particular vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 866, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RURAL BROADBAND PROTECTION ACT OF 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2399) to require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a vetting process for prospective applicants for high-cost universal service program funding.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2399

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 "Rural Broadband Protection Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. VETTING PROCESS FOR PROSPECTIVE HIGH-COST UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND APPLICANTS.

Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(m) VETTING OF HIGH-COST FUND RECIPIENTS.—

"(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

"(A) the term 'covered funding' means any new offer of high-cost universal service program funding, including funding provided through a reverse competitive bidding mechanism provided under this section, for the deployment of a broadband-capable network and the provision of supported services over the network; and

"(B) the term 'new covered funding award' means an award of covered funding that is made based on an application submitted to the Commission on or after the date on which rules are promulgated under paragraph (2).

"(2) COMMISSION RULEMAKING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Commission shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding to establish a vetting process for applicants for, and other recipients of, a new covered funding award.

"(3) CONTENTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In promulgating rules under paragraph (2), the Commission shall provide that, consistent with principles of technology neutrality, the Commission will only award covered funding to applicants that can demonstrate that they meet the qualifications in subparagraph (B).

"(B) QUALIFICATIONS DESCRIBED.—An applicant for a new covered funding award shall include in the initial application a proposal containing sufficient detail and documentation for the Commission to ascertain that the applicant possesses the technical, financial, and operational capabilities, and has a reasonable business plan, to deploy the proposed network and deliver services with the relevant performance characteristics and requirements defined by the Commission and as pledged by the applicant.

"(C) EVALUATION OF PROPOSAL.—The Commission shall evaluate a proposal described in subparagraph (B) against—

"(i) reasonable and well-established technical, financial, and operational standards, including the technical standards adopted by the Commission in orders of the Commission relating to Establishing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection (WC Docket No. 19-195) (or orders of the Commission relating to modernizing any successor collection) for purposes of entities that must report broadband availability coverage; and

"(ii) the applicant's history of complying with requirements in the Commission and

other government broadband deployment funding programs.

“(D) PENALTIES FOR PRE-AUTHORIZATION DEFAULTS.—In adopting rules for any new covered funding award, the Commission shall set a penalty for pre-authorization defaults of at least \$9,000 per violation and may not limit the base forfeiture to an amount less than 30 percent of the applicant’s total support, unless the Commission demonstrates the need for lower penalties in a particular instance.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2399, the Rural Broadband Protection Act led by my good friend, Representative HOUCHIN.

The Federal Communications Commission’s Universal Service Fund provides funding for broadband networks in our rural communities.

The Rural Broadband Protection Act requires the FCC to establish a process for upfront vetting of providers seeking USF funds. It also directs the FCC to set penalties for providers that do not meet their commitments. This will ensure that USF recipients deliver on their promise to serve our rural communities.

I thank Representative HOUCHIN for leading this particular bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2399, the Rural Broadband Protection Act. This legislation would direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a process to more thoroughly vet internet service providers participating in the Universal Service Fund’s high-cost program.

I have long advocated for reforms to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in the high-cost program. Following an investigation by Energy and Commerce Committee Democrats in 2017, we requested that the Government Accountability Office open its own inquiry into reports of abuse of high-cost support.

In a scathing report, GAO detailed a remarkable lack of oversight by the FCC, as well as the need for greater accountability to ensure precious USF dollars are spent on the mission of deploying high-speed broadband to unserved and underserved commu-

nities. Since then, we have seen modest progress to curb waste, fraud, and abuse in the high-cost program, but more accountability is needed.

I commend Representatives KELLY and HOUCHIN for their work on this legislation and appreciate their commitment to protecting unserved and underserved communities in need of high-speed connectivity.

However, I must note that this legislation was not considered as part of the Energy and Commerce Committee’s typical regular order process. It was not considered during a subcommittee legislative hearing or taken up in a subcommittee markup prior to being voted on by the full committee.

I am supporting the bill today, but I am disappointed that the Committee members were not afforded the opportunity to seek testimony from experts on this specific text of the legislation or inquire about the bill’s impact on the program and consumers as is our typical practice for legislative hearings.

Still, I believe this legislation will help address critical gaps in the vetting of high-cost recipients and will curb waste, fraud, and abuse in the program, so I urge our colleagues to support H.R. 2399.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN), an outstanding member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, Mr. BILIRAKIS, for his leadership on this important issue. I also thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for their support.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud support of H.R. 2399, the Rural Broadband Protection Act of 2025, a bill that I am proud to sponsor.

Across Indiana and throughout rural America, families, farmers, students, and small business owners still struggle with slow or unreliable internet access. It is not just inconvenient, it is a barrier to opportunity, to education, to healthcare, and to economic growth.

When Congress invests in rural broadband, we must ensure those dollars are getting where they are intended and that providers that are receiving those funds are capable of getting the job done.

That is exactly what the Rural Broadband Protection Act does. It puts accountability and transparency in the grant review process by requiring the Federal Communications Commission to vet applicants for broadband funding based on experience, capability, and performance.

As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, this is a smart, bipartisan, commonsense piece of legislation, and I know my constituents back home agree.

That is why today I will be voting “yes” on the Rural Broadband Protection Act, and I urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 2399, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I commend Representative HOUCHIN and Representative KELLY on this bipartisan bill. It is necessary that we pass this.

In closing, I encourage a “yes” vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2399.

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.

FUTURE USES OF TECHNOLOGY UPHOLDING RELIABLE AND ENHANCED NETWORKS ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2449) to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a task force to be known as the “6G Task Force”, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2449

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 “Future Uses of Technology Upholding Reliable and Enhanced Networks Act” or the “FUTURE Networks Act”.

SEC. 2. 6G TASK FORCE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall establish a task force to be known as the “6G Task Force”.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The members of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Chair.

(2) COMPOSITION.—To the extent practicable, the membership of the Task Force shall be composed of the following:

(A) Representatives of companies in the communications industry, except companies that are determined by the Chair to be not trusted.

(B) Representatives of public interest organizations or academic institutions, except public interest organizations or academic institutions that are determined by the Chair to be not trusted.

(C) Representatives of the Federal Government, State governments, local governments, or Tribal Governments, with at least one member representing each such type of government.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Task Force is established under subsection (a), the Task Force shall publish in the Federal Register and on the website of the Commission, and submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and

Transportation of the Senate, a report on sixth-generation wireless technology, including—

(A) the status of industry-led standards-setting bodies in setting standards for such technology;

(B) possible uses of such technology identified by industry-led standards-setting bodies that are setting standards for such technology;

(C) any limitations of such technology (including any supply chain or cybersecurity limitations) identified by industry-led standards-setting bodies that are setting standards for such technology; and

(D) how to best work with entities across the Federal Government, State governments, local governments, and Tribal Governments to leverage such technology, including with regard to siting, deployment, and adoption.

(2) DRAFT REPORT; PUBLIC COMMENT.—The Task Force shall—

(A) not later than 180 days after the date on which the Task Force is established under subsection (a), publish in the Federal Register and on the website of the Commission a draft of the report required by paragraph (1); and

(B) accept public comments on such draft and take such comments into consideration in preparing the final version of such report.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CHAIR.—The term “Chair” means the Chair of the Commission.

(2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Federal Communications Commission.

(3) NOT TRUSTED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “not trusted” means, with respect to an entity, that—

(i) the Chair has made a public determination that such entity is owned by, controlled by, or subject to the influence of a foreign adversary; or

(ii) the Chair otherwise determines that such entity poses a threat to the national security of the United States.

(B) CRITERIA FOR DETERMINATION.—In making a determination under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Chair shall use the criteria described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 2(c) of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1601(c)), as appropriate.

(4) STATE.—The term “State” has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

(5) TASK FORCE.—The term “Task Force” means the 6G Task Force established under subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, H.R. 2449, the FUTURE Networks Act led by Representative MATSUI and Representative ALLEN.

United States leadership in 6G technology is critical for both our economic and national security.

This bill would direct the FCC to establish a 6G Task Force made up of both public and private-sector participants to develop a report on the standards development process and possible uses of sixth-generation technology. This task force will ensure that the United States has a unified position to cement our leadership in 6G, which is so critical.

This legislation has strong bipartisan support.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2449, the FUTURE Networks Act. This bipartisan legislation is an important step to protect Americans and our communication networks from threats posed by rapidly evolving next-generation technologies. It also ensures that the standards used to build technological advancements are designed from the start to be safe and secure.

H.R. 2449 establishes a task force at the Federal Communications Commission to study sixth-generation, or 6G, technologies to identify potential supply chain and cybersecurity vulnerabilities. The task force will include government, public interest advocates, academics, and industry.

The United States leads the world in the innovation of secure and resilient next-generation technologies, a position congressional Democrats have fought hard to sustain. Among other things, House Democrats have worked to increase the safety of our networks and supply chains by examining the security of mobile networks and educate consumers about cybersecurity vulnerabilities and risks. The FUTURE Networks Act is yet another important step to support America's leadership in a secure and reliable future.

By directing the FCC to engage in the exploration of 6G technology in the early stages of development, the FUTURE Networks Act will enable American values to be embedded within the global framework for this technology and to ensure it will be available to all Americans.

I thank Communications and Technology Subcommittee Ranking Member MATSUI and Representatives ALLEN and WALBERG for their bipartisan work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2449, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, for yielding.

As vice chairman of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee, I rise today in support of the bipartisan FUTURE Networks Act, which I proudly introduced with my colleagues, Rep-

resentative MATSUI and Representative WALBERG.

This commonsense legislation would direct the FCC to bring together industry leaders, public interest groups, and government experts to establish a 6G Task Force.

As we all know, 6G is the future of telecommunications, and we must ensure that the United States is a global leader in this emerging technology. Failure to do so would put our adversaries, like the Chinese Communist Party, in the driver's seat. We cannot allow that to happen.

I come from the world of business and just like in business we want the best, most qualified individuals to have a seat at the table. By establishing a 6G Task Force, we can bring together America's brightest industry leaders, stakeholders, and innovators to collaborate on the future deployment of 6G and strengthening our wireless networks.

This is a matter of economic and national security. I was proud to help lead the FUTURE Networks Act this Congress. I strongly encourage all of my colleagues to support H.R. 2449.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI), the ranking member of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative DINGELL for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the FUTURE Networks Act, and I thank Representatives ALLEN and WALBERG for our joint effort in making this a very bipartisan bill.

I introduced this bill to ensure America continues our leadership and standard setting in the global technology race.

Mr. Speaker, 6G is going to be a global evolution in the way we communicate. If we lead the race for next-generation wireless, then this global technology will be based on our values, democracy, open markets, and transparency.

If we fall behind, our foreign adversaries will have a new way to expand their reach. That means less openness, less security, and more top-down control.

This risk is real. Already, China is leading in the 6G patent race, filing about 35 percent of patents globally.

To stay the global leader, America must invest in innovation and convene our best and brightest to map the road ahead.

This is increasingly true as artificial intelligence redefines our society and drives rapid change, including in our communications infrastructure.

□ 1645

Mr. Speaker, 6G networks will leverage AI to meet the connectivity demand of American consumers and businesses. Mr. Speaker, 6G also can support smart cities and supercharge augmented reality applications for education, healthcare, and manufacturing.

Given such transformative potential, we must be proactive and make sure America sets the gold standard for this next-generation technology. That is why I am so glad to see this bipartisan bill moving forward today.

The FUTURE Networks Act ensures our brightest minds in industry, government, and academia are collaborating on the strategically vital development of 6G. The race to 6G is not just about faster phones; it is about national security, the economy, and America's standing on the world stage.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of suspending the rules and passing this important legislation.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 2449, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I commend Representative ALLEN, the vice chair of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee; Representative MATSUI, the ranking member; and also my good friend, Mr. WALBERG, for this very important bill. I encourage Members to vote "yes" on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2449.

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.

FOREIGN ADVERSARY COMMUNICATIONS TRANSPARENCY ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 906) to direct the Federal Communications Commission to publish a list of entities that hold authorizations, licenses, or other grants of authority issued by the Commission and that have certain foreign ownership, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 906

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 "Foreign Adversary Communications Transparency Act".

SEC. 2. LIST OF ENTITIES HOLDING FCC AUTHORIZATIONS, LICENSES, OR OTHER GRANTS OF AUTHORITY AND HAVING CERTAIN FOREIGN OWNERSHIP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall publish on the internet website of the Commission a list of each entity—

(1) that holds a license issued by the Commission pursuant to—

(A) section 309(j) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 309(j)); or

(B) the Act of May 27, 1921 (47 U.S.C. 34 et seq.; commonly known as the "Cable Landing Licensing Act") and Executive Order 10530 (3 U.S.C. 301 note; relating to the performance of certain functions vested in or subject to the approval of the President); and

(2) with respect to which—

(A) a covered entity holds an equity or voting interest that is required to be reported to the Commission under the ownership rules of the Commission; or

(B) an appropriate national security agency has determined that a covered entity exerts control, regardless of whether such covered entity holds an equity or voting interest as described in subparagraph (A).

(b) RULEMAKING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall issue rules to obtain information to identify each entity—

(A) that holds any authorization, license, or other grant of authority issued by the Commission (other than a license described in subsection (a)(1)); and

(B) with respect to which a covered entity holds an equity or voting interest that is required to be reported to the Commission under the ownership rules of the Commission.

(2) PLACEMENT ON LIST.—Not later than 1 year after the Commission issues the rules required by paragraph (1), the Commission shall place each entity described in such paragraph on the list published under subsection (a).

(c) PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT EXEMPTION.—A collection of information conducted or sponsored by the Commission to implement this section does not constitute a collection of information for the purposes of subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly referred to as the "Paperwork Reduction Act").

(d) ANNUAL UPDATES.—The Commission shall, not less frequently than annually, update the list published under subsection (a), including with respect to any entity required to be placed on such list by subsection (b)(2).

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY.—The term "appropriate national security agency" has the meaning given such term in section 9 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1608).

(2) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Federal Communications Commission.

(3) COVERED COUNTRY.—The term "covered country" means a country specified in section 4872(f)(2) of title 10, United States Code.

(4) COVERED ENTITY.—The term "covered entity" means—

(A) the government of a covered country;

(B) an entity organized under the laws of a covered country; and

(C) a subsidiary of an entity described in subparagraph (B), regardless of whether the subsidiary is organized under the laws of a covered country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 906, the Foreign Adversary Communications Transparency Act, led by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN), my good friend.

Entities with ties to our adversaries—China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea—are threats to our communications networks, unfortunately, but it is a reality.

This legislation requires the FCC to publish a list of those entities holding a license, authorization, or other authority granted by the FCC. Understanding which adversaries are in our networks and the threats they pose, is necessary to securing our networks.

I thank Representative WITTMAN, a great Member, for his leadership on this bill, which passed last Congress by voice vote, and I urge my colleagues to support this very important and necessary bill. I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 906, the Foreign Adversary Communications Transparency Act. At the end of last year, we learned that Salt Typhoon, a cyber espionage operation backed by the Chinese Communist Party, infiltrated several American telecommunications networks to gain access to detailed information on former Vice President Harris and other political figures, as well as access American surveillance information.

This is extremely disturbing and a stark reminder of the lengths to which foreign adversary countries will go to use our media and communications networks to disrupt and divide us, weakening our economy for their own benefit. Whether it is through communications equipment, the networks themselves, or social media, we have seen these operations time and time again, which is why we must stay vigilant to minimize these risks or avoid them altogether.

Fortunately, today, we are taking additional action to address these and future threats. H.R. 906 would require the Federal Communications Commission to publish a list within 4 months indicating any entities with ties to China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran that hold wireless and undersea cable licenses that power our country's mobile and fixed communications networks.

The bill would also require the FCC to issue rules in 18 months to help it attain foreign ownership information for the remaining authorizations, licenses, and grants that the agency issues. The FCC would then publish on its list any additional entities with ties to China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran no later than 1 year after the new rules are adopted. The FCC would also

need to update this entity list annually.

This bill is particularly important since we know our communications networks carry Americans' most sensitive personal and government data on a daily basis, so we must have a clear understanding if any foreign adversary countries or the companies operating within those countries are investors in our networks.

With this bill, we continue to secure our communications networks, protect Americans and their personal data, and help better protect our allies as they, too, rely on our global undersea cable network for broadband services.

I thank Representatives CASTOR, KHANNA, WITTMAN, and KEAN for their bipartisan work and leadership on this legislation. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 906, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Foreign Adversary Communications Transparency Act, known as the FACT Act. I introduced this bill in January, and I have been pleased to see it advance through committee and now onto the House floor.

First, I thank Chairman GUTHRIE, Chairman HUDSON, and the entire Energy and Commerce Committee for advancing this bill, and Leader SCALISE for bringing it to the floor today. Additionally, Representatives STEFANIK, KEAN, CASTOR, and KHANNA have been strong partners in garnering support for this legislation as cosponsors. I also thank my staff as well as those fellow cosponsors on the Energy and Commerce Committee and in leadership for their diligent work on this important bill.

I also applaud the administration for taking the CCP's threat to our national security seriously. Communist China is using every tool at its disposal to conduct a coordinated campaign to surveil and collect information on Americans. We should all be deeply concerned about that. China is not our friend.

China looks to defeat us both economically and strategically. This is one of many means that they are using to accomplish that. They are infiltrating our telecommunications networks and technology sectors for the sole purpose of doing harm to the United States and its friends. Despite this clear threat, far too many companies with ties to the CCP and other foreign adversaries still hold authorities to operate in the United States, often without the public's knowledge. That is absolutely unacceptable.

While companies like Huawei and ZTE are well known, others controlled by the CCP continue to fly under the radar. They are doing this purposely. They are creating entities that are third- and fourth-order separates from

these main organizations to be able to obfuscate those connections back to the CCP.

That is where the bipartisan FACT Act comes in. It would require the Federal Communications Commission to publish a list of these companies that hold FCC authorizations and have any ownership by foreign adversarial governments, including our adversaries like China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran.

This transparency is critical. Americans deserve to know which companies inside our tech and telecommunications markets are linked to hostile regimes. Shining a light on this malign influence is the first step toward a stronger action to defend our communications infrastructure and our national security.

We know what these threats are. We have seen them develop. We have seen them accelerate. We have seen what China's intent is. The FACT Act will mark real, bipartisan progress in achieving these efforts. It is a necessary step to protect Americans from surveillance and infiltration by foreign adversaries like the Chinese Communist Party.

I urge my colleagues to support this critical legislation, and I look forward to continuing to work together to defend American sovereignty and security.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR), a great leader on this issue.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mrs. DINGELL for yielding the time, and I thank Chairman BILIRAKIS for moving the bill forward to the floor today.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 906, the Foreign Adversary Communications Transparency Act. This bill would require the Federal Communications Commission, the FCC, to publish a public list of entities with ties to foreign adversarial governments, such as China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran, especially if they have a license or authorization that is tied to our communications networks.

Along with Representative WITTMAN, I serve on the bipartisan Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party. Last Congress, the committee released a bipartisan report on maintaining America's economic and national security interests. The report found that the widespread adoption of certain People's Republic of China-developed technologies in the United States poses a significant risk to national security and threatens long-term U.S. technological competitiveness.

Our committee report recommended that we enact the FACT Act to shine a light on companies connected to foreign adversarial governments like the CCP and to ensure greater accountability and transparency in our critical communications networks.

Our bill passed the House unanimously by voice vote in the last Congress, but it didn't quite get over the finish line. We really have no more time to wait, Mr. Speaker. Our adversaries continue to target our communications systems, so Congress must take steps now to protect our communications, telecommunications infrastructure and strengthen our national security to keep Americans safe. I urge a "yes" vote on the bill.

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

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I strongly urge that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle support H.R. 906, the Foreign Adversary Communications Transparency Act for the security of our Nation. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I commend Representative WITTMAN and Representative CASTOR for their good work on this particular bill, and I urge passage. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FULCHER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 906.

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.

INFORMING CONSUMERS ABOUT SMART DEVICES ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 859) to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 859

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 "Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act".

SEC. 2. REQUIRED DISCLOSURE OF A CAMERA OR RECORDING CAPABILITY IN CERTAIN INTERNET-CONNECTED DEVICES.

Each manufacturer of a covered device shall disclose, clearly and conspicuously and prior to purchase, whether the covered device manufactured by the manufacturer contains a camera or microphone as a component of the covered device.

SEC. 3. ENFORCEMENT BY THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.

(a) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of section 2 shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

(b) ACTIONS BY THE COMMISSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Trade Commission (in this Act referred to as the "Commission") shall enforce this Act in the same manner, by the same means, and with the

same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act.

(2) **PENALTIES AND PRIVILEGES.**—Any person who violates this Act or a regulation promulgated under this Act shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(3) **SAVINGS CLAUSE.**—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

(c) **COMMISSION GUIDANCE.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission, through outreach to relevant private entities, shall issue guidance to assist manufacturers in complying with the requirements of this Act, including guidance about best practices for making the disclosure required by section 2 as clear and conspicuous and age appropriate as practicable and about best practices for the use of a pictorial (as defined in section 2(a) of the Consumer Review Fairness Act of 2016 (15 U.S.C. 45b(a))) visual representation of the information to be disclosed.

(d) **TAILORED GUIDANCE.**—A manufacturer of a covered device may petition the Commission for tailored guidance as to how to meet the requirements of section 2 consistent with existing rules of practice or any successor rules.

(e) **LIMITATION ON COMMISSION GUIDANCE.**—No guidance issued by the Commission with respect to this Act shall confer any rights on any person, State, or locality, nor shall operate to bind the Commission or any person to the approach recommended in such guidance. In any enforcement action brought pursuant to this Act, the Commission shall allege a specific violation of a provision of this Act. The Commission may not base an enforcement action on, or execute a consent order based on, practices that are alleged to be inconsistent with any such guidelines, unless the practices allegedly violate section 2.

SEC. 4. DEFINITION OF COVERED DEVICE.

As used in this Act, the term “covered device”—

(1) means a consumer product, as defined by section 3(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052(a)) that is capable of connecting to the internet, a component of which is a camera or microphone; and

(2) does not include—

(A) a telephone (including a mobile phone), a laptop, tablet, or any device that a consumer would reasonably expect to have a microphone or camera;

(B) any device that is specifically marketed as a camera, telecommunications device, or microphone; or

(C) any device or apparatus described in sections 255, 716, and 718, and subsections (aa) and (bb) of section 303 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 255; 617; 619; and 303(aa) and (bb)), and any regulations promulgated thereunder.

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall apply to all covered devices manufactured after the date that is 180 days after the date on which guidance is issued by the Commission under section 3(c), and shall not apply to covered devices manufactured or sold before such date, or otherwise introduced into interstate commerce before such date.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

□ 1700

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. 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 in the RECORD on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 859, the Informing Consumers About Smart Devices Act led by Representative FULCHER.

In recent years, we have witnessed remarkable advancements in consumer goods technologies. While these innovations certainly make daily life more convenient, they also carry the risk of collecting data from users, often without their knowledge.

It is clear to most people that devices like laptops have the capability to record sound and video. It may not be so obvious that other household devices such as televisions or refrigerators can do the same thing.

This bipartisan legislation seeks to address this gap by requiring manufacturers of internet-connected devices that contain a microphone or camera, but aren't marketed as consumer electronics, to disclose the presence of these components to consumers.

This is a very important bill. I commend the vice chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade for sponsoring this particular bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge unanimous support for H.R. 859, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 859, the Informing Consumers About Smart Devices Act.

Mr. Speaker, the Internet of Things has ushered in a new age of convenience and efficiency for Americans. Smart thermostats save consumers money by tracking and reporting home energy use and making recommendations about adjusting temperatures to meet consumers' needs. Smart refrigerators provide recipe suggestions based on the content of the refrigerators. Smart ovens scan food to automatically optimize the cooking process.

Every year, American consumers have more and more interconnected devices. Unfortunately, the convenience sometimes comes at a cost. Troubling reports have uncovered that some interconnected devices record images or audio without the users' awareness. Quite frankly, this happens more often than not. Sharing of that information with the device manufacturer or third parties is a real and serious threat to people's privacy.

To combat those threats, the Informing Consumers About Smart Devices

Act will require manufacturers of internet-connected devices to alert consumers when a device includes a camera or a microphone if a consumer would not reasonably expect it to do so. I think most consumers don't recognize or understand this.

While this bill addresses significant privacy concerns, it is also important that we recommit to adopting a bipartisan, comprehensive privacy framework that starts with data minimization and protects all Americans and provides heightened protections for our children nationwide.

I thank Representative MOULTON for his leadership on this issue and encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I couldn't agree more. There is no question that this is definitely needed.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER), the vice chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade under Energy and Commerce.

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the good chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 859, Informing Consumers About Smart Devices Act. This bill would require manufacturers of internet-connected so-called smart appliances to disclose to consumers prior to purchase when their product is equipped with a camera or microphone.

Manufacturers today produce appliances that connect to software applications that can be set, managed, and monitored through one's computing device. They are designed to capture voice commands from around the vicinity, recording information to adapt to the way individuals give commands. They are also often equipped with cameras to capture QR codes or other specific information particular to that appliance.

While the intention may strictly be for convenience, consumers need to be aware that private information may be captured by a smart appliance. We need to ensure proper disclosure and consumer awareness of these features.

It is also important to note that the bill's disclosure requirement only applies to appliances we wouldn't otherwise expect to be equipped with a camera or a microphone. For example, devices like mobile phones, laptops, and tablets would not have this requirement.

Put bluntly, our stoves or refrigerators shouldn't be secretly recording conversations in our homes. Such information could be accessed by a hacker or nefarious third party. Audio or video data of personally identifiable or confidential information could be stolen and/or used without the owner's knowledge. That could lead to scams or other kinds of harms.

People need to know all the functionalities of their appliances before bringing them home. This bill makes that possible.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Representative SETH MOULTON, for co-leading this bipartisan effort. I urge support for this legislation.

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I strongly recommend my colleagues on both sides of the aisle support H.R. 859, the Informing Consumers About Smart Devices Act, and protect Americans' privacy.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I commend Representative FULCHER, the vice chairman of the subcommittee, and also Representative MOUTON for this really good bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge unanimous passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WITTMAN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 859.

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. BILIRAKIS. 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.

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 7 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. NEWHOUSE) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

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. 973; and
S. 146.

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

SETTING CONSUMER STANDARDS FOR LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES 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. 973) to establish consumer standards for lithium-ion batteries, 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 Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 365, nays 42, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 103]

YEAS—365

Adams	Davis (NC)	Hern (OK)
Aderholt	Dean (PA)	Hill (AR)
Aguiar	DeGette	Himes
Alford	DeLauro	Hinson
Allen	DelBene	Horsford
Amo	Deluzio	Houchin
Amodei (NV)	DeSaulnier	Houlahan
Ansari	DesJarlais	Hoyer
Arrington	Dexter	Hoyle (OR)
Auchincloss	Diaz-Balart	Hudson
Babin	Dingell	Huffman
Bacon	Doggett	Huizenga
Baird	Downing	Hurd (CO)
Balderson	Dunn (FL)	Issa
Balint	Edwards	Ivey
Barr	Elfreth	Jack
Barragan	Ellzey	Jackson (IL)
Baumgartner	Emmer	Jacobs
Bean (FL)	Escoibar	James
Beatty	Espallat	Jayapal
Begich	Estes	Jeffries
Bell	Evans (CO)	Johnson (GA)
Bera	Evans (PA)	Johnson (SD)
Bergman	Ezell	Johnson (TX)
Beyer	Fedorchak	Jordan
Bice	Feenstra	Joyce (OH)
Bilirakis	Fields	Joyce (PA)
Bishop	Figures	Kamlager-Dove
Boebert	Fine	Kaptur
Bonamici	Finstad	Kean
Bost	Fischbach	Keating
Boyle (PA)	Fitzgerald	Kelly (IL)
Bresnahan	Fitzpatrick	Kelly (MS)
Brown	Fleischmann	Kelly (PA)
Brownley	Fletcher	Kennedy (NY)
Buchanan	Flood	Khanna
Budzinski	Fong	Kiggans (VA)
Bynum	Foster	Kiley (CA)
Calvert	Foushee	Kim
Cammack	Foxx	Krishnamoorthi
Carbajal	Frankel, Lois	Kustoff
Carey	Franklin, Scott	LaHood
Carson	Friedman	LaLota
Carter (GA)	Frost	LaMalfa
Carter (LA)	Fry	Landsman
Carter (TX)	Garamendi	Langworthy
Casar	Garbarino	Larsen (WA)
Case	Garcia (CA)	Larson (CT)
Casten	Garcia (IL)	Latimer
Castor (FL)	Garcia (TX)	Latta
Castro (TX)	Gillen	Lawler
Cherfilus-	Gimenez	Lee (FL)
McCormick	Golden (ME)	Lee (NV)
Chu	Goldman (NY)	Lee (PA)
Cisneros	Goldman (TX)	Leger Fernandez
Clark (MA)	Gonzales, Tony	Letlow
Clarke (NY)	Gonzalez, V.	Levin
Cleaver	Goodlander	Liccardo
Clyburn	Graves	Lieu
Cole	Gray	Lofgren
Comer	Green (TN)	Loudermilk
Correa	Green, Al (TX)	Lucas
Costa	Griffith	Lynch
Courtney	Grothman	Mace
Craig	Guest	Mackenzie
Crawford	Guthrie	Malliotakis
Crenshaw	Hageman	Maloy
Crockett	Hamadeh (AZ)	Mann
Crow	Harder (CA)	Mannion
Cuellar	Haridopolos	Matsui
Davids (KS)	Harshbarger	McBath
Davis (IL)	Hayes	McBride

McClain	Pocan	Subramanyam
McClain Delaney	Pou	Suoizzi
McClellan	Pressley	Swalwell
McCollum	Quigley	Sykes
McDonald Rivet	Ramirez	Takano
McDowell	Randall	Taylor
McGarvey	Raskin	Tenney
McIver	Reschenthaler	Thanedar
Meeks	Riley (NY)	Thompson (CA)
Menendez	Rivas	Thompson (MS)
Meng	Rogers (AL)	Thompson (PA)
Meuser	Rogers (KY)	Timmons
Mfume	Rose	Titus
Miller (OH)	Ross	Tlaib
Miller (WV)	Rouzer	Tokuda
Miller-Meeks	Ruiz	Tonko
Min	Rutherford	Torres (CA)
Moolenaar	Ryan	Torres (NY)
Moore (NC)	Salinas	Trahan
Moore (UT)	Sánchez	Tran
Moore (WI)	Scalise	Turner (OH)
Moore (WV)	Scanlon	Underwood
Moran	Schakowsky	Valadao
Morelle	Schneider	Van Drew
Morrison	Scholten	Van Dyne
Moskowitz	Schrier	Van Orden
Moulton	Schweikert	Vasquez
Mrvan	Scott (VA)	Veasey
Murphy	Scott, Austin	Velázquez
Nadler	Scott, David	Vindman
Neal	Self	Wagner
Neguse	Sessions	Walberg
Nehls	Sewell	Wasserman
Newhouse	Sherman	Schultz
Nunn (IA)	Shreve	Waters
Oberholte	Simon	Watson Coleman
Ocasio-Cortez	Smith (MO)	Weber (TX)
Olzewski	Smith (NE)	Webster (FL)
Omar	Smith (NJ)	Westerman
Owens	Smith (WA)	Whitesides
Pallone	Smucker	Wied
Palmer	Sorensen	Williams (GA)
Panetta	Soto	Williams (TX)
Pappas	Stansbury	Wilson (FL)
Patronis	Stanton	Wilson (SC)
Pelosi	Stauber	Wittman
Perez	Stefanik	Womack
Peters	Stell	Yakym
Pettersen	Stevens	Zinke
Pfleger	Strickland	
Pingree	Stutzman	

NAYS—42

Barrett	Fulcher	Mast
Biggs (SC)	Gill (TX)	McClintock
Brecheen	Gooden	McCormick
Burchett	Greene (GA)	McGuire
Burlison	Harrigan	Miller (IL)
Cline	Harris (MD)	Mills
Cloud	Harris (NC)	Moore (AL)
Clyde	Higgins (LA)	Norman
Collins	Jackson (TX)	Perry
Crane	Kennedy (UT)	Roy
Crank	Knott	Schmidt
Davidson	Luna	Spartz
Donalds	Luttrell	Steube
Fallon	Massie	Tiffany

NOT VOTING—25

Bentz	Gottheimer	Onder
Biggs (AZ)	Hunt	Rulli
Ciscomani	Magaziner	Salazar
Cohen	McCaul	Sherrill
Conaway	McGovern	Simpson
Connolly	Messmer	Strong
De La Cruz	Mullin	Vargas
Gomez	Norcross	
Gosar	Ogles	

□ 1854

Mr. DAVIDSON, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MILLS, Mrs. SPARTZ, and Mr. JACKSON of Texas changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. CARSON and ROGERS of Alabama changed their 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.

TOOLS TO ADDRESS KNOWN EXPLOITATION BY IMMOBILIZING TECHNOLOGICAL DEEPFAKES ON WEBSITES AND NETWORKS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 146) to require covered platforms to remove nonconsensual intimate visual depictions, 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 Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) 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 409, nays 2, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 104]

YEAS—409

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

Kean	Moore (NC)	Sherman
Keating	Moore (UT)	Shreve
Kelly (IL)	Moore (WI)	Simon
Kelly (MS)	Moore (WV)	Smith (MO)
Kelly (PA)	Moran	Smith (NE)
Kennedy (NY)	Morelle	Smith (NJ)
Kennedy (UT)	Morrison	Smith (WA)
Khanna	Moskowitz	Smucker
Kiggans (VA)	Moulton	Sorensen
Kiley (CA)	Mrvan	Soto
Kim	Murphy	Spartz
Krishnamoorthi	Nadler	Stansbury
Kustoff	Neal	Stanton
LaHood	Neguse	Staubert
LaLota	Nehls	Stefanik
LaMalfa	Newhouse	Steil
Landsman	Norman	Steube
Langworthy	Nunn (IA)	Stevens
Larsen (WA)	Oberholte	Strickland
Larson (CT)	Ocasio-Cortez	Strong
Latimer	Olsewski	Stutzman
Latta	Omar	Subramanyam
Lawler	Owens	Suozi
Lee (FL)	Pallone	Swalwell
Lee (NV)	Palmer	Sykes
Lee (PA)	Panetta	Takano
Leger Fernandez	Pappas	Taylor
Letlow	Patronis	Tenney
Levin	Pelosi	Thanedar
Liccardo	Perez	Thompson (CA)
Lieu	Perry	Thompson (MS)
Lofgren	Peters	Thompson (PA)
Loudermilk	Pettersen	Tiffany
Lucas	Pfuger	Timmons
Luna	Pingree	Titus
Luttrell	Pocan	Tlaib
Lynch	Pou	Tokuda
Mace	Pressley	Tonko
Mackenzie	Quigley	Torres (CA)
Malliotakis	Ramirez	Torres (NY)
Maloy	Randall	Trahan
Mann	Raskin	Turner (OH)
Mannion	Reschenthaler	Underwood
Mast	Riley (NY)	Valadao
Matsui	Rivas	Van Drew
McBath	Rogers (AL)	Van Dwyne
McBride	Rogers (KY)	Van Orden
McClain	Rose	Vargas
McClain Delaney	Ross	Vasquez
McClellan	Rouzer	Veasey
McClintock	Roy	Velazquez
McCollum	Ruiz	Vindman
McCormick	Rutherford	Wagner
McDonald Rivet	Ryan	Walberg
McDowell	Salazar	Wasserman
McGarvey	Salinas	Schultz
McGuire	Sánchez	Waters
McIver	Scalise	Watson Coleman
Meeks	Scanlon	Weber (TX)
Menendez	Schakowsky	Webster (FL)
Meng	Schmidt	Westerman
Meuser	Schneider	Whitesides
Mfume	Schoiten	Wied
Miller (IL)	Schrier	Williams (GA)
Miller (OH)	Schweikert	Williams (TX)
Miller (WV)	Scott (VA)	Wilson (FL)
Miller-Meeks	Scott, Austin	Wilson (SC)
Mills	Scott, David	Wittman
Min	Self	Womack
Moolenaar	Sessions	Yakym
Moore (AL)	Sewell	Zinke

NAYS—2

Burlison

Massie
NOT VOTING—22

Ciscomani	Hunt
Cohen	Knott
Conaway	Magaziner
Connolly	McCaul
De La Cruz	McGovern
Gomez	Messmer
Gosar	Mullin
Gottheimer	Norcross

□ 1903

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.

Stated for:

Mr. ONDER. Mr. Speaker, today I was not present to vote due to the death of an imme-

diate family member. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 104.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was not recorded on roll call vote nos. 103 and 104 today. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on roll call vote nos. 103 and 104.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 326

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) be removed as a cosponsor from H. Res. 326.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. McDOWELL). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THE HONORABLE JOHN LAFALCE

(Mr. KENNEDY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Leader JEFFRIES and the entire New York delegation, I rise with a heavy heart in memory of a friend and mentor to many and a champion for western New York, New York State, and our entire Nation, Congressman John LaFalce.

John Joseph LaFalce was born October 6, 1939, and passed away on April 11, 2025. He was laid to rest just this morning.

Throughout his life, he embodied public service. From his time in the Army to his elected leadership in both the New York State Assembly and Senate to nearly three decades representing western New York in this Chamber, he set an example to which we all should aspire.

While Congressman LaFalce played a pivotal role in shaping national policy, he never forgot where he came from. He will be remembered as a man of great faith, conviction, and passion. His work left an indelible mark on our community and country.

To his wife, Patricia; his son, Martin; and his entire family, we offer our prayers and deepest condolences.

May Congressman LaFalce rest in peace and power.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask that my colleagues join me in a moment of silence.

RECOGNIZING ST. MARY'S ROTARY CLUB'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of St. Mary's Rotary Club, a cornerstone of service in our community since 1950.

For 75 years, the St. Mary's Rotary Club has exemplified the Rotary motto

of Service Above Self through countless projects supporting local schools, awarding scholarships, and promoting youth leadership.

Their commitment to bettering our community is unwavering, and to mark this milestone, the club has launched a project to construct new, modern facilities at Shawmut Park.

With the growing popularity of Fall Fest and other local events, the current facilities can no longer meet community needs. This upgrade will improve accessibility and enhance the park experience for all residents. Earlier this year, construction was completed, and new facilities were officially opened to the public.

Volunteer service is the cornerstone of a successful, strong, and healthy community, and the St. Mary's Rotary Club fills this vital need by supporting our neighbors and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the St. Mary's Rotary Club for 75 years of service, and I thank its members for their continued leadership in strengthening our community.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL JOHN C. RAAEN, JR.

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the extraordinary service and sacrifice of Army Major General John C. Raaen, Jr., who dedicated his life to serving our great Nation.

At 22 years old, he was captain of the Army's 5th Ranger Battalion during the Normandy invasion. General Raaen led his unit up the steep bluffs of Normandy Beach, helping liberate prisoners from Nazi concentration camps and marking the beginning of the Allied victory in World War II.

His bravery and that of his fellow soldiers on D-day remain a powerful symbol of courage, unity, and the ongoing fight for a more just and peaceful world.

For his heroism, he was awarded the Silver Star and went on to serve in Korea and Vietnam, rising to the rank of major general before retiring after 36 years of service. It is an honor to represent such a remarkable hero in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, in 2022, Congress passed a bill to honor the brave Army Rangers of World War II with the Congressional Gold Medal, but at 103 years old, General Raaen has yet to receive this award. I urge the Speaker and my colleagues to take swift action to ensure he receives the recognition he deserves.

RECOGNIZING GATEWAY NURSING AND REHAB

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, it was an honor to visit Gateway Nursing and

Rehab in Lenoir, North Carolina, this past Friday and attend a program that honored veterans who are receiving care there.

I commend Shannon Price, the director of social services, as well as members of the staff for taking the time and making the effort to recognize those veterans.

The program was very positive. Shannon is a true patriot, and so, too, are members of her family, including her son Seth, who is currently serving in the Army.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Shannon and all the wonderful staff at Gateway Nursing and Rehab for all they do in service to our Nation's veterans and for those who are currently serving in the Armed Forces.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD the statement of Shannon Price.

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

There was no objection.

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction." When President Ronald Reagan spoke these words, he wasn't simply offering a quotable line—he was issuing a challenge that resonates across time. Today, as we gather in the presence of heroes who have answered that challenge, I invite you to consider: What does freedom mean when it's no longer an abstract concept, but a living legacy entrusted to our care? What does freedom demand of those who enjoy its blessings? And how do we honor those who have sacrificed to preserve it?

For many of us, freedom exists like oxygen—essential yet invisible, noticed only in its absence. We exercise our liberties daily without reflection—speaking our minds, pursuing our dreams, making choices large and small. Yet this seemingly effortless inheritance has been secured through tremendous effort. It has been purchased with courage, preserved with vigilance, and passed down not as a birthright, but as a sacred trust.

Today, I want us to make the invisible visible. To recognize that behind every freedom we enjoy stands someone who was willing to protect it—someone like the six distinguished veterans seated before us, like my son currently deployed overseas, like countless others who have answered when liberty called their name.

Look at our honored guests today—veterans who served in Korea and Vietnam. Their stories reveal a profound truth: freedom's defenders rarely speak of heroism. Instead, they talk of duty. Of brotherhood. Of the families who waited for their return. They describe ordinary people thrust into extraordinary circumstances, guided not by grand ideologies but by love of country and commitment to the principles that define us.

Witness the solemn precision with which today's service members folded our flag moments ago. Each crisp movement, each respectful gesture represents more than protocol—it embodies a promise. That flag, with its stars and stripes, symbolizes not just a nation's history but its ongoing covenant with those who serve. It reminds us that freedom isn't preserved in marble monuments but in living commitments renewed by each generation.

Freedom's meaning transforms when you have someone you love in the game. As the parent of a son currently deployed, I've learned this truth in ways both profound and

painful. Each morning brings both pride and concern. Each evening ends with prayers for safety. The abstract becomes intimate when you love someone who stands on freedom's frontier.

Every service family understands this reality. They know the weight of missed birthdays and empty chairs at holiday gatherings. They recognize the value of ordinary moments—Sunday dinners, bedtime stories, casual conversations—because they've sacrificed countless such moments for something greater. They measure freedom not in lofty rhetoric but in delayed dreams and postponed reunions, all given willingly in service to principles that transcend individual comfort.

"Greater love has no man than this: to lay down his life for his friends." These words from the Bible capture freedom's ultimate cost. Some who answered liberty's call never returned to receive our thanks. Their sacrifice created absences that can never be filled—empty chairs that remain empty, voices preserved only in memory, futures un-lived so that our futures could continue.

These fallen heroes represent freedom's highest price—a debt we can never fully repay but must always acknowledge. Their legacy lives not just in the freedoms we enjoy but in how faithfully we steward what they have preserved. They challenge us to ensure that their sacrifice was not in vain—that the liberty they protected remains worthy of such devotion.

Freedom is indeed never more than one generation from extinction. It survives not through inheritance but through commitment—through citizens who understand that liberty requires more than celebration; it demands stewardship.

Today, I ask you to join me in recognizing our veterans present with us.

Let their example inspire us to be worthy custodians of freedom's flame. Let us honor their sacrifice not just with words but with lives that reflect the values they defended. And let us ensure that this precious legacy—this freedom—remains secure not just for our time but for generations yet unborn.

For in the end, freedom's story is still being written—and we each hold the pen. Thank you.

□ 1915

STANDING UP FOR SOCIAL SECURITY RECIPIENTS

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

Ms. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand up for my constituents who rely on Social Security and Medicare.

Nearly 1 million Oregonians collect Social Security, and almost 20 percent of the State's population receives Medicare. These critical programs are under attack, and Americans are scared.

I spent the last 2 weeks talking with people in my district, and I have heard their concerns. Seniors are facing unprecedented delays in getting benefits they rely on, and it makes it hard for them to pay their expenses. They don't know if this administration is going to pull the rug out from underneath them and leave them without the benefits they have earned.

These benefits are not a Ponzi scheme. These benefits are not government handouts. They are earned benefits for American citizens.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to stand up for Americans and protect these programs with our lives and our votes.

RAID IN COLORADO SPRINGS

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

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, the Colorado Springs Police Department, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, and the Drug Enforcement Administration worked hard to do a raid in my hometown of Colorado Springs, Colorado. They arrested over 100 folks who are very likely illegally in our country. They found drugs, and they found sex trafficking of minors and of women.

Colorado Springs is safer today because of the policies of the Trump administration. As we celebrate 100 days of President Trump's administration, this is part of what he has brought to us.

There were MS-13, Hells Angels, and Tren de Aragua there. They frequented this nightclub that was shut down.

We are in this mess because of far-left policies from our Governor in Colorado, Governor Jared Polis, our State legislature, and the Biden administration.

I thank Sheriff Joe Roybal and all of the people from El Paso County Sheriff's Office and the Colorado Springs Police Department.

STANDING FOR AMERICA

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

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on the 100th day of Donald Trump's second term as President.

While some of my colleagues celebrate his actions, I am reminded why I first ran for office and why I continue fighting for my community.

I was raised to believe that the United States of America was built on the principles of liberty, democracy, and equal opportunity. For more than two centuries, those ideals have guided us, creating a Nation where everyone has the right to pursue their dreams, serve their communities, and have a voice in their government without reprisals.

Today, we are witnessing something deeply troubling: the erosion of the rule of law, the abandonment of democracy norms, and a betrayal of the very values Americans of all backgrounds have long fought to uphold.

On this 100th day of the 119th Congress, I stand firm in my belief that: I, too, am an American. I, too, am a patriot. I, too, will continue to defend the

values and principles that made this country a beacon of hope for the world.

HONORING CHARLES RINKEVICH, SR.

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Charles Rinkevich, Sr., a distinguished law enforcement official who dedicated his life to public service for over 40 years.

After graduating from Michigan State University and serving an Active-Duty tour with the Army Reserves, Mr. Rinkevich became a lieutenant and training officer for the Savannah Police Department.

During his tenure, he also served as an instructor and law enforcement consultant for the University of Georgia and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

In 1982, he was appointed by the White House to oversee two Federal Government task forces aimed at aiding community law enforcement in Atlanta and Miami.

In 1983, Mr. Rinkevich moved to St. Simons Island where he was appointed director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco.

While serving in this role, he managed an annual budget exceeding \$100 million and oversaw an agency that graduated over 25,000 students annually.

Charles Rinkevich's commitment to excellence, innovation, and collaboration was an inspiration to countless individuals.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time.

APPEASEMENT INVITES MORE AGGRESSION

(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, history has taught us time and time again that appeasement in the face of aggression and evil only invites more aggression.

We saw it in the 1930s, and we are seeing echoes of it in the Trump administration's actions today.

When we hesitate to support Ukraine, we drag our feet, or allow political infighting to stall critical aid, we are sending a dangerous message to autocrats, especially China.

Vladimir Putin invaded a sovereign democracy. He is betting that the free world will grow tired, turn inward, and look away. We cannot let that happen.

Standing with Ukraine is not charity. It is deterrence and in our national security interests.

If we do not stand with Ukraine, eventually American troops will be forced to fight aggressors in East Asia and Europe.

Deterrence is the key to putting them and our national security first.

Appeasement failed the world before. We cannot afford to repeat that mistake.

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize that April is Autism Awareness Month.

Autism spectrum disorder is a developmental disability that generally appears before the age of 3, impacting social interaction, communication skills, and cognitive function.

Today, 1 in 36 children in the United States are diagnosed with autism, and approximately 5.4 million Americans are living with autism spectrum disorder. By raising awareness, we can support individuals and families affected by autism and help them lead fulfilling lives.

I will take a moment to recognize my longtime dear friend Vincent McLaughlin, a dedicated advocate and true inspiration. Vincent has shown unwavering commitment to his community through his decade-long service on the Ulster County Planning Board representing the Village of Saugerties, his 16 years of service as a volunteer firefighter, and his continuous work to raise awareness and support for those living with autism.

In 2023, he was appointed to the New York State Council on Developmental Disabilities because of his advocacy and dedication, which embody the spirit of community involvement and empowerment. Vincent's selfless efforts make a difference every day, and I am grateful for his dedication and support.

As we observe Autism Awareness Month, let us commit to supporting all Americans with autism, ensuring they receive the necessary resources, opportunities, and respect they deserve. As my friend Vincent has proven, autism should never be a barrier to success or happiness.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ED MORGAN

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart to pay special tribute to the extraordinary contributions of Mr. Ed Morgan, who passed at 90. He was a beloved retired music teacher in Greene County.

Mr. Morgan dedicated his life to inspiring countless students, teaching them to read music and find joy in playing instruments like clarinets and horns. He would take his students' instruments to tune, maintain, and even teach them how to play.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for him teaching me how to play the drums.

His passion for people and his unwavering commitment to our community were evident to all who knew him.

Mr. Morgan also served our country honorably in the United States Army.

Music is woven deeply into the fabric of Greene County's history. The music coming out of our county sounds really, really good because of Mr. Morgan's influence.

I can only imagine the song he is playing now.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my heartfelt condolences to Dorothy Moye, his family, and our community.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS

(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, let me talk about the first 100 days of the Trump administration.

President Trump's efforts have secured the border. Southwest border apprehensions have decreased by 94 percent since March of last year, from 137,473 in March of 2024 to only 7,181 in March of 2025.

Customs and Border Protection encountered 29,000 illegal aliens nationwide last month, down 88 percent from 246,000 encountered in March of last year.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers arrested 32,809 illegal aliens during the first 50 days of the Trump administration, way less than last year. More than 100,000 illegals have been deported.

On the energy front, gas prices are down 6.3 percent and will continue to do so with America First energy policies.

The Consumer Price Index has only increased by 2.8 percent in the last year. Egg prices are down 56 percent.

On jobs, the economy added 10,000 manufacturing jobs, good jobs, during President Trump's timeline here. We will see more jobs and continue with a strong economy.

CONGRATULATING NASSAU COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

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

Ms. GILLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nassau County Police Department on 100 years of brave and honorable service to the communities across New York's Fourth Congressional District.

As the proud Representative of this district, I am honored to represent the more than 2,000 dedicated officers who put their lives on the line every day for the 1.3 million residents of Nassau County.

In 1925, the NCPD was established with just 55 patrolmen. In the century

since, the department has grown into one of the most respected and well-trained law enforcement agencies in America.

Today, Nassau County law enforcement officers stand as a symbol of strength, courage, and service to Long Island.

I also recognize the brave NCPD officers who have given all in the line of duty. They will not be forgotten.

As we look ahead to the next 100 years of the NCPD, I will continue to work with Commissioner Ryder and our local partners to ensure that officers have the resources they need and the training they need to keep Long Islanders safe.

I am proud to stand alongside Nassau County Police Department and congratulate them on 100 years of serving our community.

□ 1930

HONORING JACK FITZGERALD

(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 to honor the life of an incredible man and a Maryland icon, Jack Fitzgerald.

Jack founded Fitzgerald Auto Malls in Montgomery County in 1966. Through decades of hard work, he built one of the most respected auto dealerships in the region and, I dare say, the country.

Jack became known for his customer-first approach to car buying, but everyone knew him for his unbounded integrity, compassion, and community engagement.

Jack was also a trailblazer in child car seat safety, something really incredible. He grew Fitzgerald Auto into one of the largest, all employee-owned auto dealerships in the United States.

Jack was a friend to my husband, John, and me. He also helped me throughout my journey to Congress with encouragement and wisdom. He helped shape the values that many of us carry with us here in Washington and in Montgomery County. He believed deeply in public service and putting others before himself, both in business and in life.

My heart goes out to Dottie, John, Kathleen, Russell, and Bill.

In closing, Jack will be deeply missed by all those who knew him within his community, and his legacy will live on in every life he touched because that is "The Fitz Way."

AMERICAN HISTORY

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, Black history is American history, indigenous history is American history,

Latino history is American history, and women and LGBTQ+ history is American history.

We will not be silenced.

No illegal or unconscionable executive orders can erase American history. No firing of generals or Federal workers, no banning of books or threats to schools, no purge of websites or removal of artifacts from the Smithsonian or any other institution, and certainly no change to our national holidays will erase American history because the people of this country will not be silenced.

We will not allow this President to turn back the clock to take away American rights. We will keep speaking, we will keep marching, and we will keep fighting to protect our democracy because this is our country, and we are not going back.

"EXECUTIVE BRANCH" CLUB

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the latest photo of the founding of another billionaire private club here in Washington, D.C., in Georgetown, for the superrich, spearheaded by Donald Trump, Jr.; JD VANCE; and their billionaire buddies.

Members can join for the low price of half a million dollars. They offer the richest of the rich a red carpet to buy influence and their way to power.

Meanwhile, working Americans are being crushed with high interest rates, 401(k)'s losing value, unaffordable housing, and rising grocery prices. At a time when reckless U.S.-Canada Trump-era tariffs are devastating our farmers and manufacturers, when layoffs are funding cuts and gutting communities, and the Trump elite are toasting champagne and eating caviar. Really?

This executive branch club isn't just an insult to the working class, but it is a vivid, grotesque portrait of ruling billionaires focused on totally enriching themselves and neglecting our Nation. Imagine what a half million dollars would buy in our communities for children or for seniors.

This excess reminds me of the disgusting behavior of Emperor Nero, who rightly has been relegated to the dustbin of history.

HONORING EVELYN PAULA NELSON YOUNG

(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, I rise today to honor the life of Evelyn Paula Nelson Young, a respected and beloved member of the Mt. Vernon community who passed away at the age of 102 earlier this year.

Born in 1922 in Charleston, South Carolina, Evelyn excelled academically

as an honor student and athletically as a standout member of the girls' basketball team. Her academic success led her to the profession of teaching, first in Charleston, then at the prestigious Alabama State University Laboratory School, and, finally, in Mt. Vernon, New York.

She dedicated 40 years of teaching Mt. Vernon's elementary school children, making sure that they could read, write, and comprehend before they were promoted to the next grade.

Our thoughts are with Evelyn's family, including her son, Clinton Jr., and her daughter, Mary, who have both dedicated so much of their lives to our community in public service.

Evelyn once said: I can't complain, thank the good Lord. He has been so good to me. I am truly blessed.

Mr. Speaker, we are all blessed to have known Evelyn and the Young family. May we all aspire to live such long and rewarding lives as she did.

HEALTH DISPARITIES IN MINORITY COMMUNITIES

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to anchor this CBC Special Order along with my distinguished colleague, Representative JENNIFER MCCLELLAN.

For the next 60 minutes, members of the Congressional Black Caucus will have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people on the issue of minority health, an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I rise along with several colleagues of the Congressional Black Caucus, who Members will hear from tonight. We are here to discuss the timely issue of health disparities as we approach the end of 2025 Minority Health Month.

There is a long, storied history of poor health outcomes in minority communities. African Americans have lower life expectancy, higher rates of infant mortality, increased instances of maternal mortality, higher rates of chronic illnesses, and more frequent cancer diagnoses. Every American deserves to have access to quality, affordable healthcare and lifesaving prescription medications.

This is our first day back after spending time in our congressional districts

and conducting face-to-face interactions with our constituents. As is often the case, our just concluded district work period encompassed the sacred observances of Passover and Easter.

For those of us who celebrate the Easter side of that equation, we tend to profess pride in being Matthew 25 Christians. We often express adherence to verse 45, which admonishes: "Whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me."

Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of lessons to be found in chapter 25 of Matthew long before one gets down to verse 45. There are lessons on the importance of being prepared, the importance of providing service, and utilizing good judgment.

Ours is a great country, and among the things that make us great is our system of healthcare.

Speaking at a 1966 healthcare conference, Martin Luther King, Jr., observed: "Of all forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and inhumane." Many of these inequalities are, in part, attributable to the disparities in access to healthcare.

Disparities in health outcomes were starkly apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic. Communities of color experienced higher rates of fatality and were often at increased risk for the comorbidities that led to more serious illnesses from COVID-19.

My Democratic colleagues and I, in partnership with the previous administration, wrote and passed legislation such as the bipartisan infrastructure bill to expand access to broadband and provide telehealth services to rural and underserved communities.

We also passed legislation to cap the out-of-pocket costs of insulin at \$35 for seniors through the Inflation Reduction Act.

We also passed legislation to cap the annual cost of copayments for Medicare recipients to \$2,000 per year.

My late wife was a four-shots-a-day diabetic. She battled that chronic disease and its by-products for over 30 years. I know what a serious financial strain essential diabetes medication can be for those families who are fortunate to have insurance. Yet, what about those among us who are less fortunate?

In the last several years, we have made significant progress toward making one of the great strengths of this country, healthcare, more accessible and affordable for all. Yet, that progress is now in jeopardy and will be dismantled and derailed by the budget being proposed by my Republican colleagues.

Sadly, neither the President, nor my Republican colleagues seem willing to consider the harmful impacts of pausing these programs or the harms that steep cuts to programs like Medicaid will have on both the economic well-being and health outcomes of millions of American families. They are steadily moving forward with their plan to slash these crucial programs by bil-

lions of dollars while, at the same time, proposing big tax cuts for those who can afford to pay for quality healthcare and lifesaving medications.

On July 30, 1965, President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed into law the Social Security Amendments of 1965. Those amendments established Medicare, a health insurance program for the elderly; and Medicaid, a health insurance program for people with limited incomes.

Today, nearly 80 million Americans receive healthcare through Medicaid, which provides critical care throughout all stages of life. It covers childbirth and nursing home care and everything in between.

□ 1945

In my congressional district, there are 180,678 people on Medicaid. In South Carolina, it is called Healthy Connections. This number includes 105,256 children under the age of 19 and 20,000 seniors over 65, and this is just my district.

Over 1 million South Carolinians are enrolled in Medicaid. In South Carolina, Medicaid covers four out of every nine children, five of every eight nursing home residents, three out of every 10 working-age adults with disabilities, and one out of every six adults ages 19 through 64. These individuals are at risk of losing their healthcare under the Republicans' budget plans.

My Republican colleagues have been directed to cut \$880 billion from the Energy and Commerce Committee, which oversees Medicaid. Please understand that \$880 billion is just the floor. Some of them want to cut more.

The only way they can reach their goal is to gut Medicaid. No matter what they may say to their wavering Members to secure their votes and to their vulnerable constituents to prevent them from objecting, this plan will cut taxes for the rich, bankrupt the middle class, and shortchange the poor.

Earlier, I quoted Scripture taken from the Book of Matthew, but as one might imagine, my favorite book in the Bible is the Book of James, not just because of my given name but because of its lessons. In James' epistle, he writes that when people are hurting and in need, it is not enough to offer platitudes like thoughts and prayers. We have a moral obligation to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and provide shelter for the homeless.

I believe that if James were writing this epistle today, he would decry the shocking injustices in healthcare suffered by our most vulnerable and the friction that suffering often engenders.

My father was a fundamentalist minister who often used secular thoughts to teach life lessons to his three sons. I have thought about one of those lessons at the townhalls I held during our Passover and Easter work period.

The lesson came to us one day when my two brothers and I were accompanying my dad to a—well, let's call

him an automobile mechanic. Back when I was growing up in the little town of Sumter, everybody had a neighborhood mechanic, and everybody knew who that mechanic was because he was the guy with the chinaberry tree with the pulley hanging out of it.

On this particular day, as my dad waited to have his car worked on, Mr. Singleton, the mechanic, hooked the pulley to the front end of that car and began to raise it so he could get under it and get it running for another week. Just as he started to lift the car, my two brothers and I started playing near the car. My dad said to us: "Sons, I have no idea how strong this chain is. Why don't you all go across the field and play? This chain may pop, and one of you might get hurt."

Well, we did go across the field to play, and we weren't gone long before we got into a little discussion. Now, some people looking at it might call it a fight, but it was a physical discussion.

We didn't know it, but my dad was watching us. After he thought that discussion had gone on long enough, he called the three of us over to him and stood us in front of him. He had in his hands a piece of cord string.

My dad gave that piece of cord string first to my youngest brother, Charles, and said, "Charles, I want you to pop this string." Charles struggled, and he couldn't pop it.

He then took it and gave it to my brother, John, and he said, "John, I want you to pop this string. You are 2 years older. You are stronger. You pop it." John struggled, and he couldn't pop it.

He then took it back, and he gave it to me. He said, "Now, James, you are the oldest. You are the strongest. You pop the string." I struggled. I couldn't pop it.

He then took it back and placed it in his palm, and he began to rub his hands together. The more he rubbed, the more friction he created. The more friction he created, the more unraveled that cord string became. It was not long before that cord string was in three pieces.

My dad then took those three pieces, gave one to Charles, one to John, and one to me, and he said, "Now, sons, pop the string." With little effort, all three of us popped the strings.

He said, "Now, sons, I want this to be a lesson to you for as long as you live. Don't you let the little disagreements that crop up among you cause so much friction until it separates you, because if you do, the world will pop you apart and you may never know why."

I thought about that lesson as I went to these townhall meetings. The actions that are being taken by my Republican colleagues and this administration are providing all kinds of opportunities for friction to be created among us.

Providing tax breaks to the wealthy while cutting billions of dollars of lifesaving healthcare for millions of Ameri-

icans will cause undue friction in our healthcare system and only serve to divide us.

Mr. Speaker, our healthcare system is by no means perfect. We have a great deal of work to do to improve the system for everyone and to reduce disparities, but we must start by following what we often call the Hippocratic oath to first do no harm. Do no harm to Social Security. Do no harm to Medicare. Do no harm to Medicaid and the other bedrocks of our public health system, like the Affordable Care Act.

Most persons want more than promises. They want results. They want everyone to have access to affordable housing, reliable energy, adequate education, and, yes, quality healthcare, all those things that make this country a great country.

Mr. Speaker, I am now pleased to yield to my distinguished colleague from Illinois (Ms. KELLY).

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Minority Health Awareness Month.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Congressman Clyburn and Congresswoman McCLELLAN, for holding this Special Order hour to bring attention to our country's health disparities.

As chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust, I am familiar with the adverse statistics that face Black and Brown communities.

Black women are three times more likely to die due to pregnancy-related causes than White women.

Black people are about twice as likely to die from diabetes than White people.

On the South Side of Chicago, which I represent, Black people are expected to die 11 years earlier than White people living on the North Side, and sometimes it is higher than that.

Let us not forget gun violence, a public health crisis and emergency in our country. Black people die from gun violence at 2.7 times the rate of White people. While guns have been the leading cause of death for all children and teenagers since 2020, guns have been the leading cause of death for Black children since 2006.

These statistics are horrifying, but we cannot forget the faces and stories behind the numbers.

When I was first elected to Congress, a constituent called me and said her friend's daughter-in-law died in child labor. That baby had to grow up without a mother. It is because of her and her baby that I continue to fight for Black mothers and maternal health.

I have heard countless stories from parents who have turned their pain into purpose after losing a child to gun violence, determined not to let another family go through the same grief. I continue to fight to end gun violence because of these families. Even now, I stand firm amid attacks against public health.

House Republicans want to slash Medicaid by \$880 billion. Their budget is an attack against millions of Ameri-

cans who depend on Medicaid for healthcare.

Over 300,000 of my constituents are at risk of losing healthcare if House Republicans get their way. More constituents stand to see their health premiums increase by over \$1,000.

Again, it is more than just the numbers. I heard from parents who won't be able to provide the lifesaving medication and treatment their son needs. If they can't afford healthcare for their son, they will first sell their home. If that doesn't work, they actually talked about giving up custody of their son to the State.

I heard from a mom whose son has autism and is terrified for his future if he doesn't have healthcare and specialized education.

I have heard from another mother whose entire family relies on Medicaid for lifesaving care.

As House Republicans attack Medicaid, Elon Musk and his unqualified team at DOGE have slashed 20,000 jobs at the Department of Health and Human Services. Their staff cuts and restructuring have targeted the Offices of Minority Health at CMS and SAMHSA.

How can we honor Minority Health Month if the institutions dedicated to closing health disparities are being eliminated?

For over a decade in Congress, I have worked with CDC, HRSA, and NIH to reduce pregnancy-related deaths. I have introduced legislation to help diversify clinical trials so medical breakthroughs can reach the patients who need treatment the most.

President Trump's agenda, however, is determined to drag us backward. He has declared an end to so-called woke research and programs. These programs are meant to help women, veterans, Black people, members of the LGBTQ+ community, and, frankly, all of us.

In the middle of our country's maternal mortality crisis, Trump and DOGE fired the people dedicated to finding and implementing solutions mothers desperately need. Only three government data sources report maternal deaths in the U.S., and they are all in dire risk with the current reorganization plans at HHS.

These cuts to Medicaid and our country's healthcare infrastructure are simply cruel and will leave all Americans' health in limbo.

I refuse to go backward. I am determined to continue to march forward arm in arm with my CBC colleagues and allies to fight for our healthcare.

□ 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. McCLELLAN), my co-anchor for this Special Order.

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CLYBURN for yielding. I am honored to be here tonight on behalf of

the Congressional Black Caucus to commemorate National Minority Health Awareness Month, but I am also here for personal reasons.

Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago today, I was 31 weeks pregnant. I was excited. I was expecting a girl. I had placenta previa, so I knew we were going to have to schedule a C-section. We had just scheduled it. She was due June 30, but we had scheduled a date in early June because my doctor did not think it likely that we would make it to June 30.

I went to bed still planning out are we going to get to go on a babymoon before she arrives. I woke up the next morning, and my placenta ruptured. I started bleeding. I was panicked. My husband called the ambulance. He said I was as white as this piece of paper.

We rushed to the hospital, and I remember hearing the doctor in the emergency room saying that everything looked fine. Then less than three seconds later he said that we have got to go right now because both of our heart rates dropped. I remember thinking as the oxygen mask came on my face, please let me be asleep before my doctor starts cutting, and I was.

I woke up a few hours later, and I had a baby girl, but I didn't get to see her until the next day. As I waited those 24 hours to see if she would make it, I realized that I almost became one of the Black women who are three times more likely to die due to pregnancy-related complications than White women.

I was a State legislator at the time. This was my second child. I was on the Joint Commission on Health Care, and I began to really look into the maternal mortality crisis that we have in this country. We have higher death rates for women than many other Third World countries.

I started looking at the data of why women were dying. Many of these deaths were preventable. There were differences. There were differences in the rate at which Black women died compared to White women, and there were differences in the reasons.

In Virginia, the data showed us that for White women they were more likely to die due to postpartum depression leading to suicide or other mental health-related issues leading them to take their own life or to self-medicate and die of drug overdoses.

For Black women in Virginia, their deaths were more likely caused by comorbidities, mostly cardiovascular issues. Many pregnant women, as I began talking to them, many Black, pregnant women had their first heart attack either while they were pregnant or shortly thereafter. Oh, by the way, the disparities in cardiovascular care for Black women and men: The death rate is higher than for White men and women.

I began to look at how do we put policies in place that address the maternal mortality crisis as a whole, but the disparities in particular. I also noticed that many Black women died

within the first year of childbirth, yet Medicaid for many of these women didn't cover the first year, so they didn't have health insurance when their first cardiac event or pregnancy-related event that led to their death occurred.

We looked at expanding Medicaid to cover the first 12 months after birth, which we did here at the Federal level, as well. We looked at expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act and how would that address the maternal health crisis. We did expand Medicaid in Virginia, and we began to see that for many Medicaid expansion patients they ended up healthier because they were connected to medical help, getting regular checkups to catch things before they became deadly. All of that now is under attack.

As we approach April every year, I like to commemorate National Minority Health Awareness Month through some sort of roundtable, but I especially like to commemorate Black Maternal Health Week because as I said when I started, that one is personal.

As I got ready for Black Maternal Health Week, I wanted to first figure out is there a theme this year on which we should focus our efforts. As I got ready to prepare my social media posts, as I got ready to prepare the topics that I would have if I had a roundtable, I thought, well, the Office of Maternal Health, the Office of Minority Health, they usually announce a theme every year.

I went to the Office of Minority Health website, and sure enough, in January they did announce a theme for 2025: Advancing Commitments to Eliminate Health Disparities.

Then in the January post on their Facebook page they invited the public to join them all year as they shared resources to help address health disparities impacting racial and ethnic minority groups. I thought, great, that is exactly what I want to do during National Minority Health Awareness Month and Black Maternal Health Week. I went to the web page expecting to pull down those resources that I could share with the communities that I represent. "File not found."

Then I thought, well, maybe the Office of Minority Health at CMS has something. "File not found." Well, maybe the National Institutes on Minority Health and Health Disparities has something. "Page not found." That is what the website said in the very month that we are supposed to renew our commitment to addressing healthcare disparities that cause Black women to be three times more likely to die in childbirth than White women, that cause Black men to be more likely to die of prostate cancer than White men. I could go down the entire list of the statistics. You heard some of them earlier today.

In the very month we are supposed to reaffirm our commitment: "File not found."

Well, I shouldn't be surprised because with the President's war on diversity,

equity, and inclusion and DOGE going through and finding every web page that had certain words without actually looking at what are those web pages doing, that they would take these pages down. Imagine my dismay when I discovered that the Office of Minority Health at both HHS and CMS are now gone.

The very employees who collect the data, who look at the underlying causes of why these women are dying anyway, let alone at three times higher rates than White women, they are gone. Well, at least we can continue to fight for the policies.

I am on the Energy and Commerce Committee that was told in a markup on March 7 to find \$880 billion worth of cuts. The Congressional Budget Office it says can't do that unless there are cuts to Medicaid. I have heard some of my colleagues say, well, we are not going to address vulnerable populations, and they include pregnant women in that. The healthcare disparity doesn't start the day you get the positive pregnancy test. It starts when you aren't getting access to the care that you need to address diabetes or hypertension or the cardiovascular issue that is bubbling.

As we see Medicaid expansion at risk, all of the progress we began to make to address these disparities is at risk.

Mr. Speaker, this is not politics. This is not theoretical debates over the role of the Federal Government. This is people are dying, and our Declaration of Independence that we will celebrate the 250th anniversary of next year says that: All men—and I would add women—are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Life is number one.

When the Federal, State, and local governments work together with the private sector, our research hospitals, the nonprofit community, when we work together to identify the reasons for the disparities and put policies in place that address them, people's lives are saved. When we strip those policies away, when we strip away the very workforce implementing them, people will die.

That is why I am proud to stand here as a member of the Congressional Black Caucus and say we will fight to protect those policies that save our people's lives.

Tomorrow, when my daughter turns 10 and I think back at how I almost became that statistic but how we are also coming up on the 1-year anniversary of when her uncle became the statistic of a Black man more likely to die because of a heart attack, I am going to follow the theme of the 2025 National Minority Health Awareness Month: Advancing Commitments to Eliminate Health Disparities. I am going to fight any effort by our President or my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to put barriers in our way and to remove the very policies that help save lives to begin with.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY).

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be here to mark National Minority Health Awareness Month and to do so shoulder to shoulder with two of my esteemed colleagues, Mr. CLYBURN and Congresswoman MCCLELLAN. Thank you both for the strength of your convictions.

Mr. Speaker, today in America the color of your skin and the ZIP code you are born into are critical determinants of health.

I represent Massachusetts' Seventh Congressional District where in a 3-mile radius from Cambridge to Roxbury, the Blackest part of my district, life expectancy drops by 30 years.

Now, some have tired of hearing these sobering statistics, but I will enumerate them time and again until they change. If you are tired of hearing them, imagine how tired people are of living them.

These health disparities persist despite the fact that we in Massachusetts are home to some of the finest hospitals and brightest minds in healthcare worldwide.

In the Congressional Black Caucus, we are daily organizing and legislating towards a different vision: one of true healthcare justice, a vision where Black men can grow old, where birth is safe and sacred, where every baby has clean air to breathe and safe water to drink, where health equity is a given and not an afterthought, where Black pain is believed.

As we stay head down working toward that vision, the status quo is stark. In 2023, the Boston Public Health Commission reported that diabetes mortality for Black women was three times that of White women.

The same report detailed that our Hispanic and Latino neighbors were four times more likely to end up in the emergency room for asthma emergencies compared to White residents and our Black neighbors nine times more likely than our White residents.

The disparities don't end there. They persist for cancer, heart disease, life expectancy, and more.

The work to address these injustices is urgent. It is a matter of life and death.

□ 2015

Meanwhile, we have a Trump White House threatening to gut and defund essential health programs. They are gutting Medicaid and tearing away school lunches. They are coming for Planned Parenthood. They are cutting regulations, poisoning the air we breathe and the water we drink. The cruelty is the point.

I recently returned from rural Louisiana where my colleagues and I went behind the wall at two remote detention facilities. These facilities have a history of unjust and unsafe conditions. Behind the wall, as co-chair of the House's Reproductive Freedom

Caucus, I met women who were pregnant, entering the latter months of their pregnancy and being denied routine prenatal care. I spoke to a woman diagnosed with cancer who has pleaded to anyone she can reach to spare her life and to deport her. While that may put her safety at risk, she said at least if she is deported, she may be able to get cancer treatment and fight for her life.

Mr. Speaker, what the other side wants is for us to harp on our differences and to get distracted, but let me say this: A threat to one of us is a threat to all of us. A cage is a cage at a for-profit prison or at a detention center.

Everyone deserves to live free from fear. Policy is not abstract. It is not a dusty document on a shelf. Policy determines who lives. Policy determines who dies. Policy determines who survives. Policy determines who thrives.

These disparate outcomes are the result of policy choices. There is no deficit of resource in this country, only a deficit of empathy. I will tell you this: Every day I will use each tool I have to fight for the lives of my constituents, neighbors, and families across this Nation that I have never met. Lives depend on it. Our greatest wealth as a nation is the health of our people, and Black health matters.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments. It is my pleasure now to yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. FIGURES).

Mr. FIGURES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on an urgent issue that affects the health, well-being, and prosperity of Black families, not just across the State of Alabama that I call home, but across this country, the staggering healthcare disparities that persist across this country and across too many counties in districts like mine, the Second Congressional District of Alabama.

Let me be clear at the outset: I do not subscribe to the notion that healthcare is a luxury, that healthcare should be available to those who can afford it, that healthcare should be dependent on where you come from, where you were born, the ZIP Code that you reside in. I believe that healthcare is a basic human right. We know Jesus gave it for free.

I subscribe to the notion that no one should be left without access to a doctor, a hospital, or an ambulance simply because of where they are from. The disparities should not be as drastic as they are for people of color. Yet, in places like Barbour County and Washington County and Conecuh County across my district, the data tells the devastating story about who has access to care and who has historically been left behind.

I know this is not just unique to Alabama. We see it in South Carolina. We see it in Massachusetts, as my colleague just spoke about. We see it in Mississippi, Georgia, and other places as well, where Black residents face

higher rates of those chronic, preventable diseases and illnesses such as hypertension and diabetes. They suffer disproportionately from things like stroke and heart attack.

Too often, they live miles from the nearest hospital or clinic, particularly in these rural areas, these rural parts of America, where we are seeing hospitals closed. We are seeing them shut down. We are seeing it more difficult for them to even access basic care.

We see in places across Alabama where maternal mortality rates for Black women are more than double that of White women. I am proud to be from the State of Alabama, but I am not proud of all of its health statistics. In fact, I am not proud of most of them.

Alabama is America's worst State for maternal mortality. More women die after childbirth in the State of Alabama than anywhere else in America, period. That is not just Black women, that is women in general. The disparity for Black women is alarming, more alarming in that context. It is just unacceptable.

We are seeing across the State of Alabama, particularly in our rural counties, which if you know anything about the South, those rural counties in the South typically have higher Black populations, going back to the historical role and the historical place that they were for slavery, and the descendants stayed there. We are seeing hospitals in these rural communities shut down.

This leads to cuts in just general healthcare services, and they create healthcare deserts, forcing folks to drive in some cases, literally, hours for basic care, in some cases well over an hour to be able to get to a hospital.

Just in my home State alone, in this district that I ran in, we saw several hospitals close just across the 13 counties that compose my district, just while I was running for office. Just while I was running for office, we saw at least four shutter.

We are on pace in my district alone to see every single hospital close within the next several years that are not located pretty much in just Mobile or Montgomery. That is unacceptable because it creates conditions that make it tougher for Black people to be able to receive care, for all people to be able to receive care.

The disparities in access we know are well documented, so we know that that burden will disproportionately hit the African-American community. This is places that have contributed so much to this Nation, places like Tuskegee, Alabama, that gave us so much, places like Troy, Alabama, that gave us John Lewis, places like Montgomery, Alabama, where their largest hospital is in bankruptcy right now.

We have to be cognizant of the impact that this is going to continue to have on the African-American community, and we have to be focused on solutions, but we also have to understand

how we got here. This is not just something that we stumbled upon. It is not that the data didn't show us that this was coming. This is the result of historic underinvestment and the direct result of policy choices historically and policy decisions that we continue to make to this day.

I am in Alabama. We are one of just 10 States that has not acted on the common wisdom of expanding Medicaid, and that is exacerbating the issues that we have from a healthcare standpoint. We haven't expanded Medicaid. This is in a State that for all intents and purposes has pretty much the lowest life expectancy in America. I think we are technically third by some decimal points, so congratulations, we live a few weeks longer in the State of Alabama than, say, West Virginia and Mississippi.

It is nothing to really be proud of. We are at the bottom of the barrel. Yet, we haven't expanded Medicaid, which is one of the reasons that the first piece of legislation that I joined when I was fortunate enough to be sworn into this body was the COVER Now Act, which would allow counties and cities to be able to get Medicaid expansion funding directly and get through the resistance that the State has put up now for well over a decade.

We have got to do better than that. We can continue to ring the alarm, but we have to do better. We have to. We have to address the underlying causes and the underlying issues here. We have to understand that these counties where these hospitals have been closing that insurance remains out of reach because the jobs aren't there. We have to understand that preventative care in many of these places is also just a dream because the condition of the communities don't warrant healthcare practitioners setting up shop there or staying there.

I don't care who you are. I come from Alabama, we treat Nick Saban, and rightfully so, as the greatest college football coach of all time, but I can tell you one thing about this: Nick Saban could not close a recruiting pitch to a business to come relocate in a county that does not have a hospital. I don't care who you are. Businesses don't want to relocate there. Hell, businesses don't even want to remain there.

How do you get retirees to want to come back home where they grew up and set up shop, and you tell them, we don't have a hospital, we don't have a geriatrician? Seven of the thirteen counties in my district don't even have a pediatrician. We have to get serious about addressing this issue in the community. It is an existential threat, it truly is.

We know the other statistics: Black Alabamians are more likely to suffer from diabetes and amputations that result from them or to die from untreated cancers or undiagnosed cancers or late-diagnosed cancers and experience preventable complications from just general chronic illnesses.

When it comes to kidney disease and dialysis access, the results are alarming. People in the State of Alabama have been trying to get me to come visit as many healthcare facilities as possible to shed light and to give more context behind what's really happening in the healthcare system in the State of Alabama. The dialysis community brought me in for a tour last week in Montgomery, Alabama, at the DaVita Center.

You see these nurses and technicians that are doing God's work in keeping people alive, but one thing jumps out at you. You can't help but see that every patient in there looks like me. Every kidney dialysis patient looks like me, and so I asked: Is this just a certain day or is this how it goes? They had representatives from five or six facilities there, and all of them said the same thing: No, our patient rolls are about 90 percent Black. That is because this is impacting people of African-American descent and Black people in this country in the way it is not impacting other races.

We have an obligation, a moral duty as a nation to figure out why. That is why cuts to things like NIH aren't productive. It is not helpful. It is harmful. If you ever want your conscience to be shocked, walk into a dialysis treatment facility in probably any community in this country, then do the statistics yourself. Ask yourself why that is and why can't we figure that out. Why are we not investing more resources, more time, and more attention and focus on trying to improve healthcare outcomes for Black people in this country? We have to. We must.

We must start this process by expanding Medicaid in States like mine, the State of Alabama. We must do that. Nobody should have to choose between getting treatment and putting food on the table. There are too many people who should be able to go see a doctor who are not because they refuse to expand Medicaid.

We also have to invest in our healthcare infrastructure, particularly in our rural healthcare infrastructure, bringing back those hospitals and clinics and bringing in telehealth hubs, leveraging every resource we have to improve healthcare outcomes. We have to increase funding for Black maternal health initiatives because these are problems we should not be having in 2025.

In 2025, we should not be having nearly as many women die from childbirth complications and pregnancy-related causes as we do. When you look at the disparities racially, it is stark. It is shocking. We have to get to the bottom of why that is.

We have to continue to address those environmental health threats in places like Alabama and across the country, where you see disproportionately higher rates of cancer in certain communities because they are located in certain places. We have to be serious about this.

It is a privilege to be able to speak on the importance of this issue, especially under the leadership of Representative CLYBURN.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. FIGURES for his comments.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCGUIRE). The gentleman from South Carolina has 8 minutes remaining.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, thank you very much. I am going to take just a couple minutes to thank all of my colleagues from the Congressional Black Caucus for being here this evening.

To reiterate a little of what we have heard here today, I represent a congressional district in South Carolina that includes ZIP Code 29203. It happens to be the ZIP Code that I live in, Columbia, South Carolina. My house in Columbia is about 5 or 6 minutes from the site of the new medical school of the University of South Carolina. I represent the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. The ZIP Code I live in, where that new medical school will be located in, 29203, is the home of the highest percentage of amputations because of the late detection of diabetes. There is a reason for that. There is a reason. We all know what that reason is.

□ 2030

Mr. Speaker, as a Congress and as a country, we must do the things that are necessary to remove these disparities. With people living within the shadow of two medical schools and some of the best hospitals, there is no reason for this. They cannot avail themselves of the services in these buildings that they live in the shadows of because of the socioeconomic conditions.

We have got to make healthcare more accessible and more affordable for all of our citizens. We have a great system. There are people I have traveled with on codels who refuse to go to a doctor or even their dentist in another country. They wait to get back home to avail themselves of this great healthcare system that we have in this country.

The problem is it is not accessible to everybody and not affordable by everybody. We need to do something about that. We have a way to do it. I would hope that over the next several days and weeks we will develop the will that is necessary to do so.

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

SUPPORTING UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Ms. KAPTUR of Ohio was recognized for 30 minutes.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this evening, along with several colleagues, I am here to discuss Ukraine and the necessity of Ukraine winning the war

against Russia's invasion. I will be joined by Congressman MIKE QUIGLEY of Illinois and Congresswoman MAD-ELEINE DEAN of Pennsylvania.

As I begin, please let me remind the President of our country, our Vice President, and Secretary of State that freedom means never surrender. Liberty must never capitulate to dictatorship. America does not live alone on this Earth. Our Nation lives in a free world alliance, and this alliance is being tested globally every single day.

Especially America's leaders cannot turn their back to Russia's murderous forces bearing down including illegally on Ukraine. History is clear. The dictatorship of Russia takes what is not theirs. Russia invades territory that does not belong to it.

If one looks at this map, Russia is a vast country of 11 time zones. It does not lack for territory. Here is Ukraine. Just think about that. West of that lies Europe. Study the map. Mr. Speaker, if you know nothing about Europe and that vast continent, think about 11 time zones and then our closest allies in the free world. Let that settle.

The facts speak for themselves. If my colleagues need more proof, ask Poland, Georgia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and a dozen other countries that Russia covets. They cast off the Russian bear just a few decades ago, and Russia wants them back.

Russia taunts our closest military allies across the European Continent. Together, we and our allies honor our collective memory of our collective sacrifice and bloodshed that built the free world that the generation before us gave us.

The Trump administration has proposed that the United States abandon and even scold our European allies. Let me be clear. Our Nation intergenerationally and painstakingly has built the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, a global fortress of democratic nations.

Across Europe, from the ruins of World War I and World War II lie the precious graves of 411,516 American soldiers and—no one knows exactly—35 million to 50 million Europeans who died fighting or in the crossfire.

These heroes and heroines fought for the cause of liberty. Then they built a world order in which they attempted to enshrine it. Forged from that coalition of suffering, our joint commitment to defend freedom above all else prevails.

This moment for Ukraine—Russia and Ukraine—is a key moment in history. It is our generation's crucial test of freedom or subjugation. No succor can be allowed to a murderous dictatorship, no matter how many of Russia's rich oligarchs seek to plunder and steal from the sacred soils and minerals of Ukraine. The free West must stand united and say no.

Lovers of freedom must not ignore history. Putin's illegal invasion of Crimea and other stolen territories in Ukraine should be forbidden and turned back. Conquest is his perversion and

his corruption. No stolen territory from Ukraine should be ceded to Putin. Spanning 11 time zones, Russia holds enough territory.

Having traveled there many times, Vladimir Putin ought to take care of his own country. They have got major problems. Putin should help his own nation thrive again. He has no need for Ukraine, which is among the poorest Nations in Europe. Look how they are fighting for liberty. It brings tears to my eyes.

Putin's plunder seeks to reconstitute the dictatorship, the vanquished Soviet dictatorship, that extended as far West as here. He wants those smaller countries. He wants them back. He longs for them, but they are not his.

Putin now issues an ultimatum. He says there will be no peace deal unless Ukraine agrees to surrender territory that Russia ruthlessly and illegally seized and invaded, this little country, just as he did in Georgia.

The United States, as leader of the free world, must never, ever genuflect to tyrants. Aggressor Putin wants the United States to walk away from the negotiating table. According to the terms the U.S. Vice President and Secretary of State laid out today, those terms include ceding Ukraine's territory to Russia. I say no. Nyet. Nemaye. No.

The fact is Russia is losing the war it started without provocation. In 2014, she began during the Olympics, so no one would notice how she went in the back door. It is losing the war that Putin started. He escalated it in even bloodier fashion when he initiated a full-scale invasion in the year 2022.

Sadly, every step of the way, the Trump administration has conceded to Putin's demands without Ukraine's consent. He cannot negotiate for Ukraine. It is not his. Russia does not recognize international agreements. It never has.

For example, following World War II, Russia broke its border commitments made at the Yalta Conference with its conquest of Poland. That caused Poland to disappear as a free nation until the very brave "solidarity," "solidarnosc" demonstrators in Poland trip-wired the collapse of the Soviet Union beginning in 1989.

Then in 1994, Russia signed the Budapest Memorandum to guarantee Ukrainian security. For that, Ukraine gave up all the nuclear weapons that were staged in Ukraine.

In 2014, while the Olympics were ongoing in Sochi, Putin invaded Ukraine when people were distracted around the world and later turned that into a full-scale invasion in 2022. To his surprise, Ukraine has held them off.

Recently, Putin even violated the cease-fire on targeting energy and civilian infrastructure just negotiated by the Trump administration a few weeks ago. Putin cannot keep a deal.

This should make it crystal clear that dictator Vladimir Putin and his thug state cannot be trusted. Read his-

tory. Why would the U.S. President, Vice President, Secretary of State, or any world leader believe that communist dictator Vladimir Putin and the Russian regime will hold to any peace agreement? Russia never keeps its word.

The only way to force Russia to abide by such an agreement is to include strong security guarantees for Ukraine. The world community must do that. A peace accord must ensure Russia will remain inside its own borders or face serious global sanctions, so severe they will cripple and collapse the Russian economy.

Short of that, with the apparent abdication of the U.S. President, Vice President, and Secretary of State, Ukraine has everything to lose and Russia everything to gain. Who would want that outcome? What kind of mindset would want that?

The White House isn't leading a legitimate peace process. It is enabling the globally aggressive reach of the most lethal dictatorship in Europe. The free world must not allow this. Putin will take everything he wants and more unless he is stopped.

America must not appease dictators. We should support our fierce allies to fight dictatorship with every fiber in our being. Ukraine needs ammunition and arms. We must send them. They are not asking us to fight, but they are asking us to help arm them along with our European allies.

Defending freedom's alliance is our highest calling here—to protect and defend the American people and our Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) and from the great city of Chicago, our capable co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, we want peace. Ukraine desperately wants peace but not as a result of what would be in effect a Putin-Russia victory.

We want peace and not appeasement that would reward a brutal Russian invasion with land gains that officially recognize Crimea as Russia, with land gains that give de facto recognition to four other large areas. In time, then Putin would recognize his ability to come back and finish the job. We want peace but not without security assurances from the U.S. and its allies. We want peace but not without accountability.

I stood on the grounds of Bucha and the mass grave. I have seen the flattened maternity hospital. I have learned of the tens of thousands of kids kidnapped by the Russians. These Ukrainian children were taken into Russia, never to see their families again.

□ 2045

We want peace but not with what would, in effect, be a message to autocrats and tyrants across the world that they have a green light to take lands

not their own. Recognizing that Putin's ambitions go well beyond Ukraine to Moldova, Georgia, the Baltics, and Poland, coupled with this administration's proclamation that, in effect, NATO is on its own.

I paraphrase the concerns raised by Secretary Austin and General Milley that if we don't stop Putin's aggression now, then we will pay later with more blood and dollars.

We must recognize at the same time that we simply can't trust Putin to keep a deal, which is why the security guarantees are so important.

Indeed, our leadership here is a strategic and moral imperative, but this administration has never said who it wants to win this war. It has blamed Ukraine for starting the war. It has put absolutely no pressure on Putin to negotiate in good faith while it paused aid to Ukraine.

The President has finally recognized what is obvious to the rest of the world: Putin is in no hurry to be engaged in peace talks.

He knows he has a 4- or a 6-1 manpower advantage, and he treats his troops as cannon fodder. He knows that this administration will not provide another aid package.

So, we have to ask ourselves: Why does this matter at this point?

It is for the same reasons we fought the Second World War, to prevent a sovereign democratic nation from being wiped off the face of the Earth, for the same reason we formed NATO, and for the same reasons we formed the United Nations.

It is effective and important now to remember the Presidents who have echoed these warnings and these concerns. In FDR's last inaugural, he said that we have learned that to have a friend, we need to be a friend and that our welfare is dependent upon the welfare of nations far away. In John F. Kennedy's inaugural address, he talked of opposing any foe and supporting any friend to aid the causes of liberty. Finally, ironically, is the Reagan doctrine, which we have supported ever since, that we will support our allies against Soviet aggression at any cost. Unfortunately, the Reagan doctrine seems to be lost upon what was once the party of Reagan.

It is for those reasons that we must continue this and do what we can to support our allies and our friends because it is in our interests, too.

Mr. Speaker, I will finish with Slava Ukraini.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman QUIGLEY for his strong and constant support of Ukraine. I thank the gentleman so much for representing the State of Illinois and the thousands and tens of thousands of citizens there who so deeply care about victory for Ukraine.

Let me now move to a highly capable Member from the eastern part of the great State of Pennsylvania, Congresswoman MADELEINE DEAN.

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative

MARCY KAPTUR and Representative MIKE QUIGLEY for so ably, faithfully, and loyally co-chairing the Congressional Ukraine Caucus for us and for bringing us here to the floor tonight to remember how urgent it is that we support Ukraine and how urgent it is that we support the peace process that results in the protection of the sovereignty of Ukraine and its democracy.

We have reached a Chamberlain or Churchill moment. As cease-fire negotiations start and stop between Ukraine and Russia, the United States must stand firm in our support of Ukraine's young democracy.

History makes clear that appeasing a bloodthirsty dictator in Europe simply does not work. It only encourages him to continue his aggression, press for more territory, and shed more innocent blood.

Just last week, Russia launched a barbaric missile strike on Kyiv that killed and injured more than 100 Ukrainians.

Since Russia began this unprovoked war more than 3 years ago, tens of thousands of Ukrainians have paid with their lives, and we must never forget the more than 20,000 children from Ukraine who have been forcibly deported by Russia and remain missing.

I remind our President and our Vice President that it was Putin who started this ruthless and illegal war more than 3 years ago and, we must not forget, 11 years ago in Crimea.

To endorse a so-called peace deal that fulfills Russia's every wish and forces our Ukrainian allies to bend to Putin's will by ceding their sovereign territory is beyond disgraceful. It is disgusting, and it is un-American.

This weekend, I was struck by the images of President Trump's private meeting with President Zelenskyy at the Vatican, which took place as the world mourned the passing of Pope Francis. Pope Francis was a global leader of humility, of empathy, and of service. He was a faithful man who advocated for peace, not appeasement. That must be our goal.

Last week, I joined a bipartisan group of lawmakers on a trip to the United Kingdom, Israel, Jordan, and Denmark to meet with our allies abroad. I met with European leaders, and over and over, I heard the same refrain that they want to work with us. They want us to stay with them. They are increasing their military support for defense as is their obligation, and they want to do whatever we can to ensure Ukraine's protection and sovereignty because what happens to Ukraine and its young democracy happens to theirs and happens to ours.

The conversations were filled with such emotion and a clear desire to do the right thing. As cease-fire talks continue, may we strive for an end to this devastating war, to its suffering for all of Europe, frankly, but obviously so much so for the people of Ukraine, and we must do it through strength.

I will end with this: With the passing of the Holy Father and holding on to a

promise of my faith, he reminded us over and over again of the Gospel of Matthew: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

I plead for this administration to help bring us peace, no appeasement, peace through the sovereignty of the democracy that is Ukraine, our friend and our ally.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman DEAN so very much for joining us and for her firm, firm support of Ukraine and all she has done to give light to the children of Ukraine and thousands upon thousands, over 20,000 minimum, stolen by Russia and taken back to Russia from the arms of their parents in Ukraine as Russia tries to reprogram their brain to become Russian.

I think that the leadership of the gentlewoman has been very important during this entire period of the war and for all the people who have died needlessly, as Ukraine is the scrimmage line for liberty on the European Continent. As the map behind the gentlewoman so well illustrates, any American or reasonable person looking at that would say: Why is Russia picking on such a small country?

The fierce fighting that the Ukrainians have exhibited through bravery against that is profound.

I am just so honored, and I know the gentlewoman feels the same way, to have met President Zelenskyy and so many of his advisers, individuals in the military, and wounded soldiers. Russia has lost over 100,000 soldiers. We are not sure how many. It is a lot. Those soldiers didn't have to die. They could be doing things in Russia to help Russia.

I have traveled there. I have seen the level at which people live. The Russian people deserve better.

Why is Putin wasting all this money on arms? He needs to be investing in housing. I have gone up eight-story skyscrapers where—I won't even talk about the sanitary conditions, but they are not good. I have been into wards with people who are mentally ill, and I have seen the sad situation in which they live. I couldn't even imagine someone from my family having to exist in those conditions.

I have walked across the country in different places and met Russians who are trying to make a go of it by growing food and getting it into the bigger cities.

I have tried to visit religious institutions in Russia and learned how the government there suppresses free religious expression. They force any church there, if they even allow it in, to speak in Russian, not the native language, let's say, of where the people might come who would want to have that ceremony in multilingual or even translated and be able to listen to that. Russia doesn't do that. She is very inward.

The birthrate is going down in Russia. I have been in birth wards in Russia. I wouldn't recommend that to any

woman, if you could see how poorly they are accoutred and how poorly they are provided for.

There is a major alcoholism and drug problem in Russia, as well.

I think Vladimir Putin ought to take care of his own people and not have dibs on Ukraine just because he is one of the largest militaries in the world.

I think the Ukrainian valor has been astounding.

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. I do. They are noble in what they have done.

Ms. KAPTUR. They need everything. They need tourniquets. I mentioned arms. They need to be remembered.

The Government of the United States is only about one-quarter of our economy, but 75 percent of our economy is private. People can send boxes. They can remember them. They can send money through Western Union to the people of Ukraine and to help those who are living in Poland in order to help them meet the costs of having the refugees who come from Ukraine into Poland. There is so much Americans can do.

People in my district raised money to send a shower, for them to buy a shower so they could put it in the local school so people could actually clean themselves where the lights keep going off and Russia makes it hard for people.

You can send seed, Mr. Speaker, so that it is easier for people to be able to plant in their gardens. They are very thrifty and practical people. They are educated. Many of the Ukrainians I meet speak several languages. They want to meet the world. They don't want to be put inside a cage again. That is really what they face.

I wanted to say a few things about my family if the gentlewoman wanted to add anything now. I wanted to mention a few of the people I have met who fought during World War II and allowed for some of Europe to be free.

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, maybe I will end by just thanking Representative KAPTUR again for the lead she has taken on this. It means a lot to my district.

As my friend knows, I have a very large Ukrainian-American population, cultural center, churches, and just extraordinary constituents. I learned so much from them.

As Ms. KAPTUR says, they have prepared—whether they are Ukrainian-American or not, the folks in my district care desperately about this. I have one woman who has been physically a part of delivering ambulances to Ukraine and so many other materials.

We ought to look at the folks, the people of Ukraine, led by President Zelenskyy, with such admiration. We ought to say that we should do everything we possibly can to support them, everything they need to win. We have to finish that sentence: Everything they need to win.

The win must not be through some sort of appeasement. It will not help. It

will not work. Putin will go on to seek other territory and other land. He is very hungry for that. We must learn the lessons of Neville Chamberlain in 1938 and 1939, where he thought he was going somewhere toward peace and, of course, 1 year later, Hitler walked into Poland.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend very much for yielding.

Slava Ukraini.

Ms. KAPTUR. Slava Ukraini. I know that the people who are listening tonight and will hear our words will say: What can we do, MARCY? What can we do to really help them?

I said that children in classrooms can write little notes and send them. If they use the internet and if they have internet capability, then send them a note. Teachers all over our country: Don't expect just the Government of the United States to do this. The American people are powerful in their own right.

If you do shoe drives where you have a school or a company and you see that everybody has some pairs of shoes that don't fit them that still have a lot of good wear, then put them in a box and send them off.

The same thing is true with aspirin and creams for people's hands. They work with their hands. They need gloves to work with the soil. They raise their own food. They live at a simple level.

Sweaters and boots for the men as they go through the forests, and bicycles—there are so many things that are needed there that we just throw away. We just throw away material and plastics so that they can keep the wind out of their very humble homes in the wintertime.

I think there are so many things that people just take for granted that are here but that are, especially during a time of war, so expensive for them. Their salaries have been cut, and I think Americans can do a lot. Be creative. Do for them what you would do for your own family, Mr. Speaker.

□ 2100

I want to mention, as I think about and reflect when I was first elected to Congress, there was a Congressman from California named Tom Lantos. He was a Holocaust survivor. He was from Hungary, and he was imprisoned by Hitler. He used to come to the floor, and he fought so hard for the fall of the Soviet Union and for liberty across Europe.

I remember him and I want to honor him this evening and say to his family—I know some live in New Hampshire, and others live in California. They are scattered in other places, I think. He was such a great inspiration to us because of what he had suffered. He was driven to ensure that what happened in his lifetime would never happen again.

That is what is at stake right now: liberty in Europe, our closest allies. We do not live in this world alone. We have

340 million people. China has a billion and a half. Russia has about 130 million. Other countries in Europe have much smaller populations, but when the United States puts its population and our military strength together with our NATO allies, with our allies in the Pacific, all of a sudden, you can see liberty's umbrella, and it is armed to protect our people. To date, we have been able to do that.

I give credit to Members like Tom Lantos.

Also when I arrived, we had a Congressman named Jack Brooks of Texas, who had been a pilot decorated during World War II. He never talked about it, didn't talk about his honors.

I can remember when John Kennedy was killed, Jack Brooks was on that airplane that came back to Washington with the body of John Kennedy, who fought during World War II, a young President that we lost because of an assassination here but who had fought for our liberty.

We paid honor today to John LaFalce. As a younger Member of Congress, I remember going with Congressman LaFalce on a delegation over to Europe during the 1980s, when I was first elected, the first decade of my service. I pay tribute to him and to what he taught us, what we saw.

I pay tribute to my own family, to Uncle Stanley Rogowski, who was D-Day 4 on Normandy's beaches, wounded in action, came home, lived a full life, helped educate me about what liberty really is: freedom from oppression. Freedom is the condition of being free. Liberty is being freed from tyranny. He was a part of that.

I honor Alexander Drabik, from my own district. He was a great soldier who was in the Army and was the first man to cross the Remagen Bridge in Germany, which was the turning point of the war.

Finally, I honor Roger Durbin, a veteran of our Army who gave me the idea to create the World War II Memorial here where now over 100 million people have visited to honor our heroes and our heroines.

Slava Ukraini.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MCGOVERN (at the request of Mr. JEFFRIES) for today until May 2, 2025, on account of a death in the family.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 29, 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-773. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's joint final rule — Form PF; Reporting Requirements for All Filers and Large Hedge Fund Advisers [Release No.: IA-6865; File No.: S7-22-22] (RIN: 3235-AN13) received April 8, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-774. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting a Seven-Day-After report for the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2025, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 901(a)(7)(B); Public Law 99-177, Sec. 251(a)(7)(B) (as amended by Public Law 114-113, Sec. 1003); (129 Stat. 3035); to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-775. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Wisconsin; Revised Format for Materials Incorporated by Reference [EPA-R05-OAR-2025-0059; FRL-12610-01-R5] received April 16, 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-776. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Connecticut; State Implementation Plan Revisions Required by the 2015 Ozone NAAQS [EPA-R01-OAR-2024-0193; FRL-12285-02-R1] received April 16, 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-777. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Washington; Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency, General Air Quality Regulations [EPA-R10-OAR-2024-0433; FRL-12248-02-R10] received April 16, 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-778. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Volatile Organic Compounds [EPA-R05-OAR-2023-0493; FRL-12089-02-R5] received April 16, 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-779. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Tiafenacil; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2023-0246; FRL-12678-01-OCSP] received April 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-780. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Choline Chloride in Pesticide Formulations; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2024-0190; FRL-12647-01-OCSP] received April 4, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-781. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental

Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Texas; Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Plan for Bexar County [EPA-R06-OAR-2023-0647; FRL-12276-02-R6] received April 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-782. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia; Determination of Attainment by the Attainment Date and Clean Data Determination for the Washington, DC-MD-VA Nonattainment Area for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R03-OAR-2022-0987; FRL-10551-02-R3] received April 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-783. A letter from the Associate Director, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's regulatory guide — Regulatory Guide: Standard Format and Content of Decommissioning Plans for Materials Licensees [NRC-2025-0067] received April 10, 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-784. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-785. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Central African Republic that was declared in Executive Order 13667 of May 12, 2014, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-786. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in and in relation to Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13894 of October 14, 2019, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-787. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 25-002 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-788. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 24-079 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-789. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 25-001 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-790. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 24-100 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to

Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-791. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 17-047 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to Sec 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-792. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 24-093 Certification of Proposed Issuance of an Export License Pursuant to Sec 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-793. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Reporting, Procedures and Penalties Regulations received April 8, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-794. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 26-47, "Unlicensed Establishment Enforcement Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2025", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 813); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-795. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 26-46, "Second Chance Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2025", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 813); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-796. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 26-45, "Clemency Board Waiver Authority Temporary Amendment Act of 2025", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 813); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-797. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 26-43, "On-Premises and On-site Extended Hours Program Amendment Act of 2025", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 813); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-798. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 26-44, "Certificate of Need Improvement Amendment Act of 2025", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 813); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-799. A letter from the Chief Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, transmitting the 2024 Family Court Annual Report of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, pursuant to Public Law 107-114, Sec. 4(a); (115 Stat. 2111); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-800. A letter from the EEO Director, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's FY 2024 Annual "No FEAR Report", pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, Sec. 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3241); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-801. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Hackensack River, Little Snake Hill, NJ [Docket No.: USCG-2024-0412] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received April 8, 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-802. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland

Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Cypress Passage overhead powerline demolition and removal, Atchafalaya River, LA [Docket Number: USCG-2024-1095] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 8, 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-803. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Gulf of America Technical Amendment [Docket No.: USCG-2025-0186] received April 8, 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-804. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary interim rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Okeechobee Waterway, Stuart, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2022-0222] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received April 8, 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-805. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Passaic River, Harrison, New Jersey [Docket No.: USCG-2024-1091] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received April 8, 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-806. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary interim rule — Safety Zone; Demolition of Lock and Dam 3, Monongahela River Mile Market 23.5-24.5, Elizabeth, PA [Docket Number: USCG-2025-0068] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 8, 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-807. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Umpqua River, Reedsport, OR [Docket No.: USCG-2023-0969] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received April 8, 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-808. A letter from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; Cuyahoga River, Cleveland, OH [Docket Number: USCG-2024-0393] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received April 8, 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-809. A letter from the Senior Attorney Advisor, Regulations Officer, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Performance Management Measures; Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Measure [Docket No.: FHWA-2025-0001] (RIN: 2125-AG16) received April 21, 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-810. A letter from the Director, Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Extension of Import Restrictions Imposed on Certain Archae-

ological and Ecclesiastical Ethnological Material of El Salvador [CBP Dec. 25-01] (RIN: 1685-AA03) received April 8, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-811. A letter from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Announcement and Report Concerning Advance Pricing Agreements (Announcement 2025-13) received April 8, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. JORDAN: Committee on the Judiciary. House Resolution 2240. A bill to require the Attorney General to develop reports relating to violent attacks against law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-79). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. JORDAN: Committee on the Judiciary. House Resolution 2255. A bill to allow Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-80). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. JORDAN: Committee on the Judiciary. House Resolution 2243. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-81). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GUTHRIE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. House Resolution 633. A bill to require covered platforms to remove non-consensual intimate visual depictions, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-82). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ROY: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 354. Resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 60) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to "Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles"; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 78) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Distinct Population Segment of the Longfin Smelt"; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 87) providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "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"; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 88) providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the En-

vironmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision"; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 89) providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The 'Omnibus' Low NOX Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision"; and for other purposes (Rept. 119-83). Referred to the House Calendar.

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 Ms. SALINAS (for herself and Mr. MCCORMICK):

H.R. 3029. A bill to amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act to support nucleic acid screening, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. STANTON (for himself and Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas):

H.R. 3030. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide for a discretionary increase in certain highway funding to take into account population growth of a State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 3031. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain spouses eligible for services under the disabled veterans' outreach program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BALDERSON (for himself, Mr. DUNN of Florida, and Mr. MURPHY):

H.R. 3032. A bill to ensure appropriate access to remote monitoring services furnished under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina (for herself, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. CLINE, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. LAMALFA, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. ROSE, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, and Mr. GILL of Texas):

H.R. 3033. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect and enhance the interstate shipment of firearms, ammunition, and components thereof; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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 Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina (for herself, Mr. CLINE, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. GILL of Texas):

H.R. 3034. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove short-barreled shotguns from the definition of firearms for

purposes of the National Firearms Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. COSTA (for himself and Mr. NEWHOUSE):

H.R. 3035. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 with respect to budgetary treatment of certain amounts of financial assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. COURTNEY (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. OMAR, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. NORCROSS):

H.R. 3036. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to expand coverage under the Act, to increase protections for whistleblowers, to increase penalties for high gravity violations, to adjust penalties for inflation, to provide rights for victims or their family members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.R. 3037. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to prohibit group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage from imposing cost-sharing requirements with respect to diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations; 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. FEENSTRA (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 3038. A bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act to improve the prevention of the spread of animal diseases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. GOLDMAN of New York (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MAGAZINER, and Mr. GOMEZ):

H.R. 3039. A bill to direct the Attorney General to authorize the youth gun violence prevention program; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona (for himself and Mr. BEGICH):

H.R. 3040. A bill to prohibit the use of ranked choice voting in elections for Federal office; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. HUNT:

H.R. 3041. A bill to direct the executive agencies to ensure continuity of certain federal permits that are required to develop the nation's offshore energy resources; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS (for herself, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. HURD of Colorado):

H.R. 3042. A bill to rescue domestic medical manufacturing activity by providing incentives in economically distressed areas of the United States and its possessions; 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. MCCLAIN (for herself and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina):

H.R. 3043. A bill to prohibit the use of taxpayer dollars to support animal experimentation in the laboratories of adversarial nations; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MESSMER (for himself, Mr. PFLUGER, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. OGLES, Mrs. BICE, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CLYDE, and Mr. ROSE):

H.R. 3044. A bill to prohibit institutions of higher education from mandating COVID19 vaccines for students or staff; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. HIMES):

H.R. 3045. A bill to prevent violence in the West Bank and authorize the imposition of sanctions with respect to any foreign person endangering United States national security and undermining prospects for a two-state solution by committing illegal violent acts; 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. NORCROSS (for himself, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. BUDZINSKI, and Mr. OLSZEWSKI):

H.R. 3046. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to establish Workers Memorial Day as a Federal holiday; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 3047. A bill to require the Director of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia and the Director of the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia to reside in the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. BROWN, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ):

H.R. 3048. A bill to establish Ocean Innovation Clusters to strengthen the coastal communities and ocean economy of the United States through technological research and development, job training, and cross-sector partnerships, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Science, Space, and Technology, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. RAMIREZ (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. CASAR, and Ms. PRESSLEY):

H.R. 3049. A bill to amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 and the Internal Revenue Code to promote the establishment of tenant organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each

case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. TENNEY (for herself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. CLINE):

H.R. 3050. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from contracting with companies engaged in a boycott of Israel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. TLAIB (for herself, Ms. SIMON, Mr. NADLER, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. MCBRIDE):

H.R. 3051. A bill to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, or its successor, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide assistance for individuals affected by exposure to Agent Orange, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. TLAIB (for herself, Ms. SIMON, Mr. NADLER, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. MCBRIDE):

H.R. 3052. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide assistance for individuals affected by exposure to Agent Orange, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 3053. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study on interagency data sharing and collaboration between the State agencies that administer WIC, SNAP, and Medicaid, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THANEDAR (for himself, Mr. MFUME, Mr. NADLER, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois):

H. Res. 353. A resolution impeaching Donald John Trump, President of the United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. HAYES (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H. Res. 355. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of April 28 through May 2, 2025, as "National Specialized Instructional Support Personnel Appreciation Week"; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H. Res. 356. A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 13, 2025, through April 26, 2025, as "National Young Audiences Arts for Learning Week"; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

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 Ms. SALINAS:
H.R. 3029.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
By Mr. STANTON:
H.R. 3030.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I
By Mr. BACON:
H.R. 3031.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution.
By Mr. BALDERSON:
H.R. 3032.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina:
H.R. 3033.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 7 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution
By Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina:
H.R. 3034.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 1 of Amendment II of the Constitution.
By Mr. COSTA:
H.R. 3035.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Art. 1, Sec 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
By Mr. COURTNEY:
H.R. 3036.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mrs. DINGELL:
H.R. 3037.
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 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. FEENSTRA:
H.R. 3038.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York:
H.R. 3039.
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 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. HAMADEH of Arizona:
H.R. 3040.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is constitutionally authorized under Article I, Section 4, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, which states: "The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of choosing Senators."
By Mr. HUNT:
H.R. 3041.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, clauses 1 & 3

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:
H.R. 3042.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 1
By Mrs. MCCLAIN:
H.R. 3043.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
By Mr. MESSMER:
H.R. 3044.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.
By Mr. NADLER:
H.R. 3045.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. NORCROSS:
H.R. 3046.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18
By Ms. NORTON:
H.R. 3047.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution
By Ms. PINGREE:
H.R. 3048.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mrs. RAMIREZ:
H.R. 3049.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United State
By Ms. TENNEY:
H.R. 3050.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I
By Ms. TLAIB:
H.R. 3051.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 1 of the Constitution.
By Ms. TLAIB:
H.R. 3052.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 1 of the Constitution.
By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:
H.R. 3053.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: [The Congress shall have Power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:
H.R. 142: Mr. HARIDOPOLOS.
H.R. 210: Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
H.R. 211: Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
H.R. 219: Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
H.R. 220: Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
H.R. 260: Mr. BAUMGARTNER.
H.R. 268: Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 286: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
H.R. 307: Mr. FROST and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 330: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 369: Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 404: Mr. RULLI.
H.R. 407: Mr. WHITESIDES and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 452: Ms. GILLEN and Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.
H.R. 486: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 516: Mr. BISHOP.
H.R. 530: Mr. HARIDOPOLOS.
H.R. 539: Mr. POCAN and Mr. VASQUEZ.
H.R. 612: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 660: Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
H.R. 703: Mr. KNOTT and Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 717: Mr. STEUBE and Mr. MIN.
H.R. 746: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 768: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. CASE.
H.R. 785: Mr. BARRETT.
H.R. 801: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 802: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 834: Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 898: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 902: Mr. BACON and Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 909: Mr. AMO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mrs. HOUGHIN.
H.R. 930: Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 960: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 961: Mr. GILL of Texas.
H.R. 979: Mr. SIMPSON and Mr. GIMENEZ.
H.R. 1004: Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 1027: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 1055: Mr. EDWARDS.
H.R. 1061: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 1065: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 1094: Mr. FINSTAD.
H.R. 1106: Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 1121: Mr. BELL.
H.R. 1130: Mr. TIFFANY and Ms. DE LA CRUZ.
H.R. 1145: Mr. MAGAZINER and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 1151: Mr. THANEDAR, Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY, Mr. GOSAR, Ms. FRIEDMAN, Mr. EZELL, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. ELFRETH, and Mr. HARRIGAN.
H.R. 1171: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1172: Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 1175: Ms. PETTERSEN.
H.R. 1178: Mr. VINDMAN.
H.R. 1181: Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 1210: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 1227: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 1229: Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 1232: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WOMACK, and Mr. GILL of Texas.
H.R. 1262: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 1269: Mr. FOSTER, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. CAREY, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Ms. MORRISON, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 1286: Mr. OBERNOLTE and Mr. HILL of Arkansas.
H.R. 1287: Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
H.R. 1329: Mr. DOWNING, Mr. FLOOD, Mrs. MCCLAIN, and Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 1361: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 1376: Ms. MCBRIDE.
H.R. 1378: Mr. GUTHRIE.
H.R. 1379: Mr. BEGICH.
H.R. 1421: Mr. STEUBE and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 1441: Mr. KENNEDY of New York.
H.R. 1464: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 1477: Mr. SOTO and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 1505: Ms. ELFRETH.
H.R. 1517: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1529: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1539: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 1548: Mr. MEUSER, Mr. BRESNAHAN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. KEAN.
H.R. 1551: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mrs. BICE.
H.R. 1565: Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 1616: Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. SEWELL, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 1659: Mr. TAYLOR and Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
H.R. 1701: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 1713: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina and Mr. SESSIONS.
 H.R. 1734: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
 H.R. 1745: Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 1782: Mr. BACON and Mr. SMUCKER.
 H.R. 1806: Mr. TONKO.
 H.R. 1810: Mr. BELL and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
 H.R. 1835: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Ms. RAN-DALL, and Ms. STANSBURY.
 H.R. 1873: Mr. ALLEN and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
 H.R. 1880: Mr. MENENDEZ.
 H.R. 1903: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
 H.R. 1918: Mr. NEGUSE.
 H.R. 1957: Mr. MRVAN.
 H.R. 1970: Ms. TLAIB.
 H.R. 2002: Ms. SEWELL.
 H.R. 2005: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 2013: Mr. YAKYM.
 H.R. 2029: Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 2033: Mr. PAPPAS and Ms. MENG.
 H.R. 2045: Mr. HORSFORD.
 H.R. 2055: Mr. LAWLER.
 H.R. 2059: Ms. NORTON and Mr. PALLONE.
 H.R. 2072: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 2081: Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. MCBRIDE, Mr. BAUMGARTNER, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. BYNUM.
 H.R. 2083: Mr. FLOOD.
 H.R. 2094: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. MACKENZIE, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
 H.R. 2117: Mr. BACON, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
 H.R. 2126: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina.
 H.R. 2148: Mr. PAPPAS.
 H.R. 2149: Ms. SHERRILL.
 H.R. 2213: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.
 H.R. 2225: Mr. HIMES.
 H.R. 2234: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
 H.R. 2240: Mr. MCCORMICK.
 H.R. 2257: Mr. MEUSER.
 H.R. 2290: Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. LaLOTA, and Ms. ROSS.
 H.R. 2294: Ms. PINGREE and Ms. STEVENS.
 H.R. 2306: Mr. AMODEI of Nevada.
 H.R. 2311: Mr. CARSON, Mr. SWALWELL, and Mr. OLSZEWSKI.
 H.R. 2316: Ms. MCBRIDE.
 H.R. 2332: Mr. BACON.
 H.R. 2333: Mr. WHITESIDES and Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 2346: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
 H.R. 2350: Mr. BRESNAHAN.
 H.R. 2352: Ms. MORRISON and Ms. STANSBURY.
 H.R. 2381: Mr. TONKO and Mr. BISHOP.
 H.R. 2392: Mr. THANEDAR.
 H.R. 2410: Mr. BAUMGARTNER.
 H.R. 2459: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
 H.R. 2462: Mr. KUSTOFF.
 H.R. 2469: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Ms. TLAIB.
 H.R. 2486: Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 2487: Mr. MAGAZINER.
 H.R. 2496: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
 H.R. 2509: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. OBERNOLTE.
 H.R. 2531: Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. MCBRIDE, Ms. CHU, Mrs. RAMIREZ, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 2532: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY.
 H.R. 2540: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. VAN DREW.
 H.R. 2550: Mr. MIN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. NEAL, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
 H.R. 2558: Mr. WIED.
 H.R. 2559: Mr. BELL.
 H.R. 2575: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina, and Mr. BAUMGARTNER.
 H.R. 2577: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 2585: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. BELL.
 H.R. 2586: Mr. POCAN.
 H.R. 2595: Mr. VARGAS.
 H.R. 2600: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
 H.R. 2603: Mr. KUSTOFF and Mr. BELL.
 H.R. 2671: Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, and Ms. KAPTUR.
 H.R. 2676: Mr. PERRY.
 H.R. 2687: Mrs. BICE, Mr. CARSON, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. FIELDS, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. MULLIN.
 H.R. 2706: Mr. CLINE.
 H.R. 2708: Mr. RULLI and Mr. STAUBER.
 H.R. 2709: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
 H.R. 2722: Mrs. SYKES and Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 2729: Mr. ROUZER.
 H.R. 2736: Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 2737: Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mrs. McIVER, and Ms. ADAMS.
 H.R. 2740: Mr. PALMER.
 H.R. 2743: Ms. MORRISON.
 H.R. 2753: Mr. FIGURES and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
 H.R. 2762: Mr. MEEKS.
 H.R. 2788: Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY.
 H.R. 2798: Ms. STEFANIK.
 H.R. 2808: Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. SHERMAN.
 H.R. 2819: Mr. SCHMIDT.
 H.R. 2841: Mr. GILL of Texas.
 H.R. 2850: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. BACON.
 H.R. 2853: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota and Mr. FONG.
 H.R. 2854: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. VASQUEZ, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. RULLI, and Mr. BISHOP.
 H.R. 2856: Mr. HUFFMAN.
 H.R. 2867: Mr. COSTA.
 H.R. 2872: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. BOST.
 H.R. 2888: Mr. VEASEY.
 H.R. 2897: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
 H.R. 2906: Mrs. TORRES of California.
 H.R. 2937: Mr. VEASEY.
 H.R. 2941: Mr. BISHOP.
 H.R. 2942: Mr. SORENSEN.
 H.R. 2965: Mr. MEUSER, Mr. SCHMIDT, Mr. FINSTAD, and Mr. BEAN of Florida.

H.R. 2968: Mr. LaLOTA and Mr. STAUBER.
 H.R. 2971: Mr. PETERS.
 H.R. 2994: Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, and Mr. LATIMER.
 H.R. 2999: Mr. DELUZIO.
 H.R. 3015: Mr. BALDERSON.
 H.J. Res. 28: Mr. HARRIS of Maryland.
 H.J. Res. 38: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
 H.J. Res. 87: Mr. MOORE of West Virginia, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. FONG, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MESSMER, and Mr. BAUMGARTNER.
 H.J. Res. 88: Mr. FONG, Mr. MESSMER, Mr. OGLES, and Mr. YAKYM.
 H.J. Res. 89: Ms. TENNEY, Mr. MESSMER, Mr. OGLES, Mr. FONG, Mr. YAKYM, and Mr. MOORE of West Virginia.
 H. Con. Res. 8: Mr. BEGICH.
 H. Con. Res. 16: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Mr. BRESNAHAN.
 H. Con. Res. 26: Mr. LAWLER and Mr. VARGAS.
 H. Con. Res. 27: Mr. LaLOTA.
 H. Res. 70: Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mrs. SYKES, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SCHOLTEN, and Mr. FIELDS.
 H. Res. 106: Mr. DOGGETT.
 H. Res. 166: Mr. BRESNAHAN.
 H. Res. 181: Ms. CHU.
 H. Res. 279: Mr. LaLOTA.
 H. Res. 306: Ms. RANDALL.
 H. Res. 326: Mr. GREEN of Texas and Mr. SWALWELL.
 H. Res. 340: Ms. TLAIB, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. CASE, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. BISHOP, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. NORCROSS, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. TONKO, and Ms. CRAIG.
 H. Res. 343: Mr. SESSIONS.
 H. Res. 344: Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, and Mrs. MCBATH.
 H. Res. 345: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
 H. Res. 349: Mr. LAWLER.
 H. Res. 351: Ms. NORTON.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H. Res. 326: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,
 PT-1. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the People of Idaho, Idaho, relative to a petition for Redress of Grievance and Remonstrance against specific judges; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.



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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.
O Lord most holy, we confess to You our unworthiness. Grant that we may every day crave those dispositions which shall make us worthy to be called Your children.

Lord, bless our Senators. Guide them so that in all getting, they will receive understanding. Whatever they lose, may they retain Your powerful providence, growing in grace and in a deeper knowledge of You.

Lord, give them a hunger to know Your sacred Word and a willingness to follow Your precepts. Consecrate with Your presence the road our lawmakers travel, and lead them to Your desired destination.

We pray in Your loving Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUDD). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Iowa.

WORLD AUTISM MONTH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, April is World Autism Month. This month is a time to recognize the millions of Americans living with autism.

Over the years, we have made progress in increasing awareness and enhancing resources for individuals living with autism. I have worked to pass the Kevin and Avonte's Law, which helps families locate missing loved ones living with autism, Alzheimer's, dementia, and other conditions that may cause them to wander.

The law is named in honor of two young boys with autism, Kevin Curtis Wills from my State of Iowa and Avonte Oquendo from New York, who tragically lost their lives after wandering from safety.

This law provides resources to train first responders and law enforcement, helping each to respond more effectively to these situations. It also provides State and local grants to support communication tools that assist families to quickly locating missing loved ones.

The purpose of this month is to increase the understanding of people living with autism. I am proud that Kevin and Avonte's Law is helping to do just that by enhancing the protection and safety of individuals living with autism.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

REMEMBERING POPE FRANCIS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, before I begin, I want to mention Pope Francis, who died last Monday.

Since he became Pope in 2013, Pope Francis captured the world's attention with his simplicity. He had great compassion for the least among us, and he sought them out wherever he went.

In his final homily on Easter Sunday, he reminded us not to remain stationary, but to go out seeking Jesus everywhere and in everyone. And that is how he lived, going out into the world seeking Jesus and bringing the Gospel to those that he met.

I trust that he is now at home with his Father in Heaven.

My thoughts and prayers are with South Dakota Catholics and all those who are mourning this humble servant of God.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, we are kicking off the week today with a vote on a former colleague of ours, David Perdue, to be Ambassador to China. We will be working through several other Ambassador nominations this week, including our Ambassador to our close friend and ally Great Britain.

I don't need to tell anybody that it is important to have these individuals in place. We are going to continue to confirm the President's Ambassadors as expeditiously as possible.

We are also going to continue to focus on filling out the rest of the President's administration. The President needs to have his team in place so that he can do the job he was elected to do. I intend to make sure that happens as quickly as possible.

We have already set a brisk pace on nominations, confirming more than 50 to date. We are going to have a lot more nominees coming out of committee. I want to make it very clear that we are going to process those nominees in a timely fashion. As I have

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



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said before, we can do this the easy way or the hard way. But one way or another, we are going to get it done. The President needs to have his team in place, and we have a lot of other work to do.

Speaking of some of that other work, before Easter, the House and the Senate took a major step forward on a permanent extension of tax relief for American families by passing a budget resolution that will allow us to proceed to a final bill. We have been working toward the text of this final bill for months, and drafting has only accelerated since passage of the budget resolution. I am looking forward to the House and the Senate taking up the final legislation.

Mr. President, there is a lot on the line here. The tax relief the Republicans passed in 2017, which puts more money in Americans' pockets, is set to expire at the end of this year. Without congressional action, in 2026, tax rates will increase, the child tax credit will be cut in half, and the standard deduction will be nearly halved. Americans making less than \$400,000 a year would see a \$2.6 trillion tax hike, and a typical family of four making \$80,000 would be sending an additional \$1,700 to Uncle Sam. Republicans do not intend to let that happen. Our final bill will not only extend the 2017 tax relief for hard-working Americans, it will make it permanent.

In addition to permanent tax relief, our final legislation will invest in our border, energy, and national security. All three have suffered in recent years under the Biden administration, and Republicans are committed to securing our border, unleashing America's abundant energy resources, and ensuring that our military has the resources it needs to deter and defeat any threat.

Finally, our legislation will also include substantial savings measures as we take a hard look at how we spend taxpayer dollars and work to get our country on a more sustainable fiscal path.

Work on drafting this legislation continues. As we consider nominations, measures to repeal burdensome Biden administration regulations, and other legislation on the floor, off the floor, we are getting ever closer to a final bill. It is going to be great.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD J. DURBIN

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, last week, our dear friend, the senior Senator from Illinois and the Senate Democratic whip, announced he will not seek reelection next year. I will have a lot more to say about DICK DURBIN—one of my close, close friends and someone I roomed with for close to two decades—before he departs, but for now, let me say just this: Senator DURBIN has left an indelible mark on the Senate, on our caucus, on Illinois, and on all of America. He has been a champion for justice and helped Senate Democrats confirm a record number of Federal judges last Congress. He has been a tireless advocate for Illinois families and people in need, and he has been a close and trusted member of my leadership team.

I know Senator DURBIN will spend every remaining minute of his term fighting for Illinois and America and fighting for justice. I look forward to fighting alongside him, as we always have together.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION FIRST 100 DAYS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, the first 100 days. Well, this week, President Trump marks 100 days as President. It has been 100 days of hell for American families, for our economy, and for our democracy. The start of Donald Trump's second term has been the worst start of any President's in modern times. He now has the lowest approvals any President has seen through his first 100 days since they started polling 80 years ago.

Tomorrow night, Senate Democrats will take to the floor to highlight the disaster of Donald Trump's first 100 days. We will expose his broken promises. We will expose his lies. We will expose the ways he is threatening democracy. So we will take to the floor and expose Donald Trump as a disastrous President in his first 100 days. We ask America to listen.

On the day he became President, Donald Trump promised a golden age for America. Today, that seems laughable. Instead of a golden age, what Americans have gotten is one of the most chaotic, corrupt, and harmful starts to a Presidency in modern history. Before our very eyes, the man who occupies the Oval Office is destroying the foundations of our democracy.

Federal law enforcement is arresting people with little due process, even going as far as arresting a judge in Wisconsin. At least four U.S. citizens—all of them children, two suffering from cancer—have been illegally deported. It is sickening. It is immoral. Arrest a judge to try to threaten and scare judges, which he has done before, saying he is about impeachment and other things? Freedom of expression and the rule of law are under attack. Government has been weaponized against the

free press, against academic and judicial independence, against anyone who might disagree with Donald Trump.

Donald Trump doesn't want to be President of a democratic republic. He has said he wants to be a King or some kind of dictator. He said: Let me be a dictator for one day. But his actions show he wants to be one for much longer.

Meanwhile—meanwhile—billionaires like Elon Musk have been handed the keys to the Federal Government with little accountability.

Donald Trump claims he is a better President than George Washington, but he takes inspiration more from the likes of Viktor Orban or worse.

So 100 days into Donald Trump's second term, what exactly do Americans have to feel good about? Is it that Donald Trump's trade war has pushed our country to the brink of recession? Is it that his tariffs will cost families an average of \$4,700 annually? Is it that CEOs and business owners are warning about rising costs, empty shelves, and an economic downturn? Maybe it is that the Dow Jones is on track for its worst April since 1932.

The truth is, Donald Trump's Presidency is no golden age; it is a disaster—the worst start to a new administration in modern times.

Americans are already fed up. Americans are already beginning to see that Donald Trump has betrayed them, that Donald Trump's campaign promises before he won election and his actions as President are almost in direct contradiction on issue after issue after issue. They are seeing that Donald Trump is not on their side; he is not on the side of working families. He is on the side of the billionaires, and we are all suffering for it.

What happened during recess corroborated all of this. For the last 2 weeks, my Democratic colleagues and I have seen Americans' frustrations firsthand. During the Easter recess, I traveled from one end of my State to the other. I visited six of seven congressional districts represented by Republicans in Congress in New York, and I spoke with small business owners, seniors, healthcare workers, veterans, local electeds, Republicans, Democrats, Independents—people from all walks of life. People are anxious about tariffs driving up their costs, about inflation eroding their paychecks, and are fearful for the future of Social Security.

Last week, I met with the owner of a women's clothing shop in Suffolk County, a well-known woman in Suffolk County, the head of a very successful business, Tandy's clothes, and a longtime fan of the President. She said she proudly voted for him—right when I was standing there—but now she said her small business wouldn't be able to absorb the shock of a prolonged trade war, that her costs were already up 30 percent. This is a Donald Trump voter who is angry at these tariffs.

No one I met over the last 2 weeks believed we were entering the golden

age Donald Trump promised. Instead, I heard worry; I heard frustration from Republicans; I heard a lot of buyer's remorse.

Republican Members from those districts I visited are nervous, worried, and scared as could be. They know their voters don't agree with Trump, but they are too scared to buck him. In the upcoming reconciliation, we will see what they do. Will they side with Trump against what Americans need and want or will they have a little courage? We are very, very worried about the future of this country with so much at stake.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, so let's talk about what is going to happen in the Senate in this period, in this work period.

Now, we convene at the start of this pivotal work period. This week, Republicans are expected to begin marking up the text of their reconciliation bill.

With so many problems facing our country, with a threat of recession on the horizon, with tariffs driving costs up, and Elon Musk taking a meat cleaver to Social Security, to veterans' care, and to cancer research, what are Republicans in Congress spending their time on? They want to cut taxes for billionaires and make working people pay for it. They want to add over \$52 trillion—trillion dollars—to the national debt. I think of my grandson when I think of that. They want to make the biggest cuts to Medicaid ever. This is the Republican agenda: Billionaires win. American families lose.

Republicans have gotten by so far with a bunch of empty and deceptive promises that none of the outrageous cuts they propose will come back to harm ordinary Americans. But their rhetorical runway is quickly going to run out. Soon, they will have to show everyone the real details of their legislation, and it is not going to be pretty.

Even if Republicans pass a fraction of the cuts they are proposing to Medicaid, it would devastate communities—urban, suburban, and particularly rural. The cost of healthcare will come up for those least able to afford it. Healthcare workers would lose their jobs. Millions could lose coverage. And for what? So billionaires can pay less in taxes. It is a revolting—thoroughly revolting—agenda.

Democrats will vehemently oppose this bill and all the harmful elements of the Republican agenda at every opportunity.

Tomorrow, as I said a moment ago, Senate Democrats will take to the floor to highlight the disaster of Trump's first 100 days.

On Wednesday, we will take to the Senate steps and join in one voice with our House counterparts to decry the ways this President has already—already—only 100 days in, failed our country.

In the coming weeks, we will continue to oppose deeply unqualified nominees who have no business serving in government. We have seen that already, for instance, with the antics of Mr. Hegseth.

We will also fight Donald Trump's disastrous trade war. Soon, the Senate will vote on bipartisan legislation I cosponsored with Senators WYDEN, KAINE, and PAUL that nullifies Donald Trump's trade war. To nobody's surprise, the President has already threatened to veto this bill.

Senate Republicans who know how bad tariffs are for their States should join us to nullify Donald Trump's trade war and ignore his veto threat, and, if necessary, we should override the President's veto. These tariffs are so bad and are already pushing America into recession.

"Recession" is an economic word for shrinking growth. But what does it mean to American families? More likely to lose a job, harder to find a new job, more likely to have prices go up and not be able to afford those price increases.

Finally, Senate Democrats will do what Senate Republicans refuse to do: conduct oversight on this administration. We will do it on our own. That means pushing for investigations into the leadership failures at the Pentagon. What Hegseth did there was horrible. It means pushing back against attacks on Social Security. It means resisting the defunding of public resources like PBS. It means exposing the chilling arrests of Americans without due process.

Day after day after day, we will hammer home the Republican agenda, and Americans will see the difference between Democratic unity and Republican disarray.

It is no wonder Republicans are in such disarray—House Republicans fighting with one another, Senate Republicans fighting with one another, and Senate and House Republican leadership not even on the same page. That is incredible. Why? Because their programs are so unpopular with the American people.

Democrats are united in our mission to lower costs for families, protect healthcare, defend American democracy. Meanwhile, Republicans are at loggerheads with each other.

As I said, House Republicans are fighting among themselves. Senate Republicans are fighting among themselves. Leadership in both Chambers are at odds. And why do Republicans face this situation where they are so at odds with one another? The simple answer is, again: because their agenda is so unpopular with the American people, and neither House—and no Republican Senator—wants to be left holding this hot potato.

The backlash Republicans are getting from the public—whether it is town halls, in the streets, or through dismal polling data—should serve as a warning to our colleagues on the other side: If

they proceed with their agenda, the political outcry will be enormous, just enormous.

So as long as Donald Trump pushes America down the dangerous road we are already on, he will face resistance from Democrats, from the courts, and, most importantly, from the American people themselves.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic whip.

REMEMBERING POPE FRANCIS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, my grandparents and my mother and her two siblings immigrated to the United States from Lithuania in the year 1911. They came over on a ship from Germany to Baltimore and found their way to the city of my birth, East St. Louis, IL.

There are very few things left from that voyage experience so long ago. My grandmother had brought with her a Lithuanian Catholic prayer book that was considered, at the time, to be contraband in Czarist Russia. It is a family treasure. I still have it. I keep it in my office as a reminder of her faith and mine.

Today, I join people across the world and mourn the passing of Pope Francis. He was forgiving, hopeful, and committed to the notion of peace.

Francis taught us that there is no one "right" way to be a Catholic; that the church can shape you, and you can shape the church, and in the process, he made the church stronger.

Ten years ago, Pope Francis became the first Pope to deliver a joint address to Congress. I was honored to be present for that historic speech and to shake his hand.

The Holy Father spoke in that speech about one of my political heroes, Abraham Lincoln. And Pope Francis reminded Members of Congress that:

You are called to defend and preserve the dignity of your fellow citizens in the tireless and demanding pursuit of the common good, for this is the chief aim of all politics.

Pope Francis used his platform to highlight the plight of immigrants and refugees, to ask compassion for those in the LGBTQ community whom the church had historically shunned, to advocate for peace in distant waters, and to protect our environments.

Like myself, Pope Francis was the child of immigrants, and he often reminded us of our responsibility to welcome the stranger.

In a recent letter to American Catholic bishops, Pope Francis affirmed our Nation's right to "defend itself and keep communities safe." But he raised serious concerns about mass deportation, which "damages the dignity of many men and women, and of entire families, and places them in a state of particular vulnerability and defenselessness."

His message is so timely as our government ignores due process and, through an administrative error, sends

a person to a hell-hole prison in El Salvador and deports a 2-year-old to Honduras.

In one of his final public acts, Pope Francis offered remarks for Easter Sunday. He was so ill he was unable to deliver the speech himself, so it was read by one of his assistants. It was a speech of peace. It was a speech of hope. It was a speech of a truly good man. In it, he pled:

On this day, I would like all of us to hope anew and to revive our trust in others, including those who are different than ourselves, or who come from distant lands, bringing unfamiliar customs, ways of life and ideas.

Over the weekend, it was my honor to join Senator SUSAN COLLINS and three of our colleagues as part of a delegation of five Senators who represented the U.S. Senate at Pope Francis' funeral at Vatican City.

The crowd was overwhelming. Estimated in the hundreds of thousands, they came from every corner of the Earth. Just in our small section was a delegation in business suits from Lesotho in Africa. There were Buddhists in bright orange robes, members of the Italian Parliament, a turbaned Sikh delegation from India, and our bipartisan House delegation, led by NANCY PELOSI and Republican Leader STEVE SCALISE.

Thousands of Catholic clergy on the altar and in the audience wore vestments representing every shade of the colors of scarlet and red. But the vast crowds of mourners and celebrants were simply admirers of Francis, who, in his humble way, touched so many lives. At the front of the altar was his simple wooden casket.

The funeral ceremony was in Latin—the language of the Catholic Church when I was a young altar boy at St. Elizabeth's Church in East St. Louis, IL, in the 1950s.

As I witnessed this solemn mass and read from the text, I could hear in my mind the rusty hinges of an opening door taking me back to the Latin mass and Gregorian chant of my childhood. It is all still there, “*deo gratias.*”

How did this mass differ from the funeral of John Paul decades ago? I remember the crowds of Polish mourners who were there with their red and white flags for John Paul II. But with Francis, what struck me were the many waves of spontaneous cheering from the vast crowd when reference was made to his simple message for immigrants, for peace, and for understanding.

Who could forget his five words:

Who am I to judge?

They defined his humility and his humanity for so many of us.

After the ceremony, I went back to my hotel room and turned on my television. There was a recurring segment every few minutes. It showed a simple photograph of Francis and the Italian words, which I will probably mispronounce. They were: “*Grazie Francesco. Il papa della gente.*” Trans-

lated to English: “Thank you, Francis, the Pope of the people.”

We must continue to hold fast to the message of Pope Francis to love and respect one another. In a world of hate and fear, his message of peace and understanding is needed now more than ever.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BRITT). The Senator from Arkansas.

TRIBUTE TO PEYTON BOLLING

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize and congratulate an exceptional Arkansan, Peyton Bolling, as we celebrate her making history as the first Miss Arkansas' Teen to be crowned as Miss America's Teen. Our State is home to many talented, intelligent, and service-oriented young people, achieving tremendous accomplishments, and Peyton is truly a wonderful example of that.

She is a Rogers native and a senior at Bentonville High School and grew up in a military family. Her parents, Colonel Ryan and Patrice Bolling, have supported and nurtured her interest in community betterment and service from a young age. That passion led her to serve as a U.S. Senate page, which only deepened her appreciation for our system of government that invites all Americans to play their part in shaping the future.

I was pleased to meet her while she was in the Page Program and then reconnect after she claimed the Miss Arkansas' Teen title, last summer. It is encouraging to see her pursuing her new, larger platform to inspire positive change and promote civic engagement to America's next generation of leaders, and I am thankful she can now take this effort nationwide and give back in such a meaningful way.

What makes this all the more impressive is that Peyton's success in the pageant world came not after years of practice and experience but on her first try. The poise and maturity she has demonstrated in competition, but also in so many other facets of life, are serving her incredibly well as she represents our community, the State of Arkansas, and our Nation.

So, today, I am pleased to celebrate how far Peyton has come and recognize her special place in Natural State history. I look forward to all she will accomplish as Miss America's Teen and beyond.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

TRIBUTE TO AMANDA LINCOLN

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, oh my gosh, I wish I didn't have to rise today because I rise to say goodbye but also to honor someone who has been an incredibly important member of our Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee team and, before that, in my personal office team. Amanda Lincoln is leaving Capitol Hill after 15

years of service to the Congress and to our country.

Amanda joined my personal office after she had served as staff director and legislative director for the late Senator Mike Enzi. In my personal office, she was integral to advancing policies to improve the lives of all Americans, spearheading laws that increase access to generic drugs, boost domestic manufacturing of medical products, and enhance forecasting of epidemics. She also was a partner in brainstorming solutions to emerging and vexing policy challenges, like how to finance gene therapies and protect patient privacy.

Now, it was interesting. When we began to work on the bipartisan infrastructure bill, I had a group of six, and there was no one of them that had been tapped as a leader. And there were just alpha males in there, and there was this and there was that. And just organically, Amanda emerged as the leader among that group.

One of the young men who was on that project, with strong personality and strong intellect—and I just kind of wasn't quite sure how that would manage—and he goes: I just got to tell you, Amanda is doing a great job.

I am thinking: Well, how in the heck did that happen that she emerged as the leader among all of these strong possibilities, and there was never any sort of jostling?

It was just her talent, her ability to understand process and direct negotiations that, once more, organically made her the leader.

She never worked before on transportation and energy, and yet transportation and energy became something in which she is expert at.

So although she left my office after that—my personal office—when I became the ranking member on the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, I was asked: Well, who is going to be your staff director?

And I remembered her ability to lead so well that I said: Let's ask Amanda Lincoln.

Fortunately, she took the job. Since then, I have learned to trust her for consequential decisions that helped us on that committee chart a successful path.

Now, first in the Republican minority and now as Republican chair, we have been able to pass laws enhancing research into childhood cancer and making sure students receive financial aid packages on time to choose the best affordable college option for them. We have passed legislation to address hazing incidents on college campuses, to reform Federal programs that better address Alzheimer's and autism, and to promote access to healthcare in rural areas.

We passed legislation through the committee to strengthen services for American seniors, to improve public health readiness toward the next pandemic, to make sure that healthcare workers could access mental health

and substance use care—if you will, those healthcare workers burned out, stressed out, sometimes to the point of suicide by things such as the COVID pandemic, they now have greater support—to help Americans caring for family members with disabilities and other challenging medical conditions.

Amanda also led oversight efforts, including the recapturing of \$375 million of taxpayer funds wrongfully paid.

As in my personal office, Amanda led efforts to develop policy solutions to some of the most pressing issues of our time—personally, I think it is important for our country to address the potential risks and benefits that artificial intelligence pose to society, and to make sure that it is designed, developed, and deployed responsibly—also, to modernize the National Institutes of Health, ensuring we sustain our advantage in biomedical research and that Americans get innovative treatments first; to ensure that gig workers have access to portable benefits, like retirement and healthcare; to modernize HIPAA or the medical privacy framework to ensure it keeps pace with new technologies and that Americans' private health data is properly protected.

Amanda has been on the ground floor of all of these ideas, helping to kickstart debate and to generate solutions that I hope to pass into law as chair of that committee. She also led the committee's efforts to swiftly confirm all of President Trump's Cabinet officials under our jurisdiction and to ensure rapid confirmation for key public health officials, like the FDA Commissioner and the NIH Director.

Occasionally, I would get some phone call: How come these appointees are not advancing?

I would say: That is because we have not received the paperwork.

But once we got the paperwork, we took care of it. And that was Amanda's husbanding of the process.

All that I have described would not have been possible without her leadership and guidance. I just thank her, and I am incredibly indebted for her loyalty, service, and steadfastness.

Now, as you know, Madam President, someone who works here on the Hill—particularly if it is a “madam,” particularly if it is a she, particularly if it is a mom, a wife—has not only the responsibilities of being that staffer or that Senator or that Congresswoman, but she has the responsibility, as well, of being that mom and of being that spouse, that partner.

Everybody sacrifices weekends, nights, precious times with family in the service of our Nation. Amanda embraces that—perhaps embraced it too much.

I say, again, that this is bittersweet. Her departure is a loss for my office, but a loss for the institution of the Senate. She will be missed by all. But our loss is the gain of her husband JP and their beautiful girls, Caroline and Amelie.

It has been an incredible pleasure watching Amanda grow personally and

professionally. I am proud to call her not only a trusted adviser but a dear friend.

I wish her well. I look forward to seeing her start a new chapter in her professional journey.

Once more, I thank her for her service to this body, the Senate, and to the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Texas.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S.J. RES. 49

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, at a time to be determined by the majority leader following consultation with the Democratic leader, no later than Wednesday, April 30, S.J. Res. 49 be discharged from the Committee on Finance, and the Senate proceed to its consideration; further, that there be six hours of debate only, with the time equally divided between the leaders or their designees on the joint resolution and that following the use or yielding back of that time, the joint resolution be read a third time and the Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution.

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

TEXAS

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, on another matter, we have just arrived back in the Nation's Capital following a couple weeks back home, and I am glad to report that I was able to put that time to good use.

It is no secret that Texas is one of the best places in the country to do business, and that was certainly confirmed by my visit back home these last couple of weeks. I had the opportunity to visit with some of our most impressive businesses, from major manufacturing facilities to local, family-owned small businesses.

One such visit was to Daikin Texas Technology Park in Waller County, a suburb of Houston. There, I had the opportunity to tour their facility and attend a townhall with many of their employees. It is a truly impressive facility, employing more than 10,000 workers in our State and leading the world in the engineering and manufacturing of heating and air-conditioning products.

I also visited Alliance, TX, which is actually in Tarrant County or Fort Worth, which is now a massive, master-planned, mixed-use development in

North Texas. Alliance is home to a number of important businesses, residential neighborhoods, and a thriving island inland port that boosts our country's supply chains. Located along an interstate with rail and air access, at 27,000 acres, Alliance is nearly double the size of Manhattan. From its inception in 1990 until today, Alliance has had an incredible \$130 billion economic impact on our State.

Now, as you might imagine, one of the major themes of my discussion back home was the importance of our major task at hand here in the Senate, which is extending the expiring provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. While we made an important first step by passing the budget resolution in the House and the Senate, now the various committees of jurisdiction have their work cut out for them to pencil in the details of the precise policies that will then require the President's signature.

I spent a great deal of time back home hearing about the importance of these tax cuts and how they have benefited not just Texas families but small businesses throughout the State.

I know most of the time when we think about job creators, we think about Fortune 500 companies, but the fact is, in Texas and across the Nation, it is our small businesses that are the primary engine of job creation.

In the Dallas area, I met with Andy Ellard, the owner and general manager of Manda Machine Company, a third-generation, family-owned company in Dallas. Andy's grandparents founded the company in 1950, operating the business out of a back room in their house. Eventually, when the time came for them to retire, they sold the business to their daughter and her husband, who in turn sold it to their children. Now more than seven decades later, Andy and his siblings are the third-generation owners of Manda Machine Company. Now, if that is not the American dream, I don't know what is.

Andy told me how beneficial the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was for his family business. He said that over the last 3 years, he has been able to invest \$80,000 in improving his business as a result of that legislation. So if the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is not extended at the end of this year, Andy and his employees in this small business will lose out on these benefits that have helped his business grow and thrive and provide employment for other families.

I visited another place in the Rio Grande Valley, this one called 5x5 Brewing Company. This is a veteran-owned, as it sounds, brewery which is dedicated to brotherhood, tradition, and, yes, you guessed it, great beer. This tradition is reflected on their menu as many of their signature beverages have names of military significance.

There at 5x5, we had a panel discussion of small business owners, including Luis Espindola, who is one of the coowners of 5x5 and a Marine Corps veteran. I met with other business

owners at that panel, like Sarah Hammond, who owns Atlas Electrical Air Conditioning, Refrigeration & Plumbing Services. Sarah is known as a pillar of her community, serving as chair of the Rio Grande Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and helping to oversee the management of Hummingbird Trailer Park. On top of this, she is involved with an organization dedicated to helping develop and empower other women business owners.

Then there was Jessica Delgado, who, having worked in the restaurant industry since age 16, now owns multiple restaurants, and she serves on the board of the Texas Restaurant Association and is a former chairwoman of the Texas Restaurant Foundation.

Another impressive woman small business owner was Hortencia Camargo, the owner of C4 Transport and Hacienda La Hortencia and a licensed Realtor in McAllen, TX, and she is also the founder of GRASP, which advocates for safe gun storage practices around children.

I also had the chance on this same panel to visit with representatives of the agricultural sector, including Dante Galeazzi—I am going to butcher Dante's name—Galeazzi, who is president and CEO of Texas International Produce Association, who emphasized to me how beneficial the Trump tax cuts were for Texas farmers and ranchers.

The message I heard from all of these impressive Texas entrepreneurs, job creators, and pillars of the community was simple: The Trump tax cuts helped their businesses grow and flourish, providing benefits not only to themselves and their families but to their employees and their broader communities.

Stories I heard from my fellow Texans like Andy, Luis, Sarah, Hortencia, Jessica, and others show how patently false the accusation is of our Democratic colleagues who somehow claim that this is just to benefit rich people. The fact of the matter is, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is not about helping the wealthy few at the expense of ordinary Americans, contrary to the Democratic talking points.

You know, I have been here working in Washington—or what I like to call the forward operating base in hostile territory—for some time now, and the truth is, you get these prevailing narratives that get repeated over and over and over again and written about by the press that simply have no basis in fact or reality.

The truth is, if we fail to extend the expiring provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, 62 percent of American taxpayers will see their taxes go up. Obviously—on top of a 40-year high inflation, which has raised input costs across the board by about 20 percent or more as a result of the policies of the previous administration, that obviously would have a tremendously negative impact on our economy and the standard of living, like the folks I mentioned back home.

This is really about lifting up hard-working men and women across the country. The tax cuts are about helping every hard-working American achieve their dreams. If President Trump's tax cuts are not extended, as I say, virtually everybody or at least a significant supermajority of American working families will see a tax increase. Texans specifically will see taxes increase about \$3,000 on average. I am sure every single one of my constituents can think about somewhere better to spend that \$3,000 than to write a check to the IRS. Small business owners like many of the folks that I met with these last 2 weeks would see tax hikes of nearly 50 percent, and working families could see their child tax credit cut in half, along with the standard deduction, which was dramatically increased in 2017.

Despite these hard facts, our Democratic colleagues continue to peddle the myth that President Trump's tax cuts are just for rich folks. It couldn't be more clear that these claims are nothing more than just that—myths.

So I urge my fellow Republican colleagues to never mind the naysayers across the aisle. The American people, on November 5, gave us a job to do. We took the important first step by passing the budget resolution just before the Senate adjourned, and now that we are back in Washington, it is time that we finish the job.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD J. DURBIN

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, everyone enters public service hoping that they can make a difference, but few have the ability or the fortune to do as much good as Senator DICK DURBIN has over his long and storied career.

Since stepping into these Halls of Congress more than 40 years ago, Senator DURBIN has fought passionately for his constituents back home in his beloved Illinois and Americans all across the country. And while so many of us have already benefited from his extraordinary work, both knowingly and unknowingly, his legacy will continue to improve the lives of Americans for many years to come.

To know Senator DURBIN is to understand he is as decent and as principled as leaders come. He is dogged in his fight for fairness and justice but humble in sharing the credit for all of his successes. He is willing to work with everyone but will never compromise his values for anyone.

Over the years, he has picked some very difficult but worthy fights. And he

has won time after time, paving the way for cleaner air on airplane flights, leading the fight against torture, lifting up the voices that are too often left behind in Washington.

A trial attorney by training, Senator DURBIN can never look away from injustice, no matter how pervasive or how entrenched. No challenge was too daunting. He felt an obligation to try to fix it. Outraged by the conduct of the war on drugs that had imprisoned generations of Black and Brown men without a meaningful path to rehabilitation, he worked for years to pass the Fair Sentencing Act and the First Step Act. Those laws have since helped to reduce overcrowding in prisons, lower criminal recidivism, and revitalize communities across the country.

Shocked by the plight of Dreamers who spent their lives calling America home but without the papers to prove it, Senator DURBIN has been on the frontlines of the push to put them on a path to citizenship. It is a fight that still continues and one that I know Senator DURBIN will keep at for as long as it takes.

Anyone who has served in this body long enough knows that there are those votes that test your resolve and weigh heavily on your conscience. And for so long, Senator DURBIN has been a uniquely consistent voice of moral clarity and conscience, not just when it is easy or when it is obvious but especially when it is hard and even when it is lonely.

In 2002, he was among a small group of Senators who voted against the invasion of Iraq, cautioning against the dangers of acting hastily on fear rather than fact. Years later, in the throes of the war on terror, Senator DURBIN became an outspoken critic of the U.S. Government's use of torture in foreign prisons. In both instances, he was criticized and condemned at the time. In both instances, history has rendered his judgment as the right and patriotic one.

It has been one of the true privileges of my career to serve as his chief deputy whip and to watch him work his magic during floor debates and in the Judiciary Committee. He is a gentleman of the Senate through and through. I will never forget the time he took to talk about my dad's legacy on this very floor. I know that he has shown that kind of thoughtfulness and care to so many, even when facing his own loss.

I am lucky to call him a mentor and friend, someone who I have learned as much from and rely on for counsel and perspective over many years.

The good news for the country, for me, and for all of us colleagues is Senator DURBIN's work here in the Senate is far from over. We are lucky to be able to count on his leadership and example, as always, in the 2 years ahead. But for now, I want to thank Senator DURBIN, his family—especially his wife Loretta—and his excellent staff for their decades of extraordinary service

to the State and to the Nation. We are all better for him.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

UKRAINE

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I come to the floor today to add my voice to the many who are commending President Trump as he works toward peace in Ukraine.

The President recently gave the aggressor, Russian dictator Vladimir Putin, every chance to put down his guns and end the killing. He has done that over and over, but our President is now showing that he will not wait on Mr. Putin forever. Every time Ukraine and the United States have extended the hand of peace, President Putin has responded with aggression. With one hand, Vladimir Putin always makes a show of participating in peace talks. With the other, he has repeatedly bombed civilians—a clear war crime, a war crime—including just on Sunday of last week, Palm Sunday, when he bombed worshipers and children who were playing on a public playground.

On Saturday, the day before yesterday, the President took Mr. Putin to task for this brutality, and I commend the President for doing that.

The President said:

There was no reason for Putin to be shooting missiles into civilian areas, cities and towns, over the last few days. It makes me think that maybe he doesn't want to stop the war—he's just tapping me along—and has to be dealt with differently.

Thank you, Mr. President, for saying that.

One of the President's staunchest supporters in this body echoed that statement just yesterday.

Senator KENNEDY of Louisiana said:

[P]utin thinks that America has taken the bullet train to chump town.

Chump town.

The President is right, and Senator KENNEDY of Louisiana is right. There is one man to blame for this war. If Vladimir Putin puts down his guns, there will be no more war. If Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Ukraine put down their guns, there will be no more Ukraine. That is the simple truth, and I appreciate the President expressing that forcefully.

Then, today, GEN Jack Keane, a very respected observer and officer and official in the Institute for the Study of War, expressed essentially the same sentiments as Donald Trump expressed the day before yesterday and as Senator KENNEDY expressed yesterday. On

FOX News this morning, General Keane gave the President due credit for pursuing peace in Ukraine. The general noted that President Trump, understandably, seems to be running out of patience with Putin's intransigence.

I know that many Members of this Chamber are running out of patience too.

General Keane then asked a simple question: Which side has shown that it wants a peace deal? Both sides claim they want peace, but what is the evidence?

And here is the truth: The truth is that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has shown that he is interested in peace. He has negotiated at length with the administration. Ukraine and its President agreed to a 30-day cease-fire. Vladimir Putin rejected the idea. Instead, Putin initiated an agreement to halt attacks on energy infrastructure, and then he immediately violated that agreement. Mr. Putin did.

Worst of all, throughout these so-called peace talks, Vladimir Putin has repeatedly taken the lives of non-combatant civilians and pummeled residential neighborhoods with bombs. Every statement Mr. Putin makes should be viewed through that lens.

President Trump is right. Too many people are dying, and that includes the Russian people who are also suffering.

The Russian people do not deserve to live under a vicious, larcenous, trillionaire president-for-life like Vladimir Putin. So far, only one side has worked to end violence.

This weekend, the Trump administration set a timeline for Vladimir Putin to choose peace, and I commend them for it. I commend Secretary of State Marco Rubio who said the President will decide soon whether Putin is interested in actually working toward a just end to the war.

All signs indicate the answer will be no. The real answer from Vladimir Putin will be no. Just this morning, the Russian Foreign Ministry published words straight from the mouth of Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. In no uncertain terms, this high-ranking Russian official rejected President Trump's peace deal.

So this is a pivotal week. I look forward to the President's decision. I would remind him and my fellow colleagues: Putin cannot be allowed to drag the United States along.

The U.S. Senate is ready to back President Trump as he stands up to Putin, on a bipartisan basis; 50 Senators—25 Republicans and 25 Democrats—recently introduced a bill called the Sanctioning Russia Act of 2025. Who says there is not bipartisanship in the Senate? Recently, 25 Republicans and 25 Democrats have introduced legislation that would introduce primary and secondary sanctions against Russia and against actors supporting Russia's aggression in Ukraine, imposing real consequences on Putin if he continues refusing to engage in good-faith talks

with Ukraine and the United States. And he has never engaged in any talks that were in good faith.

Putin repeatedly bombs civilians. He has forged a trail of broken promises. He, and only he, chose—unprovoked—to start the largest land war in Europe since World War II. Putin, and only Putin, did that. Where in any of this has there been a showing of good faith?

On Saturday, the President suggested that Putin “has to be dealt with differently.” I applaud this. My Senate colleagues applaud this. Experienced military professionals like General Keane applaud this. The President has been exceedingly patient, but he is correctly stating that there should be an end.

It is time to treat Putin like the deceptive, cunning war criminal that he is.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Perdue nomination be waived.

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

The Senator from Illinois.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote begin immediately.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 80, David Perdue, of Georgia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the People's Republic of China.

John Thune, Jim Justice, Ted Cruz, Bernie Moreno, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines, Josh Hawley, Marsha Blackburn, John R. Curtis, Tommy Tuberville, Tim Sheehy, Pete Ricketts, Joni Ernst, James E. Risch, Mike Rounds, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Eric Schmitt.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of David Perdue, of Georgia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the People's Republic of China, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "yea".

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 64, nays 27, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 214 Leg.]

YEAS—64

Banks	Hagerty	Murkowski
Barrasso	Hassan	Paul
Blackburn	Hawley	Peters
Booker	Hoeven	Reed
Boozman	Husted	Ricketts
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Budd	Johnson	Rosen
Capito	Justice	Rounds
Cassidy	Kennedy	Schmitt
Collins	Kim	Scott (FL)
Coons	King	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Crapo	Lee	Slotkin
Cruz	Lummis	Sullivan
Curtis	Marshall	Thune
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Duckworth	McCormick	Warner
Ernst	Moody	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	Young
Galleo	Moreno	
Grassley	Mullin	

NAYS—27

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Sanders
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Schatz
Bennet	Hirono	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	Lujan	Smith
Cantwell	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wyden

NOT VOTING—9

Cramer	Kaine	Tillis
Fetterman	Murray	Welch
Graham	Padilla	Whitehouse

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). On this vote, the yeas are 64, the nays are 27.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David Perdue, of Georgia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the People's Republic of China.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO DENNY LAW

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I have the privilege of recognizing my good friend, Dennis "Denny" Law, who will soon retire from his position as chief executive officer of Golden West Telecommunications. Denny's outstanding leadership and unwavering dedication to connecting South Dakota's communities with high-speed broadband have ensured that families, schools, farms, and businesses—no matter how remote—have access to the networks they need to thrive.

Denny was born and raised in our great State of South Dakota. He and his wife Bonnie have two wonderful sons Andrew and Nathan and make their home in Wall, SD. He earned his bachelor of science degree from South Dakota State University and later obtained a master's degree from the University of South Dakota. For the past three decades, Denny has been a driving force in the telecommunications industry. His expertise has proven quite valuable, and I am grateful for the many times—more times than I can count—that he has testified before Congress, highlighting South Dakota's needs in Washington.

Under Denny's leadership, South Dakota has made remarkable progress in deploying broadband services. His deep personal commitment to South Dakotans has helped expand broadband access to even the most rural corners of the State. But beyond his efforts on the ground, Denny has also been a powerful advocate for rural broadband policy, ensuring that small communities always have a voice in national conversations.

Whether championing smart broadband policies, mentoring future industry leaders, serving on national association committees, or even rolling up his sleeves to help install networks, Denny has consistently led by example. While guiding national associations through difficult policy debates and spearheading the efforts of the South Dakota rural broadband industry, Denny has ensured that community-based providers across the country are well-positioned to deliver connectivity that makes a lasting difference for rural America and for the Nation as a whole.

As he embarks on a well-earned retirement, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for his leadership, vision, and friendship. While he may be stepping away from the daily demands of

leading Golden West, his impact will endure; his legacy is hardwired into the future of rural broadband. It has been a pleasure working with you, Denny, and I pray that God blesses you and your family in the days ahead.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0C-25. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 21-68 of August 9, 2022.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0C-25

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Brazil.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 21-68; Date: August 9, 2022; Implementing Agency: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On August 9, 2022, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 21-68 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of two hundred twenty-two (222) Javelin missiles, FGM-148; and thirty-three (33) Javelin Command Launch Units (CLU). Also included were Enhanced Producibility Basic Skills Trainers; missile simulation rounds; Security Assistance Management Directorate technical assistance; Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions Project Office technical assistance; other associated equipment and services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total value was \$74 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$54 million of this total.

This transmittal reports the replacement of the previously notified thirty-three (33)

Javelin Command Launch Units (CLUs) with the following MDE items: fifteen (15) Lightweight Command Launch Units (LwCLUs). The estimated total value of the new items is \$3.1 million. The addition of these items will not result in a net increase in cost of MDE, which will remain at \$54 million. The estimated total case value will remain at \$74 million.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided as the replacement MDE items were not enumerated in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed sale will support Brazil's modernization of anti-tank capabilities.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of an important regional partner that is a force for political stability and economic progress in South America.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The Javelin Weapon System is comprised of two major tactical components: a reusable LwCLU, and a round contained in a disposable launch tube assembly. The LwCLU incorporates an integrated day-night sight that provides a target engagement capability in adverse weather and countermeasure environments. The LwCLU may also be used in stand-alone mode for battlefield surveillance and target detection. The LwCLU's thermal sight is a 3rd generation forward-looking infrared (FLIR) sensor. To facilitate initial loading and subsequent updating of software, all on-board missile software is uploaded via the LwCLU after mating and prior to launch.

The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to additional items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 23, 2025.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of

the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 25-OF. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 20-66 of October 9, 2020.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-OF

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Finland.
(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 20-66; Date: October 9, 2020; Military Department: Air Force.

(iii) Description: On October 9, 2020, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 20-66 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of sixty-four (64) F-35 Joint Strike Fighter CTOL aircraft; sixty-six (66) Pratt & Whitney F-135 engines (64 installed and 2 spares); five hundred (500) GBU-53/B Small Diameter Bomb II (SDB II) All-Up Round (AUR); twelve (12) GBU-53/B SDB II Guided Test Vehicles (GTV); twelve (12) GBU-53/B SDB II Captive Carry Vehicles (CCV); one hundred fifty (150) Sidewinder AIM-9X Block II+ (Plus) Tactical Missiles; thirty-two (32) Sidewinder AIM-9X Block II+ (Plus) Captive Air Training Missiles (CATMs); thirty (30) AIM-9X Block II+ (Plus) Sidewinder Tactical Guidance Units; eight (8) AIM-9X Block II Sidewinder CATM Guidance Units; one hundred (100) AGM-154C-1 Joint Stand Off Weapon (JSOW-C1) Tactical Missiles; two hundred (200) Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile-Extended Range (JASSM-ER) AGM-158B-2 Missiles; two (2) AGM-158B-2 JASSM-ER Separation Test Vehicles; two (2) AGM-158B-2 JASSM-ER Instrumented Test Vehicles; two (2) AGM-158B-2 JASSM-ER Jettison Test Vehicles; two (2) AGM-158B-2 Inert JASSM w/Intelligent Telemetry Instrumentation Kits; two (2) AGM-158 Dummy Air Training Missiles; one hundred twenty (120) KMU-556 JDAM Guidance Kits for GBU-31; three hundred (300) FMU-139D/B Fuzes; two (2) KMU-556(D-2)/B Trainer JDAM Guidance Kits for GBU-31; thirty (30) KMU-557 JDAM Guidance Kits for GBU-31; one hundred fifty (150) KMU-572 JDAM Guidance Kits for GBU-38/54; one hundred twenty (120) BLU-117, General Purpose Bombs; thirty-two (32) BLU-109, General Purpose Bomb; one hundred fifty (150) BLU-111, General Purpose Bomb; six (6) MK-82, Inert Bomb; one (1) FMU-139D/B (D-1) Inert Fuze. Also included were Electronic Warfare Systems; Command, Control, Communications, Computer and Intelligence/Communications, Navigational, and Identification (C4I/CNI); Autonomic Logistics Global Support System (ALGS); Operational Data Integrated Network (ODIN); Air System Training Devices; Weapons Employment Capability and other Subsystems, Features, and Capabilities; F-35 unique infrared flares; reprogramming center access; F-35 Performance Based Logistics; software development/integration; aircraft ferry and tanker support; Detector Laser DSU-38A/B, Detector Laser DSU-38A(D-2)/B, KMU-572(D-2)/B Trainer (JDAM), 40 inch Wing Release Lanyard; GBU-53/B SDB II Weapon Load Crew Trainers (WLCT); GBU-53/B SDB II Practical Explosive Ordnance Disposal System Trainers (PEST); AGM-154C-1 JSOW Captive Flight Vehicles; AGM-154C-1 JSOW Dummy Air Training Missiles; AGM-154C-1 JSOW mission planning, integration support and testing, munitions storage security and training, weapon operational flight program

software development; integration of the Joint Strike Missile; weapons containers; aircraft and munitions support and test equipment; communications equipment; provisioning, spares and repair parts; weapons repair and return support; personnel training and training equipment; weapon systems software, publications and technical documents; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost was \$12.5 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$8.4 billion of this total.

On March 19, 2021, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 21-OD of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of the addition of the following MDE items: fifty (50) Sidewinder AIM-9X Block II+ (Plus) tactical missiles; six hundred (600) AIM-120C-8 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM); up to twelve (12) AMRAAM Guidance Sections (spares); one thousand five hundred (1,500) GBU-39 Small Diameter Bomb Increment 1 (SDB I) munitions; two (2) GBU-39 (T-1)/B inert practice bombs; three hundred (300) FMU-139D/B fuzes; twenty (20) KMU-557 JDAM Guidance Kits for GBU-31; two hundred seventy-five (275) KMU-572 JDAM Guidance Kits for GBU-38/54; twenty (20) BLU-109, general purpose bombs; and two hundred seventy-five (275) BLU-111, general purpose bombs. The following non-MDE items were also included: AMRAAM Control Sections; AMRAAM Captive Air Training Missiles (CATMs); GBU-39 Tactical Training Rounds; containers; weapon system support equipment; support and test equipment; site surveys; spare and repair parts; repair and return support; publications and technical data; maintenance and aircrew training; and other related elements of logistics support. The total cost of the new MDE articles was \$1.5 billion, and the total cost of the new non-MDE articles was \$80 million. The total notified cost of MDE increased to \$9.9 billion, and the total notified case value increased to \$14.08 billion.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following additional MDE items: two hundred forty (240) Air Intercept Missiles 120D-3 (AIM-120D-3) Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM); eight (8) AIM-120D-3 AMRAAM guidance sections, including precise positioning provided by either Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Modules or M-Code; and one (1) AIM-120D AMRAAM Instrumented Test Vehicle (ITV). The following non-MDE items will also be included: weapon system support including software; KGV-135A embedded communications security (COMSEC) device; transportation and airlift support; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost of the new items is \$625 million. The estimated total cost of the new MDE items is \$578 million and does not result in a net increase in total cost of MDE. The estimated total MDE cost remains \$9.9 billion. The estimated total cost of the new non-MDE items is \$47 million and does not result in a net increase in total cost of non-MDE. The total non-MDE remains \$4.18 billion. The total case value does not increase and remains \$14.08 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided because the additional MDE items were not enumerated in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed sale will provide Finland with a credible defense capability to deter aggression in the region and ensure interoperability with U.S. forces.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national

security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology:

The AIM-120D-series AMRAAM is a supersonic, air-launched, aerial intercept guided missile featuring digital technology and micro-miniature solid-state electronics. AMRAAM capabilities include look-down/shoot-down, multiple launches against multiple targets, resistance to electronic countermeasures, and interception of high and low-flying and maneuvering targets. The AIM-120D features a quadrangle target detection device and an electronics unit within the guidance section that performs all radar signal processing, mid-course and terminal guidance, flight control, target detection, and warhead detonation.

The ITV is a captive carry test vehicle used primarily for flight test integration. The ITV verifies and assesses the aircraft's ability to safely support an AMRAAM launch through the aircraft interface mechanism and the aircraft datalink antenna.

The KGV-135 A is a high-speed general purpose encryptor and decryptor module used for wideband data encryption.

The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to items reported here.

The highest level of classification of information included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 28, 2025.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 25-0G. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 23-26 of May 11, 2023.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-0G

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(C), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Germany.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 23-26; Date: May 11, 2023; Implementing Agency: Army.

(iii) Description: On May 11, 2023, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 23-26 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of sixty (60) CH-47F Block II Cargo Helicopters with customer-unique modifications; one hundred forty (140) T-55-GA-714A engines (120 installed, 20 spares); seventy-two (72) AN/AAR-57 Common Missile Warning Systems (CMWS) (60 installed, 12 spares); and two hundred eighty-four (284) AN/ARC-231A Communications Security (COMSEC) radios (240 installed, 44 spares). Also included were AN/AVR-2B Laser Detecting Sets; AN/APR-39C(V)1 Radar Detecting Sets; AN/ARC-220 High Frequency (HF) radios with electronic counter-countermeasures (ECCM); military Precise Positioning Service (PPS) (to include SAASM or M-Code); Digital Advanced Flight Control Systems (DAFCS); AN/APX-123A Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) transponder; AN/ARN-147 very high frequency (VHS) omnidirectional range and instrument landing system (VOR/ILS); AN/ARN-153 Tactical Air Navigation Systems (TACAN); air data computers; AN/APN-209 radar altimeter systems; AN/PYQ-10 simple key loaders; KIV-77 Mode 4/5 IFF Applique; KY-100M narrowband/wideband terminal COMSEC devices; AN/AVS-6 Night Vision Devices(NVD); IDM-401 Improved Data Modem; air-to-air refueling probes; M134 gun mounts; Infrared Suppression System (IRSS); Engine Air Particle Separator (EAPS); Ballistic Protection System (BPS) with Cockpit; cabin sides; Midas Underfloor COOLS; Extended Range Fuel System (ERFS) 800 gal and 500 gal; Forward Area Refueling Equipment (FARE); Tie Down Materiel/Helicopter Under-Slung Load Equipment (HUSLE) for internal and external loads; rotorbrake; rescue hoists; Fast Rope Insertion/Extraction System (FRIES); Electro Optical Infrared Sensors (EO/IR); crash resistant pilot and troop seats; skis; life rafts; litter straps and fittings; mission equipment (e.g., jungle penetrator; litter basket; Jacob's ladder; Airborne Tactical Extraction Platform (AirTEP); special tools and test equipment; ground support equipment; airframe and engine spare parts; technical data; publications; Maintenance Work Orders/Engineering Change Proposals (MWO/ECPs); Repair and Return (R&R); technical assistance; airworthiness assistance; transportation of aircraft; training; flight training and maintenance trainers; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated cost was \$8.5 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$3.35 billion of this total.

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following MDE items: forty-seven (47) OT-228/U Common Infrared Countermeasures (CIRCM) and one hundred forty-four (144) "EAGLE-M" aviation navigation systems comprised of Enhanced Aviation Global Air Traffic Management (GATM) systems, Localizer Performance with Vertical Guidance (LPV) instruments, and Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS)/Inertial Navigation Systems (INS) (EGIs) with M-code. The following non MDE items will also be included: Multi-Platform Anti-Jam GPS Navigation Antenna-Federated (MAGNA-F), Type Designator: AS-4840; communications systems; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost of the new items is \$0.63 billion. The es-

timated MDE value will increase by \$0.63 billion to a revised \$3.98 billion, but will not require an increase in the estimated total case value. Instead, \$0.63 billion of the available, previously notified non-MDE value will be transferred to the MDE value, causing a decrease in non-MDE value to \$4.52 billion. The estimated total case value will remain at \$8.50 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided because the additional MDE items were not enumerated in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed sale will improve Germany's capability to meet current and future regional threats, reinforce its ability to maintain regional stability, and increase the defensive capabilities of its military. The sale supports U.S. national security interests by bolstering land defense in Europe.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally that is an important force for political and economic stability in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology:

CIRCM is the next-generation lightweight, laser-based, infrared countermeasure system for rotary-wing, tilt-rotor, and small fixed-wing aircraft. CIRCM provides near spherical coverage of the host platform to defeat infrared-seeking missiles. It receives an angular bearing hand-off from the CMWS or Limited Interim Missile Warning System (LIMWS), and employs a pointing and tracking system that acquires and tracks the incoming missile, and jams the missile using modulated laser energy to degrade the tracking capability of the missile, causing it to miss the aircraft.

The EAGLE-M, also known as EAGLE M+429, contains sensitive technology that provides GPS hardening when loaded with COMSEC keys.

The MAGNA-F antenna nulls unwanted signals using digital processing technology.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is UNCLASSIFIED.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 23, 2025.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-27, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Ireland for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$46 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-27

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Ireland.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$25 million.

Other \$21 million.

Total \$46 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case EI-B-UDF was below congressional notification threshold at \$8.7 million (\$7.9 million in MDE) and included forty-four (44) FGM-148 Javelin missiles. The Government of Ireland has requested that the case be amended to include thirty-six (36) Lightweight Command Launch Units (LwCLU). This amendment will cause the case to exceed the notification threshold, and thus notification of the entire program is required. The above notification requirements are combined as follows:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Forty-four (44) FGM-148 Javelin missiles.

Thirty-six (36) Lightweight Command Launch Units (LwCLUs).

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will also be included: missile containers; U.S. Government technical assistance; Enhanced Producibility Basic Skills Trainers (EPBST); training; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (EI-B-UDF).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 23, 2025.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Ireland—FGM-148 Javelin Missiles and Lightweight Command Launch Units

The Government of Ireland has requested to buy thirty-six (36) Lightweight Command Launch Units (LwCLUs) that will be added to a previously implemented case whose value was under the congressional notification threshold. The original Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case, valued at \$8.7 million (\$7.9 million in MDE), included forty-four (44) FGM-148 Javelin missiles. This notification is for a combined total of forty-four (44) FGM-148 Javelin missiles and thirty-six (36) Lightweight Command Launch Units (LwCLUs). The following non-MDE items

will also be included: missile containers; U.S. Government technical assistance; Enhanced Producibility Basic Skills Trainers (EPBST); training; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$46 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security and capabilities of Ireland to support its participation in peacekeeping missions with the United Nations and NATO's Partnership for Peace program.

The proposed sale will enhance Ireland's capability to build its long-term defense capacity to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity to meet its national defense requirements. Ireland will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractors will be the Javelin Joint Venture between Lockheed Martin, located in Orlando, FL, and RTX Corporation, located in Tucson, AZ. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Ireland.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-27

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Javelin Weapon System is a medium-range, man-portable, shoulder-launched, fire-and-forget anti-tank system for infantry, scouts, and combat engineers. It may also be mounted on a variety of platforms including vehicles, aircraft, and watercraft. The system weighs 49.5 pounds and has a maximum range in excess of 2,500 meters. The system is highly lethal against tanks and other systems with conventional and reactive armors and possesses a secondary capability against bunkers.

2. Javelin's key technical feature is the use of fire-and-forget technology that allows the gunner to fire and immediately relocate or take cover. Additional special features are the top attack and direct fire modes, an advanced tandem warhead and imaging infrared seeker, target lock-on before launch, and soft launch from enclosures or covered fighting positions. The Javelin missile also has a minimum smoke motor to decrease the likelihood of detection on the battlefield.

3. The Javelin Weapon System is comprised of two major tactical components, a reusable Light Weight Command Launch Unit (LwCLU) and a missile contained in a disposable launch tube assembly. The LwCLU incorporates an integrated day/night sight that provides target engagement capability in adverse weather and countermeasure environments and may also be used in a stand-alone mode for battlefield surveillance and target detection. The LwCLU's thermal sight is a 3rd generation forward looking infrared sensor. The LwCLU also serves to upload missile software updates.

4. The Javelin missile is autonomously guided to the target using an imaging infrared seeker and adaptive correlation tracking algorithms. This allows the gunner to take cover or reload and engage another target

after firing a missile. An onboard flight computer guides the missile to the selected target.

5. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

6. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

7. A determination has been made that Ireland can provide the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

8. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Ireland.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-28, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$180 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-28

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Israel.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$0.

Other \$180 million.

Total \$180 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case IS-B-ZMU was below congressional notification threshold at \$85.5 million (\$0 in MDE) and included Eitan 8V199TE21-D powerpack engines and engine components; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; contractor non-recurring engineering; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The Government of Israel has requested that the case be amended to include additional 8V199TE21-D powerpack engines and engine components. This amendment will cause the case to exceed the notification threshold, and thus notification of the entire program is required. The above notification requirements are combined as follows:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will be included: Eitan 8V199TE21-D powerpack engines and engine components; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; contractor non-recurring engineering; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (IS-B-ZMU).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 14, 2025.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Israel—Eitan Powerpack Engines

The Government of Israel has requested to buy additional Eitan 8V199TE21-D powerpack engines and engine components that will be added to a previously implemented case whose value was under the congressional notification threshold. The original Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case, valued at \$85.5 million (\$0 in MDE), included Eitan 8V199TE21-D powerpack engines and engine components; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; contractor non-recurring engineering; and other related elements of logistics and program support. This notification is for a combined notification of non-MDE Eitan 8V199TE21-D powerpack engines and engine components; U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance; contractor nonrecurring engineering; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$180 million.

The United States is committed to the security of Israel, and it is vital to U.S. national interests to assist Israel to develop and maintain a strong and ready self-defense capability. This proposed sale is consistent with those objectives.

The proposed sale will enhance Israel's capability to meet current and future threats by improving its ability to defend Israel's borders, vital infrastructure, and population centers.

This proposed sale will increase the interoperability with U.S. forces and conveys U.S. commitment to Israel's security and armed forces modernization. Israel will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Rolls-Royce Solutions America, Inc., located in

Novi, MI. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Israel.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0D-25. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 22-66 of December 6, 2022.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0D-25

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(B)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Republic of Korea.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 22-66; Date: December 6, 2022; Implementing Agency: Army.

(iii) Description: On December 6, 2022, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 22-66 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of eighteen (18) CH-47F helicopters; forty-two (42) T55-GA-714A engines (thirty-six (36) installed, six (6) spares); twenty-two (22) Common Missile Warning Systems (CMWS); (eighteen (18) installed, four (4) spares); and forty-four (44) secure radios, RT-1987 (thirty-six (36) installed, eight (8) spares). Also included were AN/APR-39 Radar Warning Systems; AN/ARC-220 HF Airborne Communications Systems; AN/

APX-123A IFF transponders; AN/ARN-147; AN/ARN-153; AN/APN-209; secure radios; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; repair and return; storage; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total value was \$1.5 billion. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$1.0 billion of this total.

This transmittal reports the inclusion of the following MDE items: up to forty-four (44) Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS)/Inertial Navigation Systems (INS) EGI+429. The estimated total value of the new items is \$8.5 million. The addition of these items will not result in a net increase in cost of MDE and will remain at \$1.0 billion. The estimated total case value will remain at \$1.5 billion.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided because the MDE items were not enumerated in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed sale will improve the Republic of Korea's capability to meet current and future threats.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific region.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The EGI is a Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM)-based navigation platform that combines an inertial sensor assembly with a fixed reception pattern antenna GPS receiver. The EGI+429 is a self-contained navigation system providing outputs of linear and angular acceleration, linear and angular velocity, position, altitude (roll, pitch), platform azimuth, magnetic and true heading, body angular rates, time tags and Universal Time Coordinated (UTC) synchronized time. The EGI+429 accepts Radio Frequency (RF) GPS satellite transmissions and provides these signals as inputs to the Embedded GPS receiver (EGR). The EGR tracks up to twelve space vehicle (SV) signals simultaneously. The EGR supports the GPS and blended GPS/INS navigation systems. The EGI system is the primary source for position information.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 25, 2025.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0B-25. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 22-60 of November 9, 2022.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0B-25

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Purchaser: Government of Lithuania.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 22-60; Date: November 9, 2022; Implementing Agency: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds and Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description: On November 9, 2022, Congress was notified by congressional certification transmittal number 22-60 of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of eight (8) M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) Launchers; thirty-six (36) M30A2 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) Alternative Warhead (AW) Missile Pods with Insensitive Munitions Propulsion System (IMPS); thirty-six (36) M31A2 GMLRS Unitary High Explosive (HE) Missile Pods; thirty-six (36) XM403 Extended Range GMLRS (ER GMLRS) Alternative Warhead (AW) Missile Pods with IMPS; thirty-six (36) XM404 Extended Range GMLRS (ER GMLRS) Unitary Pods with IMPS; and eighteen (18) M57 Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) Missile Pods. Also included were M28A2 Low Cost Reduced Range Practice Rocket (LCRRPR) pods; International Field Artillery Tactical Data System (IFATDS); battle management system Vehicle Integration Kits; ruggedized laptops; training equipment publications for HIMARS and munitions; and other related elements of program and logistics support. The estimated total value was \$495 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$440 million of this total.

This transmittal reports the correction of the previous designation of the International Field Artillery Tactical Data System (IFATDS) from non-MDE to MDE. Because reporting the quantity of MDE items is required, this transmittal also reports the quantity of eighteen (18) for the IFATDS. The following non-MDE items will also be included: communications equipment, including AN/PRC-160 and AN/PRC-167 radios and associated accessories and training; Defense Advanced Global Positioning System (GPS) Receivers (DAGRs); AN/PYQ-10 Simple Key Loaders; and other related elements of program and logistics support. The estimated total cost of the new items is \$21.5 million. The estimated total cost of the new MDE items is \$11.5 million, but will not result in a net increase in total cost of MDE, which will remain at \$440 million. The estimated total cost of new non-MDE items is \$10 million, but will not result in a net increase in total cost of non-MDE, which will remain at \$55 million. The estimated total case value will remain at \$495 million.

(iv) Significance: This report corrects an error included in the original notification and includes additional non-MDE items that increase the sensitivity of technology. The

proposed sale will improve Lithuania's capability to deter current and future threats to support coalition operations, as well as promote its interoperability with United States and other NATO forces.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO Ally that is an important force for ensuring peace and stability in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The IFATDS is a multi-service (U.S. Army and Marine Corps) automated, expert decision support system used for command, control, communications, and integration and synchronization of fires on ground targets during all phases of military conflict. The IFATDS provides the automated tools that significantly augment the capability of fire support coordinators, fire support asset commanders, and their respective staffs at every echelon during the planning and execution of fire support on dynamic battlefields.

The AN/PRC-160 radio is a tactical wide-band high frequency (HF)/very high frequency (VHF) transceiver providing Type 1 encryption and Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) GPS location and timing capabilities. The system operates at variable frequencies and uses various standard waveforms.

The AN/PRC-167 is a multi-domain multi-channel tactical narrow and wide-band dual transceiver radio system providing Type 1 encryption and SAASM GPS location and timing capabilities. Each transceiver is software programmable and operates at variable frequencies and uses various standard waveforms.

The DAGR is a small commercial Navigation Satellite Timing and Ranging (NAVSTAR) GPS receiver designed for military operations. The Selective Availability/Anti Spoofing Module (SAASM) is a security device controlling the encryption that enables Precise Positioning Service (PPS) and resists adversary attempts to spoof GPS signals. The DAGR with SAASM will provide position and location information necessary for ground-based operations.

The Simple Key Loader (SKL) is a ruggedized and portable hand-held device for securely receiving, storing, and transferring data between compatible cryptographic and communications equipment.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 24, 2025.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-12, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Kingdom of Morocco for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$825 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-12

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Kingdom of Morocco.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment * \$552 million.
Other \$273 million.
Total \$825 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): Up to six hundred (600) FIM-92K Stinger Block I missiles.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will also be included: U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (MO-B-UVA).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 15, 2025.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kingdom of Morocco—FIM-92K Stinger
Block I Missiles

The Kingdom of Morocco has requested to buy up to six hundred (600) FIM-92K Stinger Block I Missiles. The following non-MDE items will also be included: U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics, and technical support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$825 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a major non-NATO ally that continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress in North Africa.

The proposed sale will improve Morocco's capability to meet current and future threats. Morocco intends to use these defense articles and services to modernize its armed forces and expand its existing army short range air defense options. This will contribute to the Moroccan Army's goals of updating capability and further enhancing interoperability with the U.S. and other allies. Morocco will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors will be RTX Corporation, located in Tucson, AZ; and Lockheed Martin, located in Syracuse, NY. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the Kingdom of Morocco.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-12

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The FIM-92K Stinger Block I missile is a lightweight, self-contained air defense system that can be rapidly deployed by ground troops. Its seeker and guidance systems enable the weapon to acquire, track, and engage a target with one shot.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

3. A determination has been made that the Kingdom of Morocco can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

4. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Kingdom of Morocco.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-35, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Netherlands for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$2.19 billion. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-35

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the Netherlands.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment \$0.95 billion.

Other \$ 1.24 billion.

Total \$2.19 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Up to one hundred sixty-three (163) Tomahawk Block V All Up Rounds (AURs).

Twelve (12) Tomahawk Block IV AURs.

Up to ten (10) Tactical Tomahawk Weapons Control Systems (TTWCS).

Up to two (2) Tomahawk Block IV telemetry missiles.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will also be included: satellite data link terminals (KIV-18A); integrated secure broadcast systems (KSX-5); communications security devices (KGV-135A); technical, programmatic, engineering, and logistical support for the Tomahawk AUR missiles, TTWCS, and Mission Distribution Software; missile containers; software; hardware; training; training devices; unscheduled missile maintenance; spares; in-service support; communication equipment; operational flight test; publications; engineering and technical expertise to maintain the capability; non-recurring engineering; transportation; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (NE-P-AGR, NE-P-AGS, NE-P-AGT).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: NE-P-LHV.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 25, 2025.

As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

The Netherlands—Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles

The Government of the Netherlands has requested to buy up to one hundred sixty-three (163) Tomahawk Block V All Up Rounds (AURs); twelve (12) Tomahawk Block IV AURs; up to ten (10) Tactical Tomahawk Weapons Control Systems (TTWCS); and up to two (2) Tomahawk Block IV telemetry missiles. The following non-MDE items will also be included: satellite data link terminals (KIV-18A); integrated secure broadcast systems (KSX-5); communications security

devices (KGV-135A); technical, programmatic, engineering, and logistical support for the Tomahawk AUR missiles, TTWCS, and Mission Distribution Software; missile containers; software; hardware; training; training devices; unscheduled missile maintenance; spares; in-service support; communication equipment; operational flight test; publications; engineering and technical expertise to maintain the capability; non-recurring engineering; transportation; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$2.19 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve the Netherlands's capability to meet current and future threats by utilizing long-range, conventional surface-to-surface missiles with significant standoff range that can neutralize growing threats. The Netherlands will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be RTX Corporation, located in Tucson, AZ. There are known offset requirements associated with this sale. See the attached annex for further details.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the Netherlands.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-35

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Tomahawk Block IV and V All Up Round (AUR) is a Tomahawk cruise missile assembled in a canister for surface launch. Tomahawk Block IV and V capabilities include increased system flexibility; improved system response times; improved lethality against an increased target set; improved accuracy; improved anti-jam GPS receiver with Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) capability; enhanced availability due to a 15-year maintenance interval; and two-way communications between missile and strike or missile controllers via ultra high frequency (UHF) Satellite Communications (SATCOM).

a. The two-way communication capability, provided by the Satellite Data Link Terminal (SDLT), enables mission planners and the strike or missile controllers to issue in-flight missile retargeting commands and receive in-flight missile status and information transmissions.

b. The Tactical Tomahawk Weapon Control System (TTWCS) provides command and control, targeting, mission planning, and distribution functions.

c. The Tomahawk Block IV telemetry missiles are test missiles to be launched from Netherlands' air defense and command frigates to certify the platform ahead of initial operational capability.

d. The SDLT (KIV-18A) inside the Block IV Tomahawk is a UHF SATCOM terminal used for data communications between the missile and strike or missile controller via satellite.

e. The Integrated Secure Broadcast Systems (KSX-5) satellite radio inside the Block

V TLAM communicates via the Advanced Communications Architecture (ACA). It provides increased bandwidth, capacity, reliability, and resiliency over the previous SDLT radio. It is used for data communications between the missile and strike or missile controller via satellite and network service provider.

f. The communications security devices (KGV-135A) inside the Block IV telemetry missiles provide telemetry data during a test launch event.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Netherlands can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of the Netherlands.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-20, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Philippines for defense services estimated to cost \$120 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-20

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the Philippines.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0.
Other \$120 million.
Total \$120 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.
Non-Major Defense Equipment: TH-73A training helicopters; aircraft simulator; spare engines; pack up kits; fuel tanks; aircraft hoists and lifts; commercial avionics; commercial flight management systems; commercial Global Positioning Systems; shipping containers; support and test equipment; consumables and accessories; integration and test support; repair and return support; spare and repair parts; unclassified software delivery and support; unclassified publications and technical documentation; personnel training and commercial training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, logistics, and transportation support services, including in-country representative support; studies and surveys; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (PI-P-SDJJ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 15, 2025.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Philippines—TH-73A Training Helicopters and Support

The Government of the Philippines has requested to buy the following defense articles and services: TH-73A training helicopters; aircraft simulator; spare engines; pack up kits; fuel tanks; aircraft hoists and lifts; commercial avionics; commercial flight management systems; commercial Global Positioning Systems; shipping containers; support and test equipment; consumables and accessories; integration and test support; repair and return support; spare and repair parts; unclassified software delivery and support; unclassified publications and technical documentation; personnel training and commercial training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, logistics, and transportation support services, including in-country representative support; studies and surveys; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$120 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner that continues to be an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in Southeast Asia.

The proposed sale will improve the Philippines' capability to meet current and future threats by providing an aircraft platform that will serve as the primary method of improving pilot training and skills, thus helping to ensure the development of a proficient rotary wing aviator corps. The Phil-

ippines will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Agusta Westland Philadelphia Corporation (Leonardo), located in Philadelphia, PA. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of up to four additional U.S. Government and up to four U.S. contractor representatives to the Philippines for a duration of up to three years to support helicopter introduction, familiarization, fielding, and training.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-19, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Romania for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$280 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-19

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Romania.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$180 million.
Other \$100 million.
Total \$280 million.

Funding Source: National Funds and Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles and/or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment:

One (1) AN/MPQ-65 Configuration 3+ Increment 3 radar set.

One (1) AN/MSQ-132 Engagement Control Station.

Two (2) M903 launching stations.

One (1) Electrical Power Plant (EPP) III.

Non-Major Defense Equipment: The following non-MDE items will also be included: launching station modification kits; PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) Missile Segment Enhancement launcher conversion kit; generators; generator spare parts; prime movers; spare parts for prime movers; KG-250X encryptor; AN/TPX-57v1 identification friend or foe (IFF); KIV-77 encryptor; personnel communication equipment training; Defense Advanced Global Positioning Systems Receivers (DAGRs); U.S. Government and contractor representative technical assistance; engineering and logistics support services; publications and technical documentation; classified software; classified books and publications; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (RO-B-UHD).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: RO-B-UEM.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 28, 2025.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Romania—PATRIOT Air Defense System

The Government of Romania has requested to buy one (1) AN/MPQ-65 Configuration 3+ Increment 3 radar set; one (1) AN/MSQ-132 Engagement Control Station; two (2) M903 launching stations; and one (1) Electrical Power Plant (EPP) III. The following non-MDE items will also be included: launching station modification kits; PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) Missile Segment Enhancement launcher conversion kit; generators; generator spare parts; prime movers; spare parts for prime movers; KG-250X encryptor; AN/TPX-57v1 identification friend or foe (IFF); KIV-77 encryptor; personnel communication equipment training; Defense Advanced Global Positioning Systems Receivers (DAGRs); U.S. Government and contractor representative technical assistance; engineering and logistics support services; publications and technical documentation; classified software; classified books and publications; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$280 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally that is an important force for political and economic stability in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Romania's capability to meet current and future threats by enabling it to field a credible force to deter adversaries and support its participation in NATO operations. Romania will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors will be RTX Corporation, located in Andover, MA, and Lock-

heed Martin, located in Bethesda, MD. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require approximately five U.S. Government and five U.S. contractor representatives to travel to Romania for a duration of up to three years to support equipment fielding and training.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-19

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The AN/MPQ-65 Configuration 3+ Increment 3 PATRIOT radar set (RS) consists of a multifunction phased-array radar mounted on a semitrailer. The RS is powered by the Electric Power Plant (EPP) and monitored and controlled by the Engagement Control Station (ECS). The AN/MPQ-65 RS provides airspace surveillance, detection, target tracking, identification, missile tracking, missile guidance, and electronic counter-countermeasures. It has the capability to track a wide variety of targets under saturation raid conditions and support the simultaneous operation of multiple PATRIOT missiles to defend against a threat.

2. The AN/MSQ-132 Configuration 3+ Increment 3 ECS provides operational control of the PATRIOT Fire Unit (FU). The ECS exchanges FU initialization data, defense readiness conditions, states of alert, target evaluation data, engagement-related data, and ECS status with the Information and Coordination Central.

3. The M903 LS is a mobile tactical unit that transports, aims, and launches the PATRIOT Guidance Enhanced Missile (GEM-T) and PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) missiles. The LS is controlled from the Engagement Control Station (ECS) via the Data Link Terminal network.

4. The Power Generation Equipment Electric Power Plant (EPP) III provides tactical power for the ECS and RS. The EPP consists of two 15-kilowatt generator sets which are interconnected through the power distribution unit.

5. The KG-250X encryptor is a rugged, flexible, low-size, weight, and power (SWAP), highspeed inline network encryptor. It is used to secure sensitive data on military and government networks by encrypting network traffic, allowing for secure communication in high-risk environments.

6. The identification friend or foe (IFF) is an identification system designed for command and control. It enables military and civilian air traffic control interrogation systems to identify aircraft, vehicles, or forces as friendly, and to determine its bearing and range from the interrogator. The AN/TPX-57(V1) with KIV-77 encryptor is an Air Defense Interrogator (ADI) that is used to classify and re-classify targets in IFF systems.

7. The Defense Advanced Global Positioning System (GPS) Receiver (DAGR) is a small, commercial, NAVSTAR GPS receiver designed for military operations. The Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) is a security device controlling the encryption that enables Precise Positioning Service (PPS) Y-code signals from GPS satellites and resists adversary attempts to spoof GPS signals. The DAGR with SAASM will provide position and location information necessary for ground-based operation. The DAGR has a graphical screen, 12-channel

continuous satellite tracking, simultaneous L1/L2 dual frequency GPS signal reception, and extended performance in a diverse jamming environment.

8. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

9. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

10. A determination has been made that Romania can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

11. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Romania.

TRIBUTE TO NOEL SIMPSON

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Noel Simpson, senior director of the Rhode Island Student Loan Authority (RISLA), on his upcoming retirement and thank him for his more than three decades of service dedicated to Rhode Island students, families, and educators.

Noel joined RISLA as a consultant in 1993. At the time, Noel was one of just the handful of employees managing the duties of the organization. Over the next several years, Noel led the rapid expansion of RISLA, developing a full team of professional staff and allowing the organization to become a leading voice on student loans and financial services in Rhode Island. As RISLA grew, Noel's career did as well, with Noel rising through the ranks and being named chief financial officer, deputy director, and eventually senior director.

For the last 25 years, I have been proud to team up with Noel and RISLA to host our annual "Financial Aid Nights." These workshops are dedicated to giving college-bound students and families a chance to learn firsthand from student aid experts about how to access financial aid opportunities for college. Students learn about financial aid eligibility criteria and the application process, such as completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The goal of this workshop is to educate students who need help paying for college, helping students navigate complicated and unfamiliar financial decisions. Noel has regularly served as moderator for these sessions, sharing his deep expertise and enthusiasm for student aid and financial literacy and making higher education more accessible.

Indeed, Noel has been instrumental in bringing a variety of resources to college hopeful students throughout the Ocean State. For many years, Noel brought College Planning Sunday to Rhode Island, where high school seniors gathered to learn about how to

apply for financial aid. Noel also spearheaded the creation of RISLA's College Planning Center, a free service that works directly with thousands of students to guide them through the college application process, including everything from writing a strong essay to selecting a college that best fits their goals. As the father of a high school senior, I can personally attest to the invaluable service the College Planning Center provides.

Today, RISLA helps thousands of Rhode Islanders plan for and finance college, a number that has grown exponentially under Noel's leadership. His dedication has opened the door of higher education for a generation of Rhode Islanders. That is a legacy that has made a difference for our State and for students and families.

I join so many of Noel's colleagues and peers in thanking him for his friendship and kindness and in wishing him a happy and healthy retirement, filled with new adventures, in the company of his wife Patti and their children. He has earned it.

RECOGNIZING THE ROBERT J. DOLE VA MEDICAL CENTER AND THE CITY OF WICHITA

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President. I rise today to recognize the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center and the city of Wichita for their exceptional commitment to providing world-class healthcare to our Nation's veterans.

Recently, Wichita was recognized as the top city in the Nation for veterans' healthcare. This recognition highlights the unwavering dedication of the staff of the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center and city leadership in delivering accessible, high-quality, and compassionate healthcare to those who served our country.

For the second year in a row, the Dole VA received the maximum 5-star rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services—a remarkable achievement that places the Dole VA in the top 8 percent of hospitals nationwide. This 5-star rating highlights the Dole VA's commitment to not only meet but exceed the standards of the healthcare industry.

In addition to the 5-star rating, the Dole VA ranked first among 132 VA hospitals nationwide for access to specialty care. It offers the shortest average wait time in the country for existing patients to see a cardiologist—just 3.8 days. The Dole VA also ranks second in the Nation for both routine specialty care access, at 95 percent, and urgent specialty care access, at 90 percent. Additionally, it holds the third-shortest wait time for new patients seeking pulmonology services. These accomplishments are a testament to the outstanding leadership and the tireless dedication of the staff at the Dole VA.

The city of Wichita is also playing a vital role in providing care for our Nation's veterans, particularly in the

area of mental health. Wichita ranks fifth in the Nation for access to mental health services, offering the seventh shortest average wait time for existing patients to access care—just 0.3 days—and the ninth shortest for new patients, at only 1.4 days. Additionally, Wichita ranks sixth nationally in overall hospital care quality and holds the eighth shortest wait time for existing patients seeking primary care. These distinctions reflect a city deeply committed to ensuring those in need receive the high-quality healthcare necessary.

As a country, we owe a great debt to those who served, and the Dole VA and the city of Wichita are setting the standard for how that debt should be paid. I now ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center and the city of Wichita for these exceptional achievements. Furthermore, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking the dedicated healthcare workforce in Wichita for their unwavering commitment to serving those who have worn the uniform.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING MIKE MOLSTEAD MOTORS

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Mike Molstead Motors of Charles City, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1982, while attending the University of Northern Iowa and playing football, Mike Molstead began selling cars at a local dealership in Cedar Falls, IA. He worked his way up to general sales manager before deciding to open his own dealership. In 1995, encouraged by his wife Paula and with the financial backing of two friends, Mike opened Mike Molstead Motors in Charles City, IA, and purchased the entire business within a year. In the early days of operation, Molstead Motors primarily sold General Motors cars, but in 1997, the dealership outgrew its downtown location and moved to the outskirts of Charles City to make room for Chevrolet, Buick, and Cadillac vehicles. In 2012, shortly after an expansion to sell Ford vehicles, Mike acquired a neighboring Chrysler dealership and opened a second location across the street. In 2021, the growing business further expanded its lineup by adding GMC trucks to the new Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, and Ram center.

Today, Mike Molstead Motors continues to operate from two locations in Charles City and employs over 75 loyal team members across three core divisions: sales, service and parts, and detailing. The business's emphasis on

real-time market pricing and personalized financing, in addition to top-tier auto repair and detail servicing, cemented the dealership's positive reputation across Iowa. Today, Mike's sons have stepped up to take part in the family business. Jordan and Josh serve as vice presidents of the company, Jackson works as a sales manager, and Jared—alongside his wife Kelly—leads the business development center.

Beyond the business, Mike Molstead Motors maintains a strong presence in the greater Charles City area. As a former football and basketball coach at the local high school, Mike is proud to have contributed over \$400,000 to Charles City schools over the years, including a \$150,000 donation to complete a new gym at Charles City Middle School. Mike Molstead Motors also recently collaborated with other local businesses to donate over \$36,000 to the Charles City Police Department to purchase specialized ballistic equipment, in addition to frequently loaning cars to local law enforcement for canine training sessions. In recent years, the business has partnered with the Waterloo Black Hawks for Hockey Fights Cancer Night, donating over \$10,000 to the American Cancer Society this past February. The dealership regularly hosts fundraisers like Ford Drive 4 UR School and participates in community associations, including the Charles City Chamber of Commerce, the Charles City Area Development Corporation, and the Charles City Lions Club. In 2023, CarGurus named Mike Molstead Motors a Top-Rated Dealer and awarded the dealership with their third Customer First Award for Excellence. In 2021, TIME Magazine named Mike as a top five national finalist for the TIME Dealer of the Year award.

The entrepreneurial drive and commitment to community demonstrated by Mike Molstead Motors is clear. As they celebrate their 30th anniversary this year, I want to congratulate the Molstead family and the entire team at Mike Molstead Motors for their hard work and leadership in both business and service. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success.●

RECOGNIZING WILTON CANDY KITCHEN

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Wilton Candy Kitchen of Wilton, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

After attending Iowa's Wilton Fair, Gus Nopoulos and his friend inquired about renting the recently closed confectionery that still housed a soda fountain and its original fixtures. Shortly thereafter, Gus opened the Candy Kitchen on June 10, 1910, delighting customers with Cherry Cokes,

hand-dipped ice cream, homemade chocolate, and more. When Gus moved here, he only knew two English words—"thank you"—but built the Candy Kitchen into a cornerstone of the community, enduring the Great Depression and World War II.

What began as a dream and cost \$8 per month in rental space, turned into a reality for Gus through hard work and perseverance. In 1946, Gus' son George returned from World War II and purchased the Candy Kitchen alongside his wife Thelma. For over 66 years, the couple operated the parlor. Over the years, the Nopoulos family ensured that the Candy Kitchen thrived through generations of change. In 2015, Lynn and Brenda Ochiltree assumed ownership and have preserved the business as an American time capsule with original booths, mirrors, and the 1951 marble soda fountain that is still used to this day. The couple, along with eight community employees, manages the store 7 days a week. The Candy Kitchen serves up all things sweet, including a handmade soda fountain, hot chocolate, ice cream, and savory favorites such as sandwiches and chicken salad.

Today, the eighth generation of patrons still has the Candy Kitchen to call home, just as their great-grandparents did. The Candy Kitchen is believed to be the oldest ongoing ice cream parlor and soda fountain in the United States. The business has received statewide and national attention, including coverage from Iowa Public Television and multiple nominations for USA Today's "Best Candy Store in America." In 2024, Brenda Ochiltree was recognized by the Iowa Restaurant Association as one of "40 Women to Watch" in the industry.

The Ochiltrees continue to support historical preservation efforts by founding the Wilton Archives, a non-profit dedicated to documenting the city's history. The Candy Kitchen is actively involved in the Wilton community through the chamber of commerce, Wilton Historical Society, and the Wilton Alumni Association. Additionally, each spring, the Ochiltrees treat more than 700 students throughout the Wilton elementary and junior high schools to an ice cream day where students across the county can learn about Wilton and the Candy Kitchen's rich history while enjoying free ice cream. In June, the Wilton Candy Kitchen will proudly celebrate its 115th anniversary this year.

The entrepreneurial spirit and community commitment shown by the Candy Kitchen is clear. I want to congratulate Lynn and Brenda Ochiltree, the Nopoulos, and all who have helped preserve this slice of Americana. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success for generations to come.●

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

As 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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2004(b), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation: Ms. STEFANIK of New York.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Ms. STEFANIK of New York and Mr. NUNN of Iowa.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Chair, Mr. VALADAO of California, Mr. GIMENEZ of Florida, Mr. CISCOMANI of Arizona, and Ms. DE LA CRUZ of Texas.

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-773. A communication from the Congressional and Public Affairs Specialist, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Additions to the Entity List" (RIN0694-AK08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 10, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-774. A communication from the Congressional and Public Affairs Specialist, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Additions and Modifications to the Entity List" (RIN0694-AK04) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 10, 2025; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-775. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13338 with respect to Syria;

to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-776. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13667 with respect to the Central African Republic; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-777. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13894 with respect to the situation in and in relation to Syria; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-778. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of 2-Methyl AP-237 in Schedule I" (Docket No. DEA-1245) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2025; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-779. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Etodesnitazene, N-Pyrrolidino Etonitazene, and Protonitazene in Schedule I" (Docket No. DEA-900) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2025; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-780. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Extension of Temporary Placement of Butonitazene, Flunitazene, and Metodesnitazene in Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act" (Docket No. DEA-900E) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2025; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-781. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Butonitazene, Flunitazene, and Metodesnitazene in Schedule I" (Docket No. DEA-900N) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2025; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-782. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Ethylphenidate in Schedule I" (Docket No. DEA-1142) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2025; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-783. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Zuranolone in Schedule I" (Docket No. DEA-1258) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2025; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-784. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Temporary Placement of N-Desethyl Isotonitazene and N-Piperidinyl Etonitazene in Schedule I" (Docket No. DEA-1143) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2025; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-785. A communication from the Acting Chair of the Administrative Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report entitled "Equal Access to Justice Act Awards Report to Congress Fiscal Year 2024"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-786. A communication from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure that have been adopted by the Supreme Court of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-787. A communication from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the amendments to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure that have been adopted by the Supreme Court of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-788. A communication from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the amendments to the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure that have been adopted by the Supreme Court of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 28. A bill to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices (Rept. No. 119-13).

S. 98. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a vetting process for prospective applicants for high-cost universal service program funding (Rept. No. 119-14).

S. 314. A bill to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-15).

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments:

S. 257. A bill to improve the resilience of critical supply chains, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-16).

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 86. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2758 (XXVI) and the harmful conflation of China's "One China Principle" and the United States' "One China Policy".

S. Res. 98. A resolution condemning Beijing's destruction of Hong Kong's democracy and rule of law.

S. Res. 106. A resolution supporting the goals of International Women's Day.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 555. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to establish a national registry of Korean American divided families, and for other purposes.

S. 821. A bill to provide for increased reporting regarding Department of State Taiwan guidelines.

S. 842. A bill to counter efforts by Hezbollah to conduct terrorist activities in Latin America, and for other purposes.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

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. 868. A bill to support democracy and the rule of law in Georgia, and for other purposes.

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. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. MORENO):

S. 1498. A bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, to prohibit transactions involving certain financial instruments by Members of Congress; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1499. A bill to establish a program awarding competitive grants to organizations administering entrepreneurial development programming to currently incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals, and other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mrs. BRITT, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 1500. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to prohibit group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage from imposing cost-sharing requirements with respect to diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. BRITT, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1501. A bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act to improve the prevention of the spread of animal diseases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. HUSTED:

S.J. Res. 50. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Certification Requirements, Labeling Requirements, and Enforcement Provisions for Certain Consumer Products and Commercial Equipment"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. Res. 183. A resolution designating the month of April 2025 as "Earth Month" and expressing support for environmental stewardship and climate action; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 29

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 29, a bill to make daylight saving time permanent, and for other purposes.

S. 46

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 46, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand eligibility for the refundable credit for coverage under a qualified health plan.

S. 100

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 100, a bill to repeal the Corporate Transparency Act.

S. 128

At the request of Mr. LEE, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) were added as cosponsors 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. 186

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 186, a bill to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions.

S. 193

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 193, a bill to repeal the Alien Enemies Act.

S. 214

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 214, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the rate of the special pension payable to Medal of Honor recipients, and for other purposes.

S. 310

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 310, a bill to establish a grant program to address the crisis in accessing affordable housing and child care through the co-location of housing and child care, and for other purposes.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from

Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) 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. 410

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEG0) was added as a cosponsor of S. 410, a bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes.

S. 465

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 465, a bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reform the interconnection queue process for the prioritization and approval of certain projects, and for other purposes.

S. 478

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) were added as cosponsors of S. 478, a bill 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. 533

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 533, a bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities.

S. 556

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 556, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to persons engaged in logistical transactions and sanctions evasion relating to oil, gas, liquefied natural gas, and related petrochemical products from the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for other purposes.

S. 557

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 557, a bill to repeal the small business loan data collection requirements under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act.

S. 558

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 558, a bill to provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and for other purposes.

S. 574

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Maryland

(Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 574, a bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act to provide compensation for poultry growers and layers in control areas, and for other purposes.

S. 587

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 587, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate and generation-skipping transfer taxes, and for other purposes.

S. 615

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 615, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise taxes on taxable chemicals and taxable substances.

S. 756

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 756, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain postsecondary credentialing expenses as qualified higher education expenses for purposes of 529 accounts.

S. 949

At the request of Mr. KELLY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 949, a bill to ensure that the National Park Service is fully staffed, and for other purposes.

S. 970

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 970, a bill to establish a pilot program to improve the family self-sufficiency program, and for other purposes.

S. 978

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 978, a bill to amend the National Housing Act to establish a mortgage insurance program for first responders, and for other purposes.

S. 997

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEG0) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 997, a bill to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1032

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from South

Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF), the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEG0), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1032, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with combat-related disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1141

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1141, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special rule for certain casualty losses of uncut timber.

S. 1144

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1144, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care.

S. 1232

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1232, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1238

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1238, a bill to ensure an equitable geographic distribution of projects selected through the Port Infrastructure Development Program.

S. 1261

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1261, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 1277

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1277, a bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part.

S. 1300

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1300, a bill to reauthorize

the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program Authorization Act of 2018, and for other purposes.

S. 1316

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1316, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide that COPS grant funds may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities.

S. 1326

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1326, a bill to prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

S. 1347

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1347, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to make college affordable and accessible by expanding access to dual or concurrent enrollment programs and early college high school programs.

S. 1404

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGOS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1404, a bill to combat organized crime involving the illegal acquisition of retail goods and cargo for the purpose of selling those illegally obtained goods through physical and online retail marketplaces.

S. 1420

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1420, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to increase the amount of reimbursements under the child and adult care food program, and for other purposes.

S. 1447

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 1447, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the child and adult care food program, and for other purposes.

S. 1481

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1481, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate advance refunding bonds.

S. CON. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr.

MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 6, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that tax-exempt fraternal benefit societies have historically provided and continue to provide critical benefits to the people and communities of the United States.

S. RES. 149

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 149, a resolution designating April 2025 as "Second Chance Month".

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 183—DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2025 AS "EARTH MONTH" AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND CLIMATE ACTION

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 183

Whereas Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22, 1970, and is an annual event to promote environmental citizenship and year-round environmental action, and to commit citizens to leave behind a healthier world for the next generation;

Whereas the first celebration of Earth Day was the largest environmental grassroots event ever held at that time and is widely credited with launching the modern environmental movement;

Whereas the voices of inaugural Earth Day participants galvanized an unparalleled period of legislative and grassroots activity that changed the way we interact with the environment, leading to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of legislation, such as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, commonly referred to as the "Clean Water Act" (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.), and the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

Whereas the work that those inaugural Earth Day participants started continues today;

Whereas climate change is happening at an accelerating rate, with global temperatures rising faster than ever before, driven by human activities and particularly by emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases;

Whereas there is scientific consensus that climate change poses a dire threat to our planet and its inhabitants, and that urgent and unprecedented changes are needed to mitigate its worst effects;

Whereas there is substantial scientific evidence that air pollution, extreme heat, disasters, and other climate induced impacts severely impact human health, including by increasing the risk of cancer, respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, and other illnesses and negative health impacts;

Whereas the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity has called for preserving 30 percent of the planet by 2030 to conserve and restore biodiversity, expand access to nature, and mitigate and build resilience to climate change;

Whereas all people have the right to a safe and healthy environment to live, work, learn, play, and pray;

Whereas all workers have a right to a safe and healthy work environment without being forced to choose between an unsafe livelihood and unemployment;

Whereas the people of the United States need to learn from and build community with Indigenous communities, including Tribal Nations, who have stewarded the land for generations and have great wisdom on preserving biodiversity;

Whereas, to deal with the climate crisis and to preserve 30 percent of the planet by 2030, the world needs more than 1 day of environmental awareness, activism, and stewardship, and everyone needs to remind people to find ways to protect the environment;

Whereas communities of color and low socio-economic status bear the disproportionate burden of the climate crisis and environmental pollution;

Whereas Earth Month provides an opportunity for people to participate in healthy outdoor activities, raise awareness, and engage in projects, initiatives, and campaigns to protect and restore the planet, such as planting trees, removing litter, cleaning up coral reefs, conserving water and energy, driving less or using public transportation or active mobility more, and other environmentally responsible actions, for more than 1 day;

Whereas Earth Month provides an opportunity to educate, inform, and remind the people of the United States—

(1) of the need to expand environmental and climate literacy, in order to not only strengthen environmental and climate protections, but also to accelerate the development of green technologies and the creation of green jobs that will benefit all; and

(2) that we must not pass a world beyond repair to our children;

Whereas Earth Month provides an opportunity to have a national celebration of our natural resources, the diversity of native plants and animals, and the power of people to steward and protect our planet; and

Whereas the mission and purpose of the original Earth Day remain relevant today and need more attention than ever: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the month of April 2025 as Earth Month; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to mark Earth Month by working collaboratively to—

(A) address environmental challenges large and small, from climate change to microplastics;

(B) uplift Indigenous environmental knowledge and stewardship practices;

(C) center the voices of frontline communities in the conceptualization, design, and implementation of proposed climate and environmental solutions;

(D) improve energy efficiency and move toward energy sources that reduce pollution and make our systems more fair, affordable, sustainable, clean, and reliable;

(E) educate their friends, neighbors, and elected representatives about the need for year-round environmental action; and

(F) explore, conserve, and enjoy the great outdoors of the United States.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Lahra Walker, an Energy and Natural Resources fellow with my staff, be granted floor privileges until December 31, 2025.

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

NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for the 2025 first quarter Mass Mailing report is Friday, April 25, 2025. An electronic option is available on Webster that will allow forms to be submitted via a fillable PDF document. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states "none."

Mass mailing registrations or negative reports can be submitted electronically at http://webster.senate.gov/secretary/mass_mailing_form.htm or e-mailed to OPR_MassMailings@sec.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact the Senate Office of Public Records at (202) 224-0322.

SECOND CHANCE MONTH

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 149 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 149) designating April 2025 as "Second Chance Month".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 149) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 1 (legislative day, March 31), 2025, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2025

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 29; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of Calendar No. 80, David Perdue; further, that notwithstanding rule

XXII, at 11:30 a.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Perdue nomination and, following confirmation, the Senate vote on cloture on Calendar No. 77, Warren Stephens, and 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 Stephens nomination, followed by cloture on Executive Calendar No. 78, Thomas Barrack; finally, that 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.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:52 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JOSEPH L. ABRAMS
ALISON N. ALLEN
JESS T. ANDERSON
KRISTEN E. BADER
TAYLOR L. BARNETT
JARED L. BECK
JEREMY M. BERGER
ANDREW J. BERGLUND
CARL A. BEYER
SARA S. BIRDSONG
ROBERT J. BLUE
LUCAS A. BOHANNAN
DANIEL T. BOND
ALAN J. BORDON
JASMINE L. BROCK
GREGORY M. BUCHEK
JOSHUA N. BURKHARDT
MATTHEW C. BYRNE
KATHERINE H. CAMERON
WESLEY W. CARR
ERIN M. CAVERLY
ANDREW J. CHRISTENSEN
ERIK R. CLAUSEN
LINDSEY J. CLINE
PATRICK J. COLEMAN
CASSANDRA L. CRAIG
NICOLAS S. DANCUC
VIVIANA DE ASSIS
WILLIAM J. DENNIS
MAXWELL DICKEY
RACHEL M. ELY
JOSHUA E. ERLANDSEN
ANGELINA J. ESCANO
GEOFFREY S. FARNSWORTH
STEVEN G. FOGGER
BENJAMIN E. FOX
TIMOTHY R. FULLAM
SHAYEF A. GABASHA
BRITAIN A. GAILLIOT
CONOR W. GRADY
KYLE B. GRIMES
JAMES J. GULLO
BRIAN M. GUZZETTI
STEPHEN S. HAHN
CHARLES F. HALLER
CAITLIN E. HAMMOND
ALEXANDRA P. HANSEN
THEODORE G. HART
KAI W. HATA
ANDREW T. HAYNES
JAMIE M. HENNIGAN
MATTHEW C. HESS
MICHAEL R. HOSSACK

JOEL J. HUGHES
DANIEL G. HURTT
SAN T. HUYNH
SHORTY A. JOHANSSON
DEVEN A. JOHNSON
CAMERON P. JONES
JANSEN C. JONES
MICHELLE L. JOSEY
EUGENE KANG
HARRIS W. KASHTAN
STEPHEN D. KASTELER
RAYMOND B. KESSLER
JAMES P. KILLORAN, JR.
MICHAEL J. KIM
ALEXANDER C. KNOBLOCH
BRANDON W. KUIPER
JOHN D. LASKOSKI
KELLY C. LASKOSKI
REBECCA A. LAUTERS
MICHELLE N. M. LEE
NICHOLAS E. LITTMAN
LYNETTE L. LURIA
MATTHEW H. LUTHMAN
LETTIA R. LYONS WATSON
SUNTHOSH P. MADIREDDI
LINDSEY L. MAHONEY
KYLE D. MAIER
LAURA M. MALCHODI
ALEXANDER BRIAN G. MARQUEZ
WILLIAM K. MCCALLUM
MASON P. MCMULLIN
BRIANNA R. MCMURRAY
BENJAMIN B. MORRIS
JEFFREY V. MYERS
ROMON E. NEELY
MATTHEW T. NEGREY
DANIEL W. NELSON
COLBY T. NEVILLE
CHRISTOPHER C. NG
BROOKE E. ORGAN
ALEXANDER D. PALADINO
ANDREW S. PAN
BROC D. PARKER
BRENT A. PASSEY
KAITLIN M. PEACE
REXFORD R. PEARCE
JUSTIN R. PETERSON
JONATHAN P. POLLOCK
IAN A. PRUDHOMME
ALYSSA PUCCIA
DAVID A. QUACKENBUSH
GENEVIEVE M. RAMBAU
DANIEL RAMSEY
ASHLEY N. REID
SHANE D. RIGGS
JARED E. ROBERTS
ANDREW R. ROMNEY
JEDDA P. RUPERT
ZACHARY J. RUPERT
CASEY M. SABBAG
RAFAEL A. SANCILLO
ANDREA C. SARCHI
KATRINA A. SAVIOLI
GEORGE M. SHAHIN
KARTIK SHENOY
JOSEPH A. SIMMERMAN
ROBERT J. SMALLEY
NICHOLAS A. SOUSARIS
CAMILLE S. STRACHANFORTE
SHELBY L. TAKESHITA
AMBER C. TAYLOR
CLAUDIA THOMAS
ANTHONY G. VANDEHEI
ANTHONY D. VINSON
LYNDSY U. VU
HEIDI N. WELCH
ANDREW M. WISHY
RICHARD G. WITTMAYER III
JOSEPH M. YABES, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MARGARET E. ABBOTT
KEVIN M. ANDREWS
RONDRE F. BALUYOT
TRAVIS D. BELLICCHI
ARIANNE G. BUNIAG
TYLER P. CODY
CHAD J. COOMBS
SCOTT A. DAVIS
CLAYTE A. FLUKE
JEFFERY Y. HENDERSON
CANDICE V. HODGES
GEOFFREY R. JOHNSTON
KRISTI N. J. KENNEDY
CLARISSA D. Y. KIM
ELIZABETH L. MORRIS
JOSHUA M. NARDONE
KHIEM NGUYEN
JESSE C. ROBERTS
KARISSA A. RUMPLE
HEATHER M. RYBAR
JOHN C. SCHLOTZ
AMANDA L. STEEN
RACHAEL L. VOIGT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

ANTHONY J. ACETO
ALISHA L. ACOSTA
MARK O. ANDERSON

ALICE R. ARMAS
JOSHUA D. BARANOWSKI
MEGAN M. BARRETT
NATALIE N. BELVIN
HIRAL P. BHATT
MICHELLE M. BINDER
JOHN J. BRENNAN
JENNIFER E. BROWN
KEONA M. BYRD
CARL M. CALIMLIM, JR.
LINDSEY M. CANTRELL
GIRAH D. CARABALLO
GREGG T. CHANDLER
ANNA M. CRANE
ANGIE D. DENDY
YASHIKA D. EDWARDS
JENNIFER K. B. FEDERICO
CHRISTINE L. FONTINEL
CASSIE M. FOSS
SHARINA S. GALINDO
JARRETT E. GALLARDO
DAYLA K. GILLISPIE
DEBRA C. GOMES
CRYSTAL A. GOMEZ
WENDY S. GRUBER
HOLLY A. HOLKO
PATRICIA M. HUDSON
YOUSELINE JEAN LOUIS
KATIE K. JEON
MEGAN A. JOHN
TIALICKA B. JOHNSON
SAVANNAH A. JUMPP
BRITTANY R. KINSLER
DAVID C. KORNACK
JAIMIE M. LAIB
TAVIA S. LEONARD
KATHLEEN M. LLOYD
JASON W. MELVIN
CHRISTY A. R. MITCHELL
NIKKITA P. MOORE
EBONY N. MULERO
CHRISTOPHER A. NOVACK
STACEY E. O'DONNELL
KELLY J. ORIGEL
SHANNON D. PACE
DANIEL S. QUEEN
LAURA J. RANSOM
AUBREY E. REID
RANDY A. SANFORD
GALA G. SAPP
KPANBU J. SELLY
ANDREW R. SEVERNS
MEGAN E. SHAMP
JONATHAN SHIN
MELISSA C. SIMPSON
MICHELLE A. SIMPSON
KRISTINA R. STEWART
JULIANNE M. TALBOTT
JENNIFER L. TERREBONNE
SARA K. TRUITT
KASINDRA M. VAN METER
STEVEN J. VIETTI
YUSHARN WANG
NAOMI L. WINTERHELD
DIANA S. WOLCZEK HUERTA
JULIE A. YANAGIHARA
ERIC M. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

ALEXANDER A. ADELEYE
RICARDO A. ALDAHONDO
ERIC M. BADGER
ADAM C. BERHEIDE
RASHIDA J. BROWN
NICHOLAS W. CARROLL
JOSEPH W. DONAHUE
JONATHAN M. DREW
DENNIS C. EARLY III
MICHAEL A. ESTACION
IRENE M. FERNANDEZ
RAYMOND W. FUNKE
AMY H. HARTMAN
KELSIE L. HUGHES
BRYANT S. JOHANSON
DEVIN S. KINDER
THOMAS J. KULIKOWSKY
JAMES L. LAUGHRIDGE
SEAN P. LEAHY
BEN D. LEE
CALEB J. LESSELLES
TODD G. LOEBS
KIMREN M. MALLORCA
MERRANDA J. MORENO
CHRISTINE M. MORSHED
SCOTT A. NICOL
GEORGE O. OGWELA
MARLON D. PEELER
JOSELINE PHILLIP
BRIAN J. QUINN
THOMAS F. RENFROW III
GEORGE M. RIOS II
BILAL RIZVI
CHRISTOPHER J. ROBOSKY
CZAR J. P. RODA
FATIMA T. ROSA
KRISTEN L. SHAY
MATTHEW G. STEELE
SCOTT D. SUTER
JESSICA A. SWAIM
ROBERT C. TURNER
EMILY P. WARD
BRIAN F. WATSON
NOAH C. WOOD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

IAN S. ANDERSON
CHELSEA S. ARNOLD
DANIEL A. BAZUA
AUSTIN T. BENNETT
BENJAMIN T. BISHOP
EDNY BRYANT
BENJAMIN H. CARTER
SCOTT M. CHENEY
CALLIE J. COOPER
DANIEL T. CORWIN
NATHAN J. DEMING
SEAN M. DYSON
STEPHEN R. EMMERTHAL
KAYLAEN D. EVANS
MATTHEW C. FREEMAN
IAN N. GASPAR
SONNY L. GEAR
WILLIAM T. GRIESSER
AMANDA K. GUTIERREZ
ROCHELLE K. HASE
LANDON L. HATFIELD
ALLEN W. HAUSER
CORY R. HENDERSON
CURTIS J. HOWELL
PHILLIP E. HOYT
ALLISON M. JAMES
ROBERT B. JUSTINIANO
JOHN A. KAUDERMAN, JR.
OLIVIA J. LAWSON
PHILLIP M. LOPEZ
MAIRA G. MALHABOUR
MELVIN K. MCBEAN
ANDREW S. MCCAMPBELL
JESSICA H. MCGLADE
ANH P. T. NGUYEN
SAMUEL D. OLDHAM
JESSICA S. PABON
ADAM G. PFANNENSTEIN
ANH T. PHAM
JOSHUA A. RADEL
FELIPSON Z. RAMOS, JR.
ERIC SALINAS
JESSICA J. SAN FELIPPO
LINDSEY P. SCHMELZER
RYAN M. SCOTT
KYLE P. SMITH
MAHOGANY L. SWANSON
ELIZABETH A. TESCH
MATTHEW C. THOLL
TAMESHIA S. TUFTS
LETICIA R. TURNER
DAVID P. VALENTINE
SEE S. VANG
SHANNA R. VAUGHAN
JOHN J. WANG
BRANDON O. WIELERT
ANN E. WILKINS
MATTHEW K. WILLIAMS
SOMVANG XAYARATH

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C. SECTIONS 531 AND 7064:

To be commander

MATTHEW D. BRANDT
MARIO A. CAMPOS
DEJENE G. KASSAYE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S. C., SECTIONS 531 AND 7064:

To be major

MISSY L. MCNEILL

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

WENDELL C. ELDRIDGE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

ERIC M. BEALL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ALEXANDRA K. HOLLAND

IN THE SPACE FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

ZACHARY R. EAGLE

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE IN-

DICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 212(E), INCLUDING THOSE RESERVE OFFICERS WHO ARE TO BE APPOINTED AS PERMANENT COMMISSIONED OFFICERS PURSUANT TO TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 2101:

To be lieutenant commander

JOSHUA S. ALLEMAN
AMES K. ALLING
DAVID Q. ANDERSON
CORY N. ARSENAULT
JESSICA J. AYER
NAKIA D. BACON
SHEENA M. BANNON
ANTHONY S. BARLETTA
MELISSA M. BARRETT
SEAN C. BARRY
MARK A. BEHNE
DANIELLE J. BENEDETTO
ROBERT J. BERNARDI IV
ADAM C. BIRCH
JUSTIN R. BIXLER
AARON C. BLACK
ERIN H. BOHNER
BLAKE E. BONIFAS
JEFFREY S. BORS
JAIME D. BRADY
ANDREW A. BRITTON
MICHAEL R. BROOKS
BRIDGET Y. BROWN
KIMBERLEE L. CAPP
JAKE V. CARLTON
KAITLIN M. CARRASQUILLO
PATRICIA M. CARROW
II
ANDREW E. CAUDILL
BENJAMIN A. CHAPMAN
CHARLES M. CHAVTUR III
JAMEL H. CHOKR
TIMOTHY M. CHRISTENSON
BRIAN J. CHRISTINA
MICHAEL A. CLANCY
BRANDON M. COLLINS
JESSE O. COLLINS
ROBERT E. COLLINS
STEVE L. CONDE
JORDAN D. CONVERSE
ROBERT R. COPELAND II
SAMANTHA E. CORCORAN
JIMMY R. CRUZ
JUSTIN S. DAVIS
VINCENT T. DEEGAN
KEVIN M. DENNINGER
ALISON G. DENNING
GABRIELLA C. DEZA
JENNIFER M. DIALS
PETER A. DIAMONTOPULOS
CHRISTIAN P. DIBARI
VLADIMIR DOMANSKIY
TRAVIS T. DOPP
MITCHELL R. DOW
BRIAN M. DUGAL
RAYMOND L. ECHEVARRIA
RAYMOND L. EFFENDI
WILLIAM H. ELLIES III
ANDREW N. ELLIS
STASIA O. ELLIS
JACK E. EMMONS
COREY J. ENGEL
JAMES D. ENGELHARDT
AILEEN I. FAGAN
AVERY A. FANNING
MICHAEL A. FIGLIOTTI
DAVIDSON K. FISHER
ELIZABETH J. FLINT
JAMES L. FORTIN
WESTON J. FORTNA
DIANE S. FRENCH
REBECCA L. FULLER - MORRIS
MICHAEL H. GAGEN II
ANTHONY R. GALLEGOS
ANDREW M. GARCIA
DEAN J. GILBERT
MEGEN M. GOLD
DANIEL R. GOMEZ
TIAGO M. GONCALVES
KATHERINE E. GRAICHEN
KELSEY E. GRAY
TANESHA GREEN-BAKER
PAUL C. GROTELUESCHEN
CHRISTOPHER J. GUERNSEY
SAMUEL R. GUINN
SHANE D. GUNDERSON
KARL A. GUNTHER
JOSHUA J. GUTHLEIN
JAMES W. HARDEY
ANNE E. HARPER
LUKE J. HARR
CODY C. HARRIS
RAHNAL D. HARRIS
JUSTIN R. HELLMAN
GARRETT R. HENDRICKSON
KATTYA R. HENNING
TVLYA R. HENNING
MITCHEL D. HERRADOR
FREEMONT Q. HINKLE
TOWNSHEND F. HIRST
VICTORIA A. HOLDER
MATTHEW J. HUMPHRYS
PETER HUTCHISON
BRETT H. IGO
ABIGAIL R. ISAACS
ANDREW J. JACOT
HANNA E. JANSSON
JONATHAN H. JESTER
VLADIMIR R. JIMENEZ
PATRICK J. JOHNSEN

EMILY R. JOHNSON
JUSTIN L. JOHNSON
RANDY L. JOHNSTON
KRISTINE M. KAHL
NICHOLAS T. KANE
E'BRIA M. KAREGA
KARISA L. KEALY
LANCE A. KECKRITZ
JOHN W. KEIFFER
TIMOTHY D. KELLY
KODY J. KEOA
CHRISTOPHER M. KING
JASEN L. KINGSLEY
MORGAN E. KINGSTON
BETHANNIE J. KITTRELL
ADAM D. KLINE
DANIELLE A. KNOX
JOSEPH B. KOLB III
PAUL M. KRAFT
MARK R. KREBS
JACQUELYN S. KUBICKO
ANDREW M. LAUF
RICHARD A. LAWS
JACOB R. LAWSON
AIDAN E. LEDDY-PHILLIPS
STEVEN M. LEIGHTY
ERIC L. LENOIR
ISABELLE C. LEVITSKY
RICHARD J. LINCOLN
WILLIAM R. LINDSEY
BRADFORD D. LONG
TIMOTHY P. LOVINS
BRIAN J. MAFFUCCI
ANDREW D. MANDLEY
ROSS G. MARKHAM
ELI M. MAURER
KYLE S. MAXEY
RODION MAZIN
CHRISTOPHER R. MCBRAYER
MATTHEW J. MCCAMMON
ALEXANDER W. MCCONNELL
SEAN P. MCGAUGHAN
CHRISTINA M. MCGEE
EMILY M. MCKENZIE
RYAN C. MCNEIL
JONATHAN A. MERRELL
MARKUS G. MEYER-MINER
TODD M. MIHILL
ALYSSA C. MILANESE
CAROLINE P. MILLER
SCHUYLER B. MILLHAM
BENJAMIN M. MILNE
ROBERT L. MINEO
ANDREW W. MOELLER
KOACHAR Y. MOHAMMAD
BRYCE J. MONACO

TRENT D. MOON
JUSTIN M. MOORE
LEE J. MOORE
BEN G. MORSETH
WADE I. MYERS
CLAUDE A. NADAL
LE A. NELSON
LINDSEY M. NEUMANN
BRANDON R. NEWMAN
KEITH W. NICHOLS
MANUEL J. ORTEGA
PABLO A. ORTIZ
PATRICK J. OSHAUGHNESSY
RYAN T. OSTRANDER
JUSTIN H. PACHECO
KEVIN M. PAINTEN
STEPHEN A. PALMERI
CHRISTOPHER D. PAPAS
MIMOSE PARVILUS
TAYLOR E. PEACE
DANIEL A. PEREIRA
MATTHEW O. PEREYEA
TYLER A. PFENNINGER
CLAIRE Y. PHAM
ANDREW W. PHELAN
JENELLE L. PICHE
THOMAS A. PORZILLO
PAUL D. PUDDINGTON
JONATHAN A. PUING
SASHA N. QUEARY
LAURA E. RAYBURN
LYDIA J. RENFROW
ERIC N. RESSEL
JACOB R. RETTIG
JOSEPH A. RIZZARDI
JAMES R. RIZZO
BOBBI-JO ROBERTSON
RICARDO L. RODRIGUEZ
SAMUEL P. ROETS
NICHOLAS W. ROGERS
AMY B. ROSS
CHRISTINE J. ROUSSEAU
ANTONIO L. RUSSELL
DANIEL J. RUSSO
ANDREA C. SALDANA
NAKERA N. SALDANA
CORI F. SANCHEZ
CHANDRA M. SAUNDERS
JEREMIAH M. SAVALI
CHRISTOPHER M. SAYLOR
SAMUEL M. SBALBI
ANDREW E. SCHEFFEY
DANA P. SCHMITT
ADAM T. SCHOLL
JADE M. SCHROEDER
JACOB M. SCOTT

ANGEL L. SERRANO, JR.
HESSAMODDIN SHAFEIAN
JOSEPH L. SMITH
JOSHUA C. SMITH
KYLE J. SMITH
RYAN D. STILLE
HUNTER D. STOWES
ALEXANDER G. SULLIVAN
PARK M. SUSKI
EVAN C. SWINGHAMER
EMILY T. SYSKO
BRANDON W. TAYLOR
VANESSA R. TAYLOR
CODY J. TECSON
RYAN W. THOMAS
AMANDA L. THRASHER
LARISSA D. TILLER
ANDREA L. TOCCO
PAUL E. TOMEO
JUSTIN C. TOWNSEND
ALLEN J. TUNCAP
ROBERT P. TURLEY
JEREMY D. TYRRELL
ELIZABETH M. ULAN
CAMEO R. ULBRICHT
THOMAS P. VANDEZANDE
ASHLEY E. VANSTRATEN
CHRISTOPHER J. VARRICHIO
KARLO J. VAZQUEZ
PHILLIP E. WALKER
JACOB A. WAWRZYNIAK
CHRISTOPHER M. WEBER
TEVIN A. WHITE
ALEXIS D. WILDE
JOHN R. WILLIAMS
RICHARD J. WILLIAMS
SAMUEL N. WILLIAMS
JOSEPH G. WINEKE
DANIEL S. WINTER
KYLE P. WOOD
ALLISON M. WRIEDEN
JACOB O. YALLOWITZ
MATTHEW G. ZAVALLI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS OF THE COAST
GUARD PERMANENT COMMISSIONED TEACHING STAFF
FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST
GUARD TO THE GRADES INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14,
U.S.C., SECTION 1944 AND COMMANDMENT INSTRUCTION
M1000.3A:

To be commander

JASON B. VEARA

To be lieutenant commander

TARA E. LARKIN

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JUAN DIEGO CAMACHO RODRIGUEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Juan Diego Camacho Rodriguez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Juan has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Juan, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Juan's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Juan Diego Camacho Rodriguez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING DANIELLE BIERMAN

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Danielle Bierman has made through her work with the Pasco County Human Services Team. The Pasco County Human Services Team has proven itself to be a cornerstone of resilience, innovation, and unwavering commitment to the community. Amidst the devastating impacts of Hurricanes Helene and Milton, they emerged as an indispensable force, transforming challenges into triumphs and ensuring no resident was left behind. The team managed and helped coordinate efforts for shelters that housed 485 residents. When Hurricane Milton struck shortly thereafter, the team rose to even greater heights, coordinating shelters for 5,800 individuals and 1,315 animals—an extraordinary feat of operational precision and compassion. Despite personal hardships, including one case manager losing her home while another lost her rental property, the team prioritized the welfare of the community, working tirelessly to ensure safety and stability for all. Post-storm, the team was responsible for helping shelter residents whose homes were no longer safe, find appropriate alternatives for housing. Their dedication shone through in rapid response efforts. In the days immediately following Hurricane Helene, 49 residents received critical assessments and essential resources. After Hurricane Milton, they worked with 225 displaced individuals who remained in shelters, demonstrating their unparalleled ability to adapt and respond under pressure. The team leveraged the

Human Services Needs app to streamline disaster case management, supporting 1,351 residents. Their follow-up system, in partnership with other agencies, ensured personalized service for every individual. This innovative approach epitomized their ability to harness technology and partnerships for meaningful impact. Beyond immediate relief, the team worked with individuals and families who would require long-term recovery efforts. For approximately 150 permanently displaced residents, they implemented a housing eligibility process, with the intent of ensuring fair and transparent allocation of resources. By securing placements at facilities like Pasco Hope, the team supported individuals and families along a pathway to rebuild their lives. Between September 28 and October 18, 2024, the team managed an overwhelming volume of call—1,194 through their direct line and another 1,214 through work phones. Yet every call was met with care, professionalism, and actionable solutions, reflecting the team's deep commitment to being a lifeline for the community. The Pasco County Human Services Team exemplifies what it means to serve with excellence, compassion, and innovation. Their remarkable achievements during Hurricane Helene and Milton, coupled with their dedication to long-term recovery and cutting-edge approaches to disaster management, have left an indelible mark on Pasco County.

It is clear Danielle Bierman has made a profoundly positive impact on our community with his work as part of the Pasco County Human Services Team, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT CATHERINE "TRINKA" TAYLOR

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Catherine "Trinka" Taylor of Dallas, Texas and present her with the Congressional Patriot Award. Trinka has dedicated herself to faithfully serving our community.

A sixth-generation Texan, Trinka was born in Dallas, Texas, and grew up in Houston. She attended Rice University before transferring to the prestigious Cornell University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in architecture. Her passion for architectural design pushed her to pursue opportunities in some of our most storied cities like New York City, Boston, and Dallas. No matter where she lived, her dedication to upholding conservative values never wavered. For many decades, Trinka served in leadership roles as an Election Judge, Precinct Chairman, executive committee member of Southern Methodist University, board member of the Southwestern Medical Foundation, and as President of the Park Cities Republican Women.

Trinka has continued to stay involved in our community as a member of the Texas Federation of Republican Women, Dallas County Republican Executive Committee, and the Dallas County Council of Republican Women. Her passion for freedom, opportunity, patriotism, and our nation's values has pushed her to drive us forward to a better tomorrow. For her outstanding contributions to the Republican Party, Trinka received the Betty Marquis Award and was selected by former Texas Governor George W. Bush to serve on the Nominations Committee for the Governor's Awards for Excellence in Arts, Humanities, and Science. She also served as a commissioner of the Texas Commission of the Arts from 1998 to 2002. In her free time, Trinka enjoys fly fishing, Canoeing, and spending time with her children and grandchildren. She is a devoted woman of faith and attends Saint Michaels and All Angels Episcopal Church in Dallas. Trinka has truly made an incredible impact on the world around us, and I wish her continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow my friend Trinka with the Patriot Award for her exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

INTRODUCTION OF THE REQUIREMENT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PRETRIAL SERVICES AGENCY TO RESIDE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would require the Directors of two federal agencies, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) and the District of Columbia Pretrial Services Agency (PSA), to reside in the District of Columbia during their terms. There are residency requirements for government positions in federal law, D.C. law and the laws of jurisdictions throughout the United States. The primary reason such laws exist is to ensure that certain government officials have a connection to the residents they serve and in-depth knowledge of the unique issues and challenges these residents face. The House Committee on Oversight and Reform passed this bill in the 117th Congress.

CSOSA and PSA are federal agencies that focus exclusively on D.C. CSOSA supervises individuals on probation, parole or supervised release for violations of D.C. law. PSA makes recommendations regarding pretrial release and supervises defendants for the D.C. Superior Court and the U.S. District Court for D.C. The Directors of CSOSA and PSA should be

• 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.

required to be D.C. residents since these agencies serve only D.C.

Congress has justifiably required that certain federal officials live in the jurisdictions to which they are appointed, including U.S. district court judges, U.S. Marshals and U.S. Attorneys. Similarly, Congress, which controls the local D.C. court system, has justifiably required local D.C. judges and members of the D.C. Judicial Nomination Commission and the D.C. Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure to reside in D.C.

There is no reason that the Directors of CSOSA and PSA should not be required to live in D.C. These federal officials need to be part of the community they serve. A D.C. residency requirement for these federal officials will lead to better outcomes in the criminal justice system and is a matter of fairness for D.C. residents.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE HEROISM OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL
SERVICES DEPARTMENT

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the courageous divers and first responders of the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department, whose swift and selfless actions in the aftermath of the devastating collision between American Airlines Flight 5342 and a United States Army Blackhawk Helicopter over the Potomac River showed heroism in the face of tragedy.

When the unthinkable happened on that cold January evening, it was the brave men and women of D.C. Fire and EMS who rushed to the scene. Without regard for their own safety, these highly trained professionals entered dangerous, frigid conditions, diving into the depths of the Potomac to conduct a search and rescue, and bring comfort to the families and civilians anxiously watching and waiting onshore.

In the face of disaster, the efforts of the D.C. Fire and EMS divers were nothing short of heroic. Their steadfast presence and commitment to vigorously search amidst the confusion and chaos was a source of strength to a city, region, and Nation in mourning.

The divers of D.C. Fire and EMS showed us the very best of public service. Their leadership, courage, and compassion make us proud. They upheld their duty with unwavering courage and commitment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this body join me in extending our deepest gratitude to these first responders. Let the record show our respect, our appreciation, and our enduring thanks to the divers of D.C. Fire and EMS. May their service continue to be an example for future generations of public servants to follow.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLUMBUS, GEORGIA CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the noble work of the Columbus, Georgia Chapter of The Links, Incorporated on its 60th anniversary. The Columbus, Georgia Chapter was chartered on December 19, 1964. Its members and supporters celebrated this milestone at a luncheon on Saturday, April 26, 2025.

The Links, Incorporated, is an international not-for-profit organization which traces its origins back to 1946. Margaret Roselle Hawkins and Sarah Strickland Scott gathered seven friends in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to form a group to respond to the pressing needs of the African American community after World War II. Today, an esteemed international women's service organization, The Links, Incorporated aims to improve the lives of African Americans by providing them with essential resources and services which offer disadvantaged communities new hope for improved lives. Today, Links has 299 chapters around the world, including over 17,000 members.

I would like to take this opportunity to specifically acknowledge the great work of the Columbus, Georgia Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. The Columbus, Georgia Chapter has implemented and sustained The Links, Incorporated's five programming categories: National Trends and Services, The Arts, Services to Youth, International Trends and Services, and Health and Human Services.

The National Trends and Services facet of the Columbus, Georgia Chapter champions the idea of empowering both the individual and the community through events such as a week-long community celebration that illustrates the positive impacts of diversity and multiculturalism. Displayed everywhere from government centers to schools to churches, The Links, Incorporated promotes ethnic pluralism within the community.

In addition, The Links were the first to gather local black entrepreneurs and prospective customers together in order to explore shared interests and encourage the potential for reciprocal benefits. The organization also takes the time to honor the lifeblood of local communities: trash collectors, school bus operators, postal carriers, and cafeteria workers. It seeks to recognize every aspect of a community, understanding that everyone deserves respect and gratitude for the vital roles they play in keeping the community afloat.

The International Trends and Services arm of the Columbus, Georgia Chapter brings resources to countries across Africa through well-building and providing clean birth kits to those in Uganda and survival kits to women in Haiti. The organization's dedication to domestic and international service showcases the depth of its commitment to community betterment through public service.

The Columbus, Georgia Chapter has instituted numerous programs under its Services to Youth facet, including a mentor program for kids in kindergarten to young adults in college. Additionally, Services to Youth promotes the

values of higher education by raising interest in STEM education and career paths by awarding scholarships, creating endowments, and supporting Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

In line with its mission to promote cultural awareness through The Arts program, the Columbus, Georgia Chapter partners with a number of arts institutions, such as museums, art councils, symphonies, and educational institutes to reinforce the importance of a strong minority presence in the art community.

Last, but certainly not least, the Health and Human Services facet of the Columbus, Georgia Chapter works to implement and maintain community services to address the disparities in health conditions negatively impacting minorities. In this regard, the Columbus, Georgia Chapter has joined forces with Linkages to Life, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Walk for Healthy Living, and the National Childhood Obesity Initiative.

Through the wisdom and strong leadership of its past presidents, the Columbus, Georgia Chapter has given back so much to the African American community and, in turn, the community as a whole. Today, the Chapter is led by current president, Tara Askew, and boasts 43 spirited and outstanding members who provide over 2,000 hours of service each year.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing 60 years of incredible and inspiring work by the Columbus, Georgia Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. The services this organization has provided to the greater Columbus community are immeasurable and there is no doubt in my mind that The Links, Incorporated will continue its worthy mission of promoting hope and prosperity for years to come.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT KAY AKIN

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Kay Akin of Decatur, Texas, and present her with the Congressional Patriot Award. Kay has dedicated herself to faithfully serving our community.

Kay is originally from Brownwood, Texas, and she earned her bachelor's degree in education from East Texas A&M University. She began her extensive teaching career in 1987 as an elementary school teacher for fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. Since 1972, she has also been married to her high school sweetheart, Sheriff Lane Akin, and they raised several children and have many more grandchildren.

After retiring early from teaching, Kay has continued to remain involved in our community through numerous initiatives. She is a long-time volunteer with the Helping Hands program to provide clothing for those in need in the Wise County community, as well as helping to keep our roads clean from litter. Moreover, Kay is a member of the Decatur Church of Christ and has taught Sunday School for many years. As a result of her efforts to advance student learning and achievement, she

has been recognized as Bible School Teacher of the Year and Rookie of the Year at Lindale Elementary School. A devoted follower of Jesus, Kay is most proud of supporting Sheriff Lane's career as a public servant and being a role model for her children and grandchildren. I am pleased to commend Kay for her distinguished career as an educator for our youth, and I wish her continued success.

It is an honor to bestow Kay with the Patriot Award for her exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF FRED
BRUNER LUNSFORD**

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Staff Sergeant Fred Bruner Lunsford of the United States Army, who passed away on March 1, 2025.

Fred was born on March 7, 1925, and was enrolled as a member of the eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Fred graduated from Andrews High School in Andrews, North Carolina in the spring of 1943 and he and his wife, Gladys, were married on March 17, 1944, before Fred enlisted in the United States Army.

Fred served as a Staff Sergeant during World War II and was deployed to the European Theater, with service at the Normandy Invasion, Battle of the Bulge and the Liberation of France. Fred was highly decorated for his bravery, leadership, and courage he displayed during those years of service. These decorations include the Europe-Africa-Middle East Medal, the American Defense Service Medal, the Victory Medal, the Army Occupation Medal, and the Army Good Conduct Medal.

Fred was honorably discharged from active duty following the war and returned home to Cherokee County, North Carolina where he would go on to be licensed to preach the Gospel on October 23, 1949, by Pleasant Valley Baptist Church in Murphy, North Carolina and was ordained in 1950.

On behalf of all of Western North Carolina, I would like to take a moment to honor the life of Fred Bruner Lunsford.

**HONORING CALVARY BAPTIST
CHURCH OF LEXINGTON, KEN-
TUCKY**

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Calvary Baptist Church as they celebrate their 150th anniversary. Calvary Baptist Church is located in Lexington, Kentucky.

On January 14, 1875, forty people stepped out in faith to start a new church in the growing city of Lexington, Kentucky. The church was first known as Second Baptist Church and J.M. Frost was called to serve as the first pastor. As the church membership grew, in 1906 the name was changed to Calvary Baptist Church and a new sanctuary was built at High Street and Rodes Avenue. Growth continued,

and the current location, at High Street and Martin Luther King Boulevard, was built in 1962. Dr. Monty Stallins leads the congregation as the pastor today.

Since Calvary Baptist's founding in 1875, the pastors have changed and the locations have changed, but the mission of the church has remained the same, to invite people into relationship with the Lord. Over the years, members have recognized the call to serve the needs of the community and the world. Significant highlights include organizing the establishment of Central Baptist Hospital, partnering with First United Methodist Church to open the High Street Neighborhood Center, organizing mission trips to Haiti, opening the Interfaith Counseling Center and Mission (Health) Lexington, organizing the Build a Bed Ministry, and establishing the Clothed by Grace clothing closet. The ministry of Calvary Baptist Church has touched thousands of lives in life changing ways over its century and a half history.

As Calvary Baptist Church celebrates their 150th anniversary, it is my honor to lift up this faith community before the House of Representatives. I wish them many more years of faithful ministry serving God.

RECOGNIZING DAVID CRUZ

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that David Cruz made to our community through his volunteerism with the Knights of Columbus. When Hurricane Beryl hit Texas, Operation Barbeque Relief sent David to Texas. While there, he organized 21 Knights in six days to make 7,500 meals a day. These meals were fed to relief workers and victims of the hurricane. David is the Disaster preparedness Coordinator for the Knights for the Dioceses of St. Petersburg which encompasses Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Hernando counties.

After Hurricane Milton, David was assigned to accompany and work with a Medical Crew from Ohio. Together, they treated over 400 patients providing medical assistance to those in need. The team also worked with Fresh Start for Pasco to feed shut-ins in East Pasco for Thanksgiving. David has worked on bringing together many of the spiritual groups and civic organizations within the community to help hurricane victims. Thanks to these efforts, Our Lady Queen of Peace served 12,000 families during the six weeks after the hurricanes. David still works with Fresh Start for Pasco, Endeavors, and Pinellas Emergency Operations Center to help victims of disasters. Most recently, his volunteerism brought David to muck out homes where the water has finally receded.

It is clear David Cruz has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

**RECOGNIZING MR. HAROLD R.
ARVE, JR.**

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Harold Arve, Jr., a lifelong resident of South-Dade and a pillar to the community of Homestead.

Throughout his 47-year career with the Florida Farm Bureau, Mr. Arve has dedicated his career to community service.

From earning the rank of Eagle Scout to coaching on the football field and raising a family with his high school sweetheart Linda, Mr. Arve embodies dedication, integrity, and hometown pride.

Further, his decades of experience in charity auctioneering, show his unwavering community spirit.

Mr. Arve's contributions to local causes and organizations have left a lasting mark on the South-Dade community. It is with great gratitude that I recognize Mr. Arve for his lifetime of service, leadership, and love for our community.

**RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PA-
TRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT RALPH
O'DELL**

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ralph O'Dell of Celina, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Ralph has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

Ralph is a veteran of the Second World War and served with the United States Army from 1943 to 1946. He participated in the South Pacific campaign, and after being honorably discharged, he joined the Army Reserves in 1948 where he remained until 1985. For his distinguished service, Ralph has received the Meritorious Service Medal, the Southern Philippine Islands Campaign with one Bronze Star, the Philippine Liberation Medal and Ribbon with one bronze Star, and many more commendations.

In addition to his military service, Ralph has continued to be a fierce advocate for American values and a dedicated community volunteer. He served as the President of Oak Cliff Junior Chamber of Commerce and was a member of Rotary International, the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature, the Reserve Officers Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion. Ralph also assisted with Salvation Army and Red Cross drives to support those in need. As a result of his outstanding work, he was recognized as Celina's Citizen of the Year several times and received the Key to the City from Celina's mayor. Moreover, the Ralph O'Dell Senior Center in Celina has been established in recognition of Ralph's decades of service as a senior center coordinator. He is also a man of faith, and he regularly attends First Methodist Church in Celina. I am pleased to recognize Ralph today for being an upstanding American patriot and his

ongoing pursuit for freedom, strength, and integrity in our Nation.

It is an honor to bestow Ralph with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING JOSHUA BATES

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joshua Bates for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Joshua has overcome many challenges along their journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Joshua, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Joshua's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Joshua Bates on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING CASEY "KC" GABELLI

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Casey "KC" Gabelli has made to our community in the aftermath of Hurricane Milton. In addition to providing countless hours of direct support to neighbors and flood victims, Casey helped coordinate the collection and distribution of emergency supplies, meals and donated services to help those who needed help. A truly selfless leader, Casey was a strong advocate for bringing in government and non-profit resources to aid in the recovery process.

It is clear that Casey "KC" Gabelli has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for Casey's service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

HONORING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ETA TAU CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA, INC.

HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 55th anniversary of the Eta Tau Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and to celebrate the dedication of a new monument honoring the chapter's enduring legacy and profound impact on the community.

Established in 1970, the Eta Tau Chapter has been a steadfast pillar of service, scholar-

ship, and sisterhood. Over the past five and a half decades, its members have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to uplifting underserved communities, empowering youth, and advocating for social justice. Through a myriad of initiatives, including educational programs, health awareness campaigns, and civic engagement efforts, the chapter has consistently worked to effect positive change.

The dedication of the new monument serves as a tangible testament to the chapter's rich history and its ongoing dedication to community betterment. This monument not only honors the past achievements of Eta Tau but also inspires future generations to continue the chapter's mission of service and advocacy.

I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing the remarkable contributions of the Eta Tau Chapter over the past 55 years and in celebrating the unveiling of this significant monument. May the chapter's legacy continue to inspire and guide efforts toward community enrichment and empowerment.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT NATE PIKE

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Nate Pike of Prosper, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Nate has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

A native of Denison, Texas, Nate attended Denison High School and graduated from Baylor University in 2003 with his Bachelor of Business Administration. He began his career out of college as a financial advisor and sales representative for multiple firms. In 2014, Nate joined the Utter, Pike, & Dobbs Private Wealth Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, where he currently serves as a partner and managing director. In addition to his work in the financial industry, he was elected to serve as the mayor of Anna, Texas, in which his robust leadership transformed the city into one of the fastest growing regions in Texas and the country.

Currently, Nate is the President of the Anna Education Foundation and Treasurer of CASA of Grayson County. He previously served as the President of numerous advocacy organizations, including Grayson County Children's Advocacy Center, the Anna Community Development Corporation, and the Grayson Collin Municipal Alliance. For his important contributions, Nate was named the Paul Harris Fellow by Rotary International and listed in the Dallas Business Journal and Grayson County's Top 40 Under 40 Business Professionals. He was also named Citizen of the Year in 2024 by the Anna Chamber of Commerce. I am pleased to recognize Nate today for a lifetime of servant leadership, and I wish him continued success.

It is an honor to bestow Nate with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

CONGRATULATING THE NIT NATIONAL CHAMPIONS: THE UTC MOCS

HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK" FLEISCHMANN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I am excited to congratulate the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga men's basketball team on winning the National Invitation Tournament in an exciting overtime victory to bring the championship trophy home to Chattanooga and East Tennessee.

This nail-biting head-to-head had Chattanoogaans on the edge of their seat. As Chattanooga Mocs senior Garrison Keeslar drained a jumper with 11 seconds left in overtime, the Mocs' opponent, UC Irvine, launched a Hail Mary pass to their player on the opposite baseline, who missed his shot at the buzzer. This error delivered a well-deserved National Championship to the UTC men's basketball team—the first ever in the program's history.

The UTC Mocs have made Chattanooga and all of Tennessee so proud. I join their families and friends with my immense respect for their talents and new title—National Champions.

Go Mocs.

RECOGNIZING CASEY THIERYUNG

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Casey Thieryung has made to our community as a volunteer for Brooksville Main Street. Casey embodies the spirit of community service and leadership that makes Brooksville a special place. As the dedicated owner of the Red Mule Pub, a beloved local establishment, Casey has created more than just a restaurant—he has built a gathering place where residents feel at home. However, his contributions to the community extend far beyond his business.

Through tireless volunteer efforts, active participation in civic organizations, and a deep commitment to public service, Casey has left a lasting impact on Brooksville and its people. A true public servant, Casey served as a City Council member for the City of Brooksville, where he worked diligently to improve the quality of life for residents. His time on the Council was marked by his advocacy for local businesses, support for community development projects, and dedication to preserving the town's historic charm. He was always accessible, listening to the concerns of citizens and striving to make decisions that benefited the entire community. Beyond his official role in government, Casey has dedicated countless hours to various civic organizations that make Brooksville a better place to live. He is an active member of multiple local groups, always stepping up to help organize community events, support charitable initiatives, and lend a hand wherever needed. His volunteerism

has been instrumental in projects that promote economic growth, cultural enrichment and social well-being in Brooksville. One of Casey's most notable contributions is his unwavering support for local charities and nonprofit organizations. Through the Red Mule Pub, he has hosted and participated in numerous fundraising efforts, donating time, resources, and space to causes that benefit the less fortunate, veterans, first responders, and community programs. His generosity has directly impacted countless individuals and families in need, reinforcing the sense of unity that defines Brooksville.

Casey's leadership extends to mentoring and supporting others in the community. He is known for offering guidance and encouragement to young entrepreneurs, fellow business owners, and civic leaders. His ability to bring people together for a common cause has strengthened the bonds within Brooksville, fostering collaboration and goodwill among diverse groups of residents.

Above all, Casey Thieryung exemplifies what it means to be a Local Hero—not for accolades or recognition, but because he truly cares about his hometown and its people. His selfless dedication, unwavering passion, and boundless generosity have made an enduring difference in Brooksville. For these reasons, Casey is a deserving recipient of the Local Hero Award, and it is with great pride that we nominate him for this honor. It is clear Casey Thieryung has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

HONORING UNITED STATES AIR
FORCE 6990TH & 6908TH SECURITY
SQUADRON (DOGGERS)—VIET-
NAMESE LINGUISTS

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to rise today to recognize and honor the distinguished service of two exceptional units of the United States Air Force—the 6990th & 6908th Security Squadrons and the contributions of the Vietnamese linguists (affectionately known as DOGGERS). These squadrons exemplified the very best of American dedication, vigilance, and sacrifice.

The 6990th Security Squadron, stationed at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan, played a critical role in safeguarding our national security. Activated in the 1960s, this unit specialized in signals intelligence, electronic surveillance, and cryptologic operations. During the Vietnam War and throughout the Cold War, the airmen of the 6990th monitored enemy communications, gathered vital intelligence, and supported combat operations with unwavering commitment. Their contributions were instrumental in ensuring the security of American forces and our allies across the Pacific.

Similarly, the 6908th Security Squadron, based at Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base in Thailand, carried out equally vital missions. This squadron operated under the United States Air Force Security Service. Its primary focus was communications inter-

ception, security, and support for operations critical to our nation's strategic interests in Asia. The men and women of the 6908th displayed exceptional skill and professionalism in an era when information dominance was key to preserving peace and deterring aggression.

Mr. Speaker, the work of these squadrons was often carried out in secrecy, without public recognition or fanfare. Yet their efforts were fundamental to the defense of the United States and the free world. Today, we pay tribute to their service and reaffirm our gratitude for their enduring legacy. May their example of quiet professionalism and steadfast duty continue to inspire future generations of Americans.

Today, I would like to recognize all the members of the USAF Doggers that served in the Vietnam War.

Richard Bini, Gregory Bonnell, Dean Brown, Jerry Clausen, Melvin Cole, Lowell Cook, Robert DeMay, Edward DeMayo, David Domyancic, Gary Fellenz, Michael Freeman.

Mark Graham, Dennis Gurtner, Tim Hamm, William Healy, Jim Hebert, John Hill, Benjamin Johnson, Perry Keeton, Marvin Marker, Paul McNulty, Lawrence Miller.

Larry Mills, Roger Morimoto, Carl Muellner, Robert Neiles, Buddy Newell, John Nicolai, Joseph Nolan, Ty Peters, Sandy Potter, Edgar Royce, Randolph Seitter.

William Sheldrake, John Slyman, Dennis Smith, Dale Sprosty, Casey Teliczan, Mark Thompson, Joe Turney, Joel Ware, Rick White, Michael Wright.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PA-
TRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT MARK
METDKER

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Mark Metdker of Celina, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Mark has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

A native of Dallas, Mark graduated from Lewisville High School in 1975 as a star football and track athlete. He began his career working for the McKinney Fire Department and in the oilfield industry. From 1983 to 2007, Mark worked for the Addison Fire Department before being selected to serve as the Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Marshal for the Celina Fire Department in 2008. He served in a variety of roles, including firefighter, arson investigator, and fire prevention captain. As a result of his contributions to the city and exceptional public service abilities, Mark attained the positions of Fire Chief, Chief of Police, and Director of Public Safety, before retiring in November 2023.

In addition to his public service, Mark has participated in many community service initiatives throughout North Texas. He previously served as a member of Collin College's Fire Science Program steering committee and the North Texas Council of Governments 911 Communications Commission. Moreover, Mark is a member of the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, Texas Police Chiefs Association, Collin County Fire Chiefs Association, Denton County Fire Chiefs Association, and the National

Fire Protection Agency. For his exceptional work, he has earned two Meritorious Service awards, the Career Achievement Medal, the City Builder award, and the Agency Best Practices award from the Celina Police Department and Fire Department. I would like to thank Mark for a lifetime of public service and dedication to our community.

It is an honor to bestow Mark with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING GAEL ALVAREZ
ACOSTA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gael Alvarez Acosta for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Gael has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Gael, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Gael's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Gael Alvarez Acosta on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING VERNON L. MICHAEL

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Vernon L. Michael for his 40 years of outstanding Federal service both as a military member of the United States Navy, and as a civilian for the Department of the Navy (DON) Office of the General Counsel (OGC).

Mr. Michael enlisted in the United States Navy in July 1984 under the delayed entry program and began his active-duty naval career in January 1985. Upon completing basic training at Recruit Training Command, Orlando, Florida, he successfully completed Yeoman "A" School, graduating with honors, followed by his first duty assignment to the pre-commissioning unit for USS *Missouri* (BB 63) for which he became a plankowner. Over the next 23 years, Mr. Michael served in a variety of operational and staff assignments including sea tours aboard USS *Duluth* (LPD 6) and USS *Seattle* (AOE 3). Staff/shore assignments included Personnel Support Activity Detachment, San Antonio, Texas; the Office of the Secretary of Defense; the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition); and DON OGC. Throughout his naval career, Mr. Michael served in numerous leadership positions and was awarded multiple personal, service, and unit awards. He retired from active duty in August 2008 in the grade of Chief Yeoman (E-7).

In December 2008, Mr. Michael was appointed to the position of Special Assistant for Administrative Matters in DON OGC. In this role, he directly supports the General Counsel of the Navy (GC), a Presidentially Appointed, Senate-confirmed official, and the Principal Deputy General Counsel (PDGC). He is the recognized subject matter expert on all DON and Department of Defense administrative matters and functional areas to include oversight of correspondence and the electronic records programs, personnel and physical security, and protocol. Throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Michael consistently exceeded expectations and provided unmatched support to nine GC's, seven PDGCs, and various other senior executives within the DON and OGC. For his contributions, he received two DON Meritorious Civilian Service awards.

For these reasons, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mr. Vernon L. Michael as he retires from Federal service.

RECOGNIZING CHARLES A.
ROGERS

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Charles A. "Charlie" Rogers has made through his work with Habitat Tampa Bay Gulfside. Charlie Rogers has been on Habitat's Board of Directors since July 2022. A life-long advocate for education and health, Charlie has brought that experience and passion to Habitat as we continue to find solutions for affordable homeownership in Pinellas and West Pasco Counties. Charlie is a key member of Habitat's work to build more affordable homeownership opportunities in West Pasco and Hernando Counties. He has assisted in organizing special build days with local elected officials and continues to make vital community connections to grow the affiliate's presence. Charlie has continued to build relationships with local government members and stresses the need for private and public partnerships. As Habitat's footprint continues to grow throughout its service area, Charlie Rogers will keep pushing the mission and the vision that everyone deserves a safe place to call home.

It is clear Charles A. "Charlie" Rogers has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT PASTOR ISIAH MOORE, JR.

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pastor Isiah Moore, Jr., of Celina, Texas, and present him with the Congressional

Patriot Award. Pastor Moore has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

Born in Shreveport, Louisiana, Pastor Moore attended Booker T. Washington High School and joined the United States Navy after graduation. He was honorably discharged in June 1971 with the rank of Seaman Apprentice. Pastor Moore earned his bachelor's degree in 1976 from Bishop College in Dallas and attended Perkins Theological and Christwell Ministry College. He began his career as a campus police officer at Bishop College and assistant manager at Winn Dixie before becoming a firefighter for the City of Dallas. Later, Pastor Moore served as the Senior Pastor of Samaria Baptist Church in Van Alstyne and St. Philip Baptist Church in Celina.

For nearly four decades, Pastor Moore has worked as a firefighter in North Texas and volunteer chaplain for the Celina Police Department. He is a board member of the Celina Police and Firefighters Benevolent Association, the Collin Baptist Association Board, the McKinney Area Ministerial Alliance Board, and many more. Additionally, Pastor Moore has worked with the Young Republicans in McKinney and campaigned for local judges in Collin County. For his outstanding contributions, Pastor Moore has received the 2021 Life Connected Award from the City of Celina and was recognized by his fraternity, Omega Psi Phi, for 50 years of service. I am pleased to recognize Pastor Moore today for his exceptional leadership and longtime dedication to helping our community succeed.

It is an honor to bestow Pastor Moore with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

HONORING MS. LILA MAE STAR

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a loving mother, devoted grandmother, dedicated great grandmother, a culinary maestro, iconic entrepreneur and friend of longstanding, Ms. Lila Mae Star. Sadly, Ms. Star transitioned from labor to reward on April 2, 2025. A "Royal Celebration of Life", reflecting her remarkable 93 years and 11 months, was held on Saturday, April 19, 2025, at the Saint James AME Church in Columbus, Georgia.

The life of Lila Mae Star had its genesis with her birth to the union of the late Mr. Freeman "Bear" Goodwin and Mrs. Mary Luttrell Jones in Ellerslie, Georgia on April 17, 1931. She received her education at Longstreet School in Harris County.

Ms. Star's life was driven by her faith as she gave herself to Christ at an early age never ceasing her connection to the Church and her God. For more than half a century, she fellowshiped with the saints at Nazareth Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia, serving in a variety of capacities to include the Nazareth Missionary Society, Nazareth Early Morning Choir, the Benevolent Group President, and the Senior Usher Board.

The impetus for her life's work began when she was only 12 years old and working at the Seminole Diner and Coffee Depot for Mr.

Hatterfield. Her experience there kindled her dream of one day owning her own restaurant. That dream became a reality on August 12, 1963, when she opened the Royal Café. For almost six decades she and family members and other dedicated staff maintained a "destination" café, known for good homestyle cooking and frequented by a clientele, ranging from laborers, domestics, and factory workers to doctors, lawyers, judges and corporate executives. Ms. Star loved her customers and treated them all with respect, but from time to time she was known to have a "sharp tongue" for anyone she believed to be disrespectful to any of her customers. She was also known to have "favorites" such as her doctor, the late Dr. M. Delmar Edwards, who upon his arrival would be treated to his choice of fare—whether on the menu or not. The Royal Café was always the place where people who wanted good food could find it. Mrs. Lila Mae Star was an entrepreneur extraordinaire. Moreover, it was so appropriate that her "Royal Celebration of Life" was held at the historic St. James AME Church, which is located next door to the Royal Café, where she spent so many years of her remarkable life.

Not only did Ms. Star make a difference with the Royal Café, she also made a difference in the community by her involvement in civic and social clubs. It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." She paid her rent, and she paid it well. She was a proud member of the Jolly Matrons Social Club which has as its mission, sisterhood, service and fellowship. She was honored by The United Negro College Fund for her philanthropy. She received accolades from Mayors, Legislators, Members of Congress and the Columbus Ledger Enquirer newspaper. And she was loved by the community at large for her life of service.

On a personal note, Ms. Star and her family have been dear friends for many years. I was the family lawyer and was proud to have earned her confidence. She supported my career in public service and never told me what she thought I wanted to hear but always told me what she thought I needed to hear. I will be forever grateful for the fidelity of her friendship and support.

Ms. Lila Mae Star was a great woman and accomplished many things in her life, but none would have been possible without the Grace of God and the love and support of her family, to include her late children Sarah Porter and Leonard Goodwin; her daughter Carolyn Ross; her late granddaughter, Kimberly Porter; her great grandchildren and other extended family. The world is better because Ms. Star touched our lives.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian, and I, along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District, salute and honor the life and legacy of Ms. Lila Mae Star for her commitment to serving humankind through the power of love, hospitality and food. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Ms. Star's family and all those who mourn her loss during this difficult time of bereavement. I pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

RECOGNIZING AVAYA BARNES

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Avaya Barnes for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Avaya has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Avaya, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Avaya's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Avaya Barnes on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING CHERYL DILLOW

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Cheryl Dillow has made through her work with the CARES Senior Clinic. Cheryl is the check out clerk at the clinic. Speedy in her typing, proficient with patient checkout and efficient at scheduling imaging and Dermatology referrals. Cheryl is a vital part of the team. She is always available to assist the patients and co-workers whenever needed. The clinic would not run smoothly without her diligent efforts.

It is clear Cheryl Dillow has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT SEAN MICHAEL TERRY

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Sean Michael Terry of Pilot Point, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Sean has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

A native of Gunter, Sean earned his bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics from Texas A&M University and began his career as a claims adjuster for State Farm Insurance and equipment salesman. For over 25 years, he has distinguished himself through public service as a volunteer firefighter, councilmember, and Mayor of the City of Celina. Sean has also served as President of the North Texas Mayors Association and board member of the Celina Rodeo Foundation Board. In addition, he has been the Vice President of Entitlements for Centurion Amer-

ican Development Group since 2013. Under his leadership as Celina's mayor, the city experienced remarkable economic growth and investments. Sean also led the effort to connect all Celina residents to high-speed internet, which led to Celina's recognition as the first Gigabit City in Texas.

For his outstanding contributions and service, Sean has earned numerous accolades, including the Outstanding Leader Award from the City of Celina, the Community Builder Award, and the Celina Varsity Cheer Parent of the Year Award. He has also been recognized by the Celina Fire Department and received a proclamation from the Collin County Commissioners Court for the State of Texas. Sean's leadership and community advocacy have made a profound impact on the City of Celina and the North Texas region. I am pleased to recognize him today for his unwavering dedication to public service, and I wish him continued success.

It is an honor to bestow Sean with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING APRIL AS DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize April as Distracted Driving Awareness Month, as part of ongoing efforts to educate our communities about the dangers of inattentive driving and to promote safer streets.

On average, nine people a day are killed in a distracted driving crash. Texting and cell phone use while driving is the most common type of unfocused driving; however, any action that takes a drivers' attention away from the road is distracted driving and is extremely dangerous.

Texting while driving is especially prevalent among younger drivers, with 39 percent of high school students reporting texting or emailing while driving during the past month, according to a 2019 CDC study. Even though 48 states have banned texting and driving, including Florida, drivers engage in this behavior anyway.

That is why I am proud to uplift leaders in my district who are taking action this month to educate Floridian students and families about the importance of attentive driving. The Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) chapter at Hollywood Hills High School and the Florida Teen Safe Driver Coalition's April Safety Awareness Campaign truly shows the power of community-based advocacy.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have focused on road safety, especially for our teens. So, in recognition of Distracted Driving Awareness Month, I will take the following pledge from the National Safety Council and encourage others to do the same:

"For my friends, my family, and anyone else who may have fond feelings toward me, I pledge not to drive distracted or recklessly. For every person I may never meet, but share the road with, I pledge to give driving the 100 percent attention it deserves."

APPRECIATING WILLIAM BERRY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on April 12th, South Carolina lost a son. I am grateful for William Berry's service to the country and state and my thoughts and prayers go to his family and friends.

I include in the RECORD, his loving obituary, which has been published by the Folk Funeral Home:

A memorial service for William Grady "Bill" Berry, 69, will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 2:00 pm at Folk Funeral Home in Williston. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service. The memorial service will be officiated by Dr. Thomas Terry and Dr. William A. Sandifer. Honorary pallbearers will be Ricky Black; Dodd Buie, III; Robert Lowman, Jr.; and Phillip B. Ness. A private interment will be held at a later date at the Blackville Cemetery.

Bill Berry passed away at MUSC, Charleston, with his sister and niece by his side. He was a resident of Barnwell, SC. Born in Augusta, GA, he was the son of the late Anita Johnson Berry and James T. "Pete" Berry of Blackville. Bill graduated from Jefferson Davis Academy, Presbyterian College, and the University of South Carolina School of Law. He attended Presbyterian (PC) on an academic and athletic scholarship. He was an Eagle Scout. At Jefferson Davis Academy, he was chosen as the male student to enter the JDA Senior Class Hall of Fame in 1974. In his senior year at PC, he was selected as captain of the football team. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and a member of the track team.

Bill Berry earned a Juris Doctor (JD) at the University of South Carolina School of Law. After being admitted to the South Carolina Bar, he started the Public Defender Office for Bamberg and Barnwell Counties and served as Chief Public Defender and Guardian Ad Litem for abused and neglected children.

He was accepted into the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG Corps). As an Army Captain, he served in Panama prior to Operation Just Cause. After his Army service, Bill opened a law practice in Myrtle Beach, SC. Bill loved sports throughout his life, especially football. He was a loyal Gamecock fan.

Surviving are his sister Kathy Berry Orr (Tom Gantt) and his niece Kathryn Liana (Orr) Gantt.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL J. MABIN, JR.—50 YEARS OF LIFE, LEADERSHIP, AND SERVICE

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable leader, dedicated family man, and proud son of Bucks County—Mr. Michael J. Mabin, Jr., President and CEO of PennFab, Inc., headquartered in Morrisville and Martelli Companies, headquartered in Ivyland.

Mike Mabin is more than a successful businessman—he is a builder of community, a job

creator, and a champion for working families in Pennsylvania's First Congressional District. Through his leadership, generosity, and vision, Mike has helped shape not only the economic fabric of our region, but its moral character as well.

Mike was born on February 24, 1975, in Bucks County. He grew up in Levittown before moving to the Holland neighborhood and later settling with his wife Kristie (née Kash) and their children—Michael, Ashlynne, and Jamison—in Ivyland, Pennsylvania.

Born and raised in Bucks County, Mike Mabin, Jr.'s story is one of homegrown leadership, generational grit, and a deep-rooted commitment to community. He got his start on the shop floor of his family's fabrication business, PennFab, where he worked side-by-side with his father and gained not just a trade, but a calling. From the very beginning, Mike understood that real leadership isn't about titles—it's about responsibility: to your people, to your hometown, and to the future.

When Mike assumed leadership of PennFab following his father's passing in 2018, he did far more than carry on a legacy—he redefined it. With bold vision and relentless determination, he transformed a respected local operation into a nationally recognized infrastructure partner. He expanded operations, acquired PennFab's sister company, Martelli Companies LLC, and positioned both businesses as critical players in some of the Nation's most vital sectors while keeping their roots firmly planted in Bucks County.

But the measure of Mike's success isn't just found in the scale of the business—it's in the strength of the community he's built around it. He has created hundreds of family-sustaining jobs right here at home. He's mentored young tradespeople, empowered second-chance workers, and in doing so, restored something too many communities have lost: the dignity of work, and the hope that comes with it.

At a time when much of our Nation's industrial foundation has eroded, Mike made a different choice—he reinvested. He proved that American manufacturing can still thrive, that "Made in Bucks County" still matters, and that a business rooted in values can lift entire neighborhoods.

Mike's commitment to the community doesn't stop at the manufacturing doors. Whether it's stepping up in times of need, supporting local nonprofits, or quietly funding initiatives that benefit area youth, families and veterans, Mike has always led by example—without seeking credit, and always putting others first.

Mr. Speaker, the story of Mike Mabin, Jr. is the story of Bucks County Leader at his best—rooted in family, built by hard work, and driven by a relentless belief in the power of community. We thank him for the lives he's uplifted, the jobs he's created, and the example he continues to set for what local leadership should look like.

He hasn't just carried forward a legacy—he's forged one of his own.

RECOGNIZING CHERYL WIRT

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that

Cheryl Wirt has made to our community through her volunteer work at Veterans Elementary School. Cheryl comes to volunteer at the school almost every day. She has a big heart and a passion for helping students and staff. Cheryl is very involved with the community group that heads up all fundraising for the school. She helps with ideas, calls, and follow-through with anything that needs to be done. She also spends time with the students in the "Pop up Shop" each Friday morning and provides extra supervision in the cafeteria at lunchtime. She also, recently re-vamped the School Events Parent Information Board which has all of our events and fundraisers on it for the families to see as they come onto campus. Cheryl asks daily what she can do to help and never stops until she exceeds expectations.

It is clear Cheryl Wirt has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING ARTURO ARO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arturo Aro for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Arturo has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Arturo, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Arturo's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Arturo Aro on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

THANKING NORTHERN MICHIGAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES AND LINEMEN FOR RESTORING POWER THROUGHOUT NORTHERN MICHIGAN

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest gratitude to the electric cooperatives and linemen who worked tirelessly to restore power to the communities of Northern Michigan following the devastating ice storm of March 2025.

After multiple days of high winds and freezing rain, thousands of families in Michigan's First District were left without power, while temperatures remained in the single digits. During this State of Emergency, local electric cooperatives demonstrated extraordinary dedication and resilience. Lineworkers from Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association, Cloverland Electric Cooperative, Great Lakes Energy Cooperative, Presque Isle Electric and

Gas Cooperative, and Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative braved dangerous conditions to restore essential services to the region, and I commend them for their hard work and a job well done.

For decades, these cooperatives and their workforce have provided reliable energy and critical assistance throughout Northern Michigan. In rural communities, dependable energy is not just a convenience: it is the backbone of modern life and public safety. These cooperatives consistently ensure that all residents of Northern Michigan—especially the area's most vulnerable individuals, including those with medical needs, families with children, and the elderly—remain safe and warm throughout harsh northern winters. Simply put, these cooperatives help deliver a quality of life to rural areas that might otherwise be left behind.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and applaud the outstanding service of Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association, Cloverland Electric Cooperative, Great Lakes Energy Cooperative, Presque Isle Electric and Gas Cooperative, and Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative. Their selflessness and dedication to our communities in Northern Michigan deserve our highest praise and deepest appreciation.

IN MEMORY OF VAUGHN P.

DRAKE, JR.

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an American hero and a true patriot, Mr. Vaughn P. Drake, Jr. of Lexington, Kentucky. Mr. Drake passed away on April 7, 2025, at the age of 106 and has been recognized as our Nation's oldest survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Mr. Drake was born in Winchester, Kentucky on November 6, 1918. He attended the University of Kentucky's College of Engineering. At the age of 23, he was serving in the Army Corps of Engineers and was in charge of a temporary power plant in Hawaii. On December 7, 1941, he became a part of history as he witnessed Japanese planes attack Pearl Harbor, and the battle ensued. He was also involved in the strategic and significant Battle of Saipan in the Marianas. For his brave service in the United States Army, he received the Congressional Medal for the Veterans of Pearl Harbor, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the American Defense Medal with Foreign Service bar, the Asiatic-Pacific Medal with two battle stars, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Following his military service, Mr. Drake returned home to Kentucky and married his wife, Lina. They were married for 65 years when she passed away in 2011. Mr. Drake is survived by his son, Sam W. Drake, as well as two grandsons and three great grandchildren.

Mr. Drake began working as a registered professional engineer and had a distinguished career for over 50 years. He was a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers, and was a charter member and past president of the Bluegrass Chapter of the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers. In

1979 he received the KSPE State Award for Outstanding Engineer in Industry. He was involved with the Boy Scouts of America and was a member of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, the University of Kentucky Alumni Association, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a life member of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association. He received the Mayor's Spirit of Lexington Award.

Vaughn P. Drake, Jr. was a true patriot, a great American, and an inspiration to us all. I am forever grateful to him and other members of the Greatest Generation for sacrificing and fighting to preserve the freedoms that we hold dear. It is my honor to recognize his life and his service before the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT
CORBETT HOWARD

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Corbett Howard of Celina, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Corbett has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

Corbett was born in Roswell, New Mexico. He received his Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from Southern Nazarene University and graduated from Engineer Officer Candidate School in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. After graduation, Corbett commissioned in the United States Army and served with the Military Assistant Command, Vietnam (MACV) as an advisor for the South Vietnamese Army. For his meritorious service, he was awarded the Bronze Star, Air Medal, and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

Corbett was first elected to the Celina City Council in 1999. In 2002, he was elected to serve as the Mayor of Celina and was re-elected twice. Under Corbett's leadership, Celina transformed economically through increased job growth and critical business investments. As a result of his advocacy for Celina residents, he was recognized as a top influential leader in Collin County. After his tenure as mayor, Corbett served as the Executive Director of the Celina Economic Development Corporation for ten years. He also served on the Board of the Upper Trinity Regional Water District and the McKinney Urban Transit District. He is the past President of the Preston Trail Rotary Club and the current Chairman of Government Affairs for the Celina Chamber of Commerce. Corbett currently serves as the Market President of Lamar National Bank and is a board member of the Military Warriors Support Foundation, which donates homes and cars to wounded veterans. A devoted man of faith, he attends the Stonebriar Community Church in Frisco, where he has led Bible study classes for over 33 years. I am proud of the work Corbett has accomplished, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Corbett with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING CHUCK ANDERSON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Charles Anderson has made through his work with United Way of Pasco County. Charles W. Anderson, recently retired January 2025 as President & CEO of United Way of Pasco County (UWPC). He has made a profound and lasting impact on the organization and the community it serves. Since assuming leadership in January 2019, Charles transformed UWPC into a more dynamic, responsive, and impactful organization, nearly doubling annual fundraising to \$2.8 million by 2023 and expanding its focus from three to eight critical areas of community needs. Under Charles's visionary guidance, UWPC rose to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic with swift aid innovative action. He launched Operation Feed Pasco, which not only supported 19 local restaurants but also provided over 237,000 meals to individuals and families in need. The program mobilized \$2.4 million and delivered vital services to shelters, food ministries, and elder care centers during one of the community's most vulnerable times. Charles also pioneered the Fighting Human Trafficking (FHT) Program, positioning UWPC as one of only four United Way organizations globally offering direct services to human trafficking survivors. This program is the only one in Florida with state funding to provide emergency hotel stays and housing for survivors of human trafficking state-wide. Through his strategic advocacy, he secured over \$2 million in funding from the Florida Legislature and the Department of Justice, significantly amplifying the program's reach and capacity. Financial stewardship and ethical governance flourished under his leadership, with UWPC earning the highest 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for four consecutive years and maintaining a remarkably low 6.5 percent overhead. Charles built strong partnerships with local, state, and federal leaders, ensuring UWPC played a key role in disaster response and community resilience efforts, including managing FEMA allocations and emergency shelter coordination. Beyond programmatic and financial accomplishments, Charles leaves a cultural legacy of collaboration, compassion, and forward-thinking leadership. He empowered staff and volunteers to innovate and excel, instilled a strong sense of mission throughout the organization, and strengthened the relationship between UWPC and its many partner agencies. Charles retired 2 months ago to spend more time with his family, and he leaves behind a stronger, more resilient UWPC prepared to meet future challenges.

It is clear Charles Anderson has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING HIALEAH, FLORIDA
MAYOR ESTEBAN BOVO

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend and the Mayor of the City of Hialeah, Esteban Bovo, for his decades of commitment to public service.

Mayor Bovo began his career in 1998 as a member of the Hialeah City Council. In 2008, he was elected to serve his community in the Florida House of Representatives.

Following his service in Tallahassee, Mayor Bovo was elected to the Miami Dade County Commission, where he served from 2011 to 2020. During his tenure, his colleagues elected him to serve as the Commission Chair from 2017 to 2018.

In 2021, Mayor Bovo was elected as Mayor of the City of Hialeah. Since taking office, he has been an advocate for transparency, public safety, and accountability. Under his leadership, Mayor Bovo Hialeah has served his constituents with pride and with a commitment to excellence.

I extend my gratitude to Mayor Esteban Bovo for his unwavering dedication to public service and I look forward to his continued contributions to the community.

HONORING JEAN MARIE
THOMPSON-BJORKMAN

HON. RUSS FULCHER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish Jean Marie Thompson-Bjorkman a very happy 100th birthday, who will be celebrating her milestone on July 22, 2025.

In 1944, Jean, an English citizen, married Paul Bjorkman, an American Army GI. Jean patiently waited nearly two years to be able to see her husband again in 1946 when she emigrated to the U.S.

Alongside other war brides, Jean made the journey to the U.S. aboard a U.S. Navy Liberty Ship. The voyage was cold and rough, but her determination never wavered. Jean and Paul eventually settled in Thompson, Ohio where they welcomed their daughter. In November of 1950, Jean achieved her American citizenship, and in a desire to be closer to her daughter, Jean moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho in 2021. Jean's dedication to family exemplifies true determination and courage.

Jean and her family have consistently embodied the traditional values we cherish in Idaho. I thank Jean Marie Thompson-Bjorkman for her incredible example of perseverance and fearlessness. I wish her a very happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING CINDY MAHON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that

Cindy Gandy Mahon has made to our community as a volunteer with Brooksville Main Street (BMS). Cindy has demonstrated an exceptional level of commitment, enthusiasm, and passion for the revitalization and growth of downtown Brooksville. Her tireless dedication to BMS's mission and objectives has made a lasting impact, and her unwavering support has been instrumental in the success of numerous projects and events. Cindy has been an invaluable volunteer, consistently contributing countless hours to the betterment of Brooksville. She has been actively involved in multiple committees such as Beautify Brooksville, Promotions, Design as well as Beautify Brooksville, Tangerine Festival, the City's Founder's Week and Christmas on Main, bringing her energy, expertise, and creativity to every initiative. Whether planning events, setting up for activities, assisting with vendor coordination, or welcoming guests with a warm smile, Cindy is always at the forefront, ensuring that every detail is executed flawlessly. One of Cindy's most significant contributions has been her work in supporting Brooksville Main Street's special events, including Beautify Brooksville. Her hands-on involvement in coordinating logistics and managing on-site operations has been crucial in making this event successful. She dedicates long hours before, during, and after this and other events, ensuring everything runs smoothly and all volunteers and attendees have a positive experience. Cindy's leadership and problem-solving skills shine in high-pressure situations, making her a trusted and reliable member of the team. Beyond event coordination, Cindy has also played a key role in furthering the goals of BMS by assisting with community engagement initiatives. She actively promotes Brooksville's historic charm and economic growth by working with local businesses, encouraging participation, and fostering a sense of unity among merchants and residents. Her efforts to support small businesses align perfectly with BMS's mission to strengthen the local economy while preserving the character of our town. Cindy's volunteerism goes above and beyond expectations. She does not hesitate to take an extra responsibility, often stepping up when additional help is needed. Whether it is arriving early to set up for an event, staying late to clean up, or brainstorming creative ideas to enhance the visitor experience, Cindy's selfless dedication is truly inspiring. She brings positivity, teamwork, and a solutions-oriented approach to every task setting an exemplary standard for other volunteers. Over the past year alone, Cindy has devoted over 100 volunteer hours to BMS, significantly impacting our programs and outreach efforts. Her willingness to invest her time and talents into the organization speaks volumes about her love for Brooksville and her desire to see it thrive. She embodies the spirit of volunteerism, demonstrating a deep sense of responsibility and pride in her work. Her dedication, hard work, and commitment to BMS have made an undeniable difference in our community, and we are deeply grateful for her service.

It is clear Cindy Gandy Mahon has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

HONORING OLIVIA BATES

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Olivia Bates, for her work as an intern serving in my Hendersonville office. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her hard work and recognize the meaningful contributions she has made to the office this spring.

Olivia is originally from New York but now calls Henderson County, North Carolina home. She graduated from Western Carolina University where she earned her bachelor's degree in criminal justice.

Interns work with staff to serve constituents in North Carolina's 11th congressional district. Olivia was chosen from a competitive pool of applicants and exceeded every expectation with her positive attitude and impressive work ethic.

It was a pleasure to work with Olivia, and I am so proud to have such an intelligent and ambitious intern representing my office. Olivia exemplified the spirit of public service and represents the best that our Nation has to offer. I congratulate Olivia on the successful completion of her internship and thank her on behalf of the people of Western North Carolina.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT SHERIFF LANE AKIN

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Lane Akin of Decatur, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Lane has dedicated himself to faithfully serving and protecting our community.

A native of Greenville, Texas, Lane earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from East Texas A&M University. He began his lengthy law enforcement career in 1974 as a Department of Public Safety officer at Dallas Fort Worth International Airport. He worked his way up the ranks to become a Highway Patrol trooper, Narcotics Service Sergeant, Texas Ranger, and Texas Ranger supervisor. After retiring from Texas DPS, Lane served as the Office Enforcement Captain for the Wise County Sheriffs office and was elected Wise County Sheriff in 2016. In December 2024, he retired after five decades of distinguished service as a law enforcement officer.

In addition to his law enforcement career, Lane is heavily involved in community service initiatives to benefit North Texans. He serves as the President of the NCT 911 Board and the Chairman of the Wise County's Santa's Deputies to deliver toys and food to families in need during the holidays. Moreover, Lane is an accomplished author, and in 2024, he published his first book, *The Point: Dawn of the Texas Meth War*, which details the history of the drug epidemic and has been highly rated by readers. He will be publishing his second book in Fall of 2025 titled *Texas Ranger, Wise*

County. For his outstanding service as a Texas Ranger, Lane has been recognized as Officer of the Year twice by the Wise, Jack, and Montague County Criminal Justice Association. I am proud to recognize Lane today for a lifetime of public service to the North Texas community, and I look forward to his future endeavors and publications.

It is an honor to bestow Lane with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING ALEXANDER ARO CAVILLO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alexander Aro Cavillo for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Alexander has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Alexander, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Alexander's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Alexander Aro Cavillo on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE LIFE JUDITH ANN ALGEO

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a remarkable constituent from my district, Judith Ann Algeo, J.D., M.A., who passed away on January 1, 2025. Judith was not only a distinguished professional but also a civil servant, trailblazer and beloved member of our community who lived a life full of compassion, service, and helping those in need.

Born April 19, 1953, to Rita and Hugh Algeo, Judith attended Good Shepherd Parish School and West Catholic High School for Girls. She went on to earn her B.A. in Criminal Justice and Sociology, as well as her M.A. in Pastoral Ministry from La Salle College (now University). She worked at Bell Telephone to pay for her schooling, which is a true testament to her determination and work ethic she had starting from a young age. Judith later earned her J.D. from Temple University Beasley School of Law.

Throughout her lifetime, Judith worked across a wide range of careers. She began her professional journey as a childcare worker, which introduced her to the challenges faced by vulnerable families. This sparked a lifelong interest in advocacy which led her to then work as a child and family therapist, massage therapist and a public official before finding

her true calling as a family law litigator. While these roles may seem like large leaps, they all share one core theme—Judith's deep commitment to serving others. Each Career reflected her passion for advocacy, care and justice for those in need.

As a Family Law Litigator, Judith frequently took on Pro Bono cases. To Judith, they were not just a case but instead someone who could continue to come back to ask for help or to share their life stories. She advocated for women who were in protection from abuse and worked many judicial bypass cases. Judith served on the board of the National Network of Runaway & Homeless Youth Services and chaired the Interagency Youth Coalition of Bucks County. She was a founding member of Bucks County AIDS Network and a board member of Legal Aid of Southeastern PA. She spent time serving the Bucks County Bar Association as President and as a chair for many of the committees. She even contributed to the startup of the Bucks County Bar Foundation. She also led the parent lawyers' group which ran out of the Juvenile Dependency Court. Through this group she served hundreds of children as a guardian ad litem to offer support for those who could not advocate for themselves.

In addition to her professional work, Judith was also a pioneer in our community. She became one of the first two female volunteer firefighters in Warwick Township. This showcases her steadfast dedication to service and her unwavering courage. Additionally, Judith spent five years as a Public Official acting on the Zoning Hearing Board. In 1999 she was elected to the Board of Supervisors of Warwick Township and in 2004 she served as its chairperson for over 20 years. She also served as a Board Member at Hatboro Federal Savings.

Having had a life full of achievements, it is no surprise that Judith had received a number of recognitions throughout her career. She was chosen as the Pennsylvania Bar Association Pro Bono Service Award winner twice and was honored with the Arthur B. Walsh Jr. Award for Pro Bono Services.

Despite her busy schedule, Judith always made time for her family. She cherished the moments she spent with her husband Frank, daughter Shannon and her three grandchildren. Even on the busiest days, she always cooked breakfast for Shannon and her friends every day before school. She was an avid reader and a talented at word games such as scrabble and crossword puzzles. She enjoyed playing volleyball and climbing mountains.

Although our community mourns Judith's passing, we celebrate the legacy of service and dedication that she forged in her life. She will be greatly missed by us all.

HONORING PETER PEARSON

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Peter Pearson, a 57-year resident of New Jersey's 7th Congressional District, who recently passed away at the age of 83. Residing in the town of Andover, he was elected member of the Andover Regional

Board of Education from 1984 to 1996 and later as an Andover Borough Councilman from 2002 to 2022. Additionally, Mr. Pearson served as comptroller for multiple small businesses and as the School Business Administrator for several of the surrounding school districts for over 25 years. Mr. Pearson was always ready to help with anything that would better his community and will be remembered for his kind personality and dedication to serving those around him. I am honored to be able to recognize such a dedicated and thoughtful resident of my district.

RECOGNIZING ABDULLAHI ALI

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Abdullahi Ali for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Abdullahi has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Abdullahi, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Abdullahi's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Abdullahi Ali on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING DANIEL FLORES

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Daniel Flores has made to our community through his work with New Beginnings Youth Shelter, which serves homeless kids aged 10–17 who are between foster homes; abandoned, or homeless. The whole team jumps in to take care of the kids who have no one else looking out for them. They teach kids structure, respect, understanding and so much more in a loving environment. The team really cares, and each member is deeply invested in the kids' long-term success.

It is clear Daniel Flores has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MS. CHIQUITA MICHELE GREENE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the extraordinary life

and legacy of Ms. Chiquita Michele Greene—a devoted educator, trailblazer, and servant leader from Southwest Georgia. Her unwavering commitment to her students and the greater community has profoundly touched countless lives across Georgia and the Nation. Sadly, Ms. Greene transitioned from labor to reward on April 6, 2025. A celebration of her life was held on Monday, April 14, 2025, at Unity Baptist Church in Sylvester, Georgia.

Ms. Greene was born from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. and Earnestine Greene. Raised in Sylvester, Georgia, Ms. Greene embodied academic excellence, purpose, and pride in her heritage from an early age. A 1995 graduate of Worth County High School, she made history as the first African American member of the school's dance team—an early indicator of the pioneering spirit that would define her life's work.

After high school, Ms. Greene attended Albany State University (ASU), earning her bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and later pursued advanced degrees in education at Wheelock College, Walden University, Georgia Southern University, and Northcentral University. She was a lifelong learner who transformed her knowledge into service, becoming a beacon of empowerment for students and colleagues alike.

As a teacher in the Dougherty County School System (DCSS), she poured her passion into every classroom she entered—most notably at Albany Early College and Westover High School, where she was named the 2018–2019 Teacher of the Year and a finalist for the district-wide honor. Over her career, she served with distinction in multiple Georgia school districts, including Savannah-Chatham and Glynn counties, holding leadership positions such as English Department Chair, Instructional Coach, Graduation Coach, and more. She also advised student teams, including the Black History Quiz Bowl, Delta GEMS, and EMBODI, helping to cultivate a sense of school pride, heritage, and academic excellence among the students at the institutions she supported.

Ms. Greene's service extended well beyond the school walls where she worked. She was a fierce advocate for her community and a transformational leader within numerous civic and social organizations. She served as President of the Albany, Georgia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., where under her leadership, the chapter earned national Red Ribbon recognition. She championed historical preservation, helping to secure a mayoral proclamation honoring Delta Sigma Theta cofounder, Osceola Macarthy Adams, and initiated a petition for a historical marker in her name. She also served as co-advisor to the Delta Rho Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. at her beloved alma mater, Albany State University.

Former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm once said that "Service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on this earth." Ms. Chiquita Michele Greene paid her rent and continued going the extra mile to give her time and efforts to benefit others. Ms. Greene held leadership roles in the National Council of Negro Women, the ASU Alumni Association, Ma Flora's Helping Hands, the Marching Rams Show Band National Alumni Association, the Worth County NAACP, and several other civic, educational, and fraternal organizations. She was a mentor to many and a pillar of strength, especially in spaces dedicated

to uplifting young women, promoting scholarship, and preserving Black heritage.

Among her numerous accolades were the 2021 Trellis Cuffie Volunteer Award; the 2021 Multicultural Award from the Georgia Council of Teachers of English; the Distinguished Delta Award; 2017 Albany State University "A Future to Fulfill" Award; Leadership Academy for Women of Small-town America—Class of 2016; 2007 Caring Person in the Community—Brunswick, Georgia; 2016 DCSS Leadership Academy Selectee; and recognition as one of Albany State University's 50 Under 50. These honors are a testament to a life lived with purpose and service at the forefront.

None of Ms. Greene's momentous accomplishments and contributions would have been possible without the enduring love and support of her God, her family, and her beloved friends across the state of Georgia. She is survived by many loved ones, including her parents: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. and Earnestine B. Greene; grandparent: Mr. Lacy Lee Smith; siblings: Buffy; Daryl D. Warren; and Riccardo C. Greene; many nieces and nephews; a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and beloved friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in honoring the life and legacy of Ms. Chiquita Michele Greene and in extending our deepest sympathies to her family, friends, colleagues, and all those who mourn her tragic loss. We pray that all will be consoled by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

RECOGNIZING RAYNE SUCHER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rayne Sucher for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Rayne has overcome many challenges along their journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Rayne, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Rayne's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Rayne Sucher on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDNA BELLE PEMBERTON

HON. JASMINE CROCKETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Edna Belle Pemberton, a beloved mother, grandmother, community leader, and a tireless advocate for positive change in the Oak Cliff community and beyond. Born on March 27, 1944, in Chicago, Illinois, Edna was

the youngest of nine children. After losing her mother at a young age and growing up in the foster care system, she became a fierce advocate for her community and a force for good, committed to improving the lives of those around her. Edna's earthly journey ended on April 13, 2025, at the age of 81.

Edna met the love of her life, the late DarNell Pemberton, while attending church as a teenager. The couple's bond grew into a strong partnership, and they married on September 19, 1964. Together, Edna and DarNell raised four daughters and, in a remarkable act of love and dedication, adopted and helped raise eight of Edna's nieces, nephews, and young relatives. Their family of fourteen lived in California before relocating to Dallas, where they settled in the Oak Cliff neighborhood, where Edna's advocacy continued to grow.

A dedicated voice for the people of southern Dallas, Edna began her career at Kmart, where she worked her way up from stockroom employee to management, leading various community initiatives and supply drives along the way. Her efforts to enact a youth curfew to improve safety, extend bus lines to provide better access to services, and save the Southwest Center Mall, formerly known as Red Bird Mall, stand as testament to her determination to make a positive impact on her city.

Edna was an active member of many local organizations, including the Dallas chapter of the NAACP, the Martin Luther King Center, and Camp Wisdom Now. She was a founder of Positively Oak Cliff, a nonprofit coalition of entrepreneurs and community leaders, and served as a voter registrar and the precinct chair of her local precinct. Edna received several Governors' awards for her contributions to her community, and she was honored to serve as a torchbearer in Dallas ahead of the 1996 Olympic Games.

Known affectionately as "Mrs. P," Edna was not only a community leader but a mother-figure and mentor to many. She personified her faith in her daily life as an active and longtime member of Concord Missionary Baptist Church, where she made an immeasurable impact. Her compassion for others, especially during times of disaster and financial hardship, made a lasting difference in the lives of countless individuals.

Above all, Edna Pemberton cherished spending time with her family. Her unwavering love and support for her children, who have gone on to become educators, community leaders, and volunteers, serve as a shining example of the dedicated spirit and servant heart she poured into those around her. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend to many, and her legacy of compassion, resilience, and community service will live on in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to have known her.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my sincerest condolences to Edna's family, her friends, and the Oak Cliff and wider Dallas community. May her extraordinary legacy of service, love, and dedication continue to inspire future generations.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT JOHN "JOHNNY" ROTHFUS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. John "Johnny" Rothfus of Prosper, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Johnny has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

Johnny was born in Sachse, Texas, and moved with his family to Prosper at a young age. In 1943, he graduated high school and joined the United States Army Air Forces the following year. Johnny served as a tail gunner on a B-24 bomber and was briefly stationed overseas for six months. As a result of his meritorious service, he received the Purple Heart, an Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one silver battle star, and the Good Conduct Medal with one overseas bar. Johnny completed his service in 1947 and later fulfilled an advertisement recruiting firefighters. For two decades, he drove a fire engine, and he retired in November 1974.

Johnny's incredible career as an aviator turned first responder is remarkable to witness. After returning from overseas, he married in 1945. Johnny has one daughter and many more grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He enjoys spending time with his family and building and painting homes in his free time. Johnny has remained a devoted man of faith, and he regularly attends First Christian Church in Celina. I am proud to commemorate Johnny for a lifetime of contributions to our country, as he has been steadfast in his service to his community, be it at the senior center or drug store. I wish him good health for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Johnny with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING MIYA ATENCIO

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Miya Atencio for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Miya has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Miya, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Miya's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Miya Atencio on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

REMEMBERING VICTOR
KILLINGSWORTH**HON. VINCE FONG**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and heroic service of Mr. Victor Killingsworth of Taft, California. Victor, a veteran of World War II, served our country in the U.S. Navy for over three years and made incredible contributions to the Taft community. Victor passed away on April 5, 2025, at the age of 104.

Victor was born on November 11, 1921, in Coalinga, California, to Francis and Evelena Killingsworth. Shortly thereafter, Francis and Evelena would move to Taft, California, which would become Victor's home for over 90 years. After graduating from Taft High School and later Taft College, Victor enrolled in the University of California, Berkeley. While studying there, the attack on Pearl Harbor occurred, causing the United States to formally enter World War II. Eager to defend his country, Victor enlisted in the U.S. Navy at a time when Japanese and German naval attacks had stretched American naval forces precariously thin. Victor sought to be a more valuable asset to the Navy and enrolled in Midshipman School at Columbia University on December 7, 1942. Industrious American shipbuilders soon remedied the ship shortage with remarkable speed, enabling Victor to later serve in the campaigns against Imperial Japan in the Pacific Ocean. During his naval training, while at Joint Expeditionary Base—Little Creek, Victor met his future wife Margaret (Peggy) Sexton who would keep his morale high with frequent devoted letters throughout the war.

Upon completion of Midshipman School, Victor received orders to be assigned to the USS *Sumter*, a troop transport ship, carrying elements of the 4th Marine Division. Assigned to a U.S. Navy Amphibious Squad, Victor worked to transport "Carlson's Raiders" to Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands in February 1944. He would transport Marines onto the six-square mile atoll throughout a fierce four-day battle as part of the Gilbert and Marshall Islands Campaign. In the pouring rain and amidst choppy surf, Victor towed Marine landing forces behind him to the beach like "ducklings" as he recalled. Victor later noted that his audaciousness in landing so close to enemy positions at night seemed to have tricked the Japanese defenders into thinking his boat was one of theirs.

Victor next took part in the operation to capture the island of Saipan. While on the island, Victor drove too far into enemy lines where he witnessed tremendous human suffering on the island. In one location in Saipan, he would successfully urge numerous Japanese soldiers to lay down their arms by promising the men they would be treated with civility. Adopting similar de-escalation strategies with civilians he encountered, Victor's compassion saved many from perishing.

Upon completion of U.S. operations in Saipan in late July 1944, Victor transported—in just one day—some 8,000 Marines in 75 boatloads across three miles of open ocean to secure the Japanese-held island of Tinian in the Northern Mariana Islands. This vital island

would later provide the two airfields necessary for American bombers to quickly reach Japan and bring about the culmination of World War II.

Later in 1944, Victor served as a Communications Officer aboard the USS *Artemis*. While onboard at the onset of the heroic Battle of Iwo Jima in February 1945, the USS *Artemis* sustained withering fire from Japanese coastal artillery and was forced to withdraw to Guam. This was Victor's final combat of World War II, as the war would end seven months later on September 2, 1945. Promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, Victor was honorably discharged, married Peggy, and returned to his hometown of Taft.

The couple ran Taft Sporting Goods for 37 years while raising their three daughters—Barbara, Janet, and Patty. Victor was passionate about supporting his community, helping launch Westside Little League and Westside Jr. Football. Later in life, Victor wrote a book about his service titled "The Gator Navy," where he detailed stories of his training and service. Cementing his local legacy, Victor conceived of the idea to construct the iconic Oil Worker Monument in Taft, the largest bronze statue west of the Mississippi River, to mark the centennial anniversary of the city. Whether it was his service to our country or our community, Victor has certainly left a lasting impact on countless individuals. The Taft community remains fortunate and grateful to have had such a hero.

Victor is survived by his daughters: Patty Killingsworth Gray, Barbara Killingsworth, and Janet Killingsworth Sandoval; his sons-in-law: Everett Gray and Miguel Sandoval; five grandchildren: Christian Gray, Ashley Gray, John Gray, Sarah Sandoval, and Andrew Sandoval; and eight great-grandchildren: Samantha Gray, Andrew Gray, Piper Gray, Foster Gray, Lex Gray, Charlotte Sandoval, Victoria Sandoval, and Oliver Sandoval.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in remembering Victor Killingsworth, and his legacy of invaluable service to both our country and his community.

RECOGNIZING MARISOL CHAVEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marisol Chavez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Marisol has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Marisol, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Marisol's hard work, determination, and perseverance as Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Marisol Chavez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MARY SELECKY**HON. SUZAN K. DeBENE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. DeBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, alongside my colleague Rep. DAN NEWHOUSE, to honor the life and legacy of Washington's former Secretary of Health Mary Selecky, who we both had the honor of serving besides in former Governor Christine Gregoire's cabinet. For over four decades, Mary dedicated her life and career to improving public health across Washington. She began her career as the administrator for the Northeast Tri County Health District. In 1999, she was appointed as the Secretary of Health by Governor Gary Locke and continued in that role under Governors Gregoire and Jay Inslee until her retirement in 2013.

During her tenure as Washington's Secretary of Health, Mary was instrumental in reducing smoking rates and increasing childhood vaccination coverage across the state. She was known for her commitment to preventive care and for strengthening the collaboration between state and local health agencies. In 2020, during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the state drew on Mary's commitment to preparedness for a public health emergency. During our time in the cabinet with her, we valued her expertise, tenacity, and mentorship that she provided to all.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Mary was deeply connected to her community in Colville, Washington, where she resided for over 50 years. Her dedication to both her local community and the broader public health landscape left a lasting impact on the state. Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in honoring Mary Selecky's life and contributions to public health, as well as Washington.

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, April 29, 2025 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 30

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider S. 714, to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, and the nominations of Preston Griffith, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary, and Dario Gil, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Science, both of the Department of Energy; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the nominations of Leslie Beyer, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Andrea Travnicek, of North Dakota, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of the Interior, and Theodore J. Garrish, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary (Nuclear Energy), and Tristan Abbey, of Florida, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, both of the Department of Energy.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 29, to make daylight saving time permanent, S. 191, to require the Secretary of Transportation to modify certain regulations relating to the requirements for commercial driver's license testing and commercial learner's permit holders, S. 196, to improve online ticket sales and protect consumers, S. 259, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to publish a list of entities that hold authorizations, licenses, or other grants of authority issued by the Commission and that have certain foreign ownership, S. 320, to authorize the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, S. 580, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People's Republic of China, S. 606, to authorize the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to reimburse the Town of Chincoteague, Virginia, for costs directly associated with the removal and replacement of certain drinking water wells, S. 688, to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing at its sources globally, S. 725, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting, to categorize public safety telecommunications as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification system, S. 769, to amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act to clarify the definition of foreign country for purposes of malign foreign talent recruitment restriction, S. 1003, to require the Federal Communications Commission to issue an order providing that a shark attack is an event for which a wireless emergency alert may be transmitted, S. 1081, to require the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to submit certain reports to the Committee on Commerce,

Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, S. 1278, to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to conduct a project to improve forecasts of coastal marine fog, S. 1378, to enhance the use by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of artificial intelligence for weather forecasting, S. 1433, to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits, S. 1437, to require the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to establish a program to identify, evaluate, acquire, and disseminate commercial Earth remote sensing data and imagery in order to satisfy the scientific, operational, and educational requirements of the Administration, S. 1492, to require the Secretary of Commerce support the leadership of the United States with respect to the deployment, use, application, and competitiveness of blockchain technology, and the nominations of Olivia Trusty, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, Jared Isaacman, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and routine lists in the Coast Guard.

SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine opportunities to strengthen water infrastructure programs, focusing on the IJA's successes.

SD-562

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Rodney Scott, of Oklahoma, to be Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Brian Burch, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Holy See, Brandon Judd, of Idaho, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Chile, Nicole McGraw, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, Thomas DiNanno, of Florida, to be Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, Sarah Rogers, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy, and Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary (Political Affairs), all of the Department of State.

S-116

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 558, to provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and S. 163, to require institutions of higher education participating in Federal student aid programs to share information about title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, including a link to the webpage of the Office for Civil Rights where an individual can submit a complaint re-

garding discrimination in violation of such title.

SD-430

10:15 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine certain pending nominations.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine biomedical research, focusing on keeping America's edge in innovation.

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

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 the rise of Antisemitism and supporting older Americans.

SH-216

4 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Airland

To receive a closed briefing on America's Air Force.

SVC-217

MAY 1

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Matthew Lohmeier, of Arizona, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force, Justin Overbaugh, of Florida, to be a Deputy Under Secretary, and Daniel Zimmerman, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Defense.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine insurance markets and the role of mitigation policies.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul Dabbar, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce.

SR-253

10:15 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nominations of John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, and Brett Shumate, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

SH-216

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Leah Campos, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

SD-419

MAY 12

3:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To receive a closed briefing on space superiority.

SVC-217

POSTPONEMENTS

ment of Defense and defense of the De-
fense Industrial Base.

SR-232A

APRIL 30

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity

To hold hearings to examine industry
views on partnership with the Depart-

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2589–S2612

Measures Introduced: Four bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1498–1501, S.J. Res. 50, and S. Res. 183. **Page S2607**

Measures Reported:

S. 28, to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices. (S. Rept. No. 119–13)

S. 98, to require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a vetting process for prospective applicants for high-cost universal service program funding. (S. Rept. No. 119–14)

S. 314, to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging. (S. Rept. No. 119–15)

S. 257, to improve the resilience of critical supply chains, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 119–16)

S. Res. 86, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2758 (XXVI) and the harmful conflation of China's "One China Principle" and the United States' "One China Policy".

S. Res. 98, condemning Beijing's destruction of Hong Kong's democracy and rule of law.

S. Res. 106, supporting the goals of International Women's Day.

S. 555, to direct the Secretary of State to establish a national registry of Korean American divided families, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 821, to provide for increased reporting regarding Department of State Taiwan guidelines, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 842, to counter efforts by Hezbollah to conduct terrorist activities in Latin America, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 860, 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.

S. 868, to support democracy and the rule of law in Georgia. **Page S2607**

Measures Passed:

Second Chance Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 149, designating April 2025 as "Second Chance Month", and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S2610**

NATIONAL EMERGENCY DESIGNATION ON GLOBAL TARIFFS—AGREEMENT: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, following consultation with the Democratic Leader, no earlier than Wednesday, April 30, 2025, S. J. Res. 49, terminating the national emergency declared to impose global tariffs, be discharged from the Committee on Finance, and Senate begin consideration of the joint resolution; that there be 6 hours for debate only with the time equally divided between the Leaders, or their designees, on the joint resolution; and that following the use or yielding back of that time, Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution. **Page S2593**

PERDUE NOMINATION—AGREEMENT: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of David Perdue, of Georgia, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of China. **Page S2596**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 64 yeas to 27 nays (Vote No. 214), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S2595–96**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, April 29, 2025; that notwithstanding Rule XXII, at 11:30 a.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, and following confirmation the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Warren Stephens, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador

to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and that at 2:15 p.m., if cloture is invoked, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Warren Stephens, followed by the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Thomas Barrack, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey. **Page S2610**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Navy, and Space Force. **Pages S2610–12**

Messages from the House: **Page S2606**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2606–07**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2605–06**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S2607**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2607–09**

Privileges of the Floor: **Pages S2609–10**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—214) **Page S2596**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:52 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 29, 2025. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2610.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 25 public bills, H.R. 3029–3053; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 353, 355–356, were introduced. **Pages H1682–83**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1684–85**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2240, to require the Attorney General to develop reports relating to violent attacks against law enforcement officers, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–79);

H.R. 2255, to allow Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–80);

H.R. 2243, to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–81);

H.R. 633, to require covered platforms to remove nonconsensual intimate visual depictions, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–82); and

H. Res. 354, providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 60) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to “Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles”; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 78) pro-

viding for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Distinct Population Segment of the Longfin Smelt”; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 87) providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code; of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “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”; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 88) providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 89) providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “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”; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–83).

Page H1682

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Miller-Meeks to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H1629

Recess: The House recessed at 12:32 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Page H1632

Recess: The House recessed at 5:07 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H1668

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Miracle on Ice Congressional Gold Medal Act: H.R. 452, to award 3 Congressional Gold Medals to the members of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Men’s Ice Hockey Team, in recognition of their extraordinary achievement at the 1980 Winter Olympics where, being comprised of amateur collegiate players, they defeated the dominant Soviet hockey team in the historic “Miracle on Ice”, revitalizing American morale at the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations and transforming the sport of hockey in the United States;

Pages H1633–35

American Music Tourism Act of 2025: H.R. 617, to amend the Visit America Act to promote music tourism;

Pages H1635–37

Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act: H.R. 973, to establish consumer standards for lithium-ion batteries, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 365 yeas to 42 nays, Roll No. 103;

Pages H1637–40, H1668

Tools to Address Known Exploitation by Immobilizing Technological Deepfakes on Websites and Networks Act: S. 146, to require covered platforms to remove nonconsensual intimate visual depictions, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 409 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 104;

Pages H1644–47, H1669

Hotel Fees Transparency Act of 2025: H.R. 1479, to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging;

Pages H1647–50

Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act of 2025: H.R. 2480, to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production;

Pages H1650–51

Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act: H.R. 1721, to direct the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a study on the feasibility of

manufacturing in the United States products for critical infrastructure sectors;

Pages H1651–52

Secure Space Act of 2025: H.R. 2458, to amend the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from granting a license or United States market access for a geostationary orbit satellite system or a nongeostationary orbit satellite system, or an authorization to use an individually licensed earth station or a blanket-licensed earth station, if the license, grant of market access, or authorization would be held or controlled by an entity that produces or provides any covered communications equipment or service or an affiliate of such an entity;

Pages H1652–53

Promoting Resilient Supply Chains Act of 2025: H.R. 2444, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency and crisis response program in the Department of Commerce, and to secure American leadership in deploying emerging technologies;

Pages H1653–57

National Telecommunications and Information Administration Reauthorization Act of 2025: H.R. 2482, amended, to reauthorize the National Telecommunications and Information Administration;

Pages H1657–61

Removing Our Unsecure Technologies to Ensure Reliability and Security Act: H.R. 866, amended, 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;

Pages H1661–62

Rural Broadband Protection Act of 2025: H.R. 2399, to require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a vetting process for prospective applicants for high-cost universal service program funding;

Pages H1662–63

Future Uses of Technology Upholding Reliable and Enhanced Networks Act: H.R. 2449, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a task force to be known as the “6G Task Force”; and

Pages H1663–65

Foreign Adversary Communications Transparency Act: H.R. 906, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to publish a list of entities that hold authorizations, licenses, or other grants of authority issued by the Commission and that have certain foreign ownership.

Pages H1665–66

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Transparency In Charges for Key Events Ticketing Act: H.R. 1402, to require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees;

Pages H1640–42

Youth Poisoning Protection Act: H.R. 1442, amended, to ban the sale of products with a high concentration of sodium nitrite to individuals; and

Pages H1642–43

Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act: H.R. 859, to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices.

Pages H1666–68

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1668 and H1669.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Committee Meetings

PROVIDING FOR DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE RELATING TO “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”; PROVIDING FOR DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE RELATING TO “CALIFORNIA STATE MOTOR VEHICLE AND ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; ADVANCED CLEAN CARS II; WAIVER OF PREEMPTION; NOTICE OF DECISION”; PROVIDING FOR DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE RELATING TO “CALIFORNIA STATE MOTOR VEHICLE AND ENGINE AND NONROAD ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; THE ‘OMNIBUS’ LOW NOX REGULATION; WAIVER OF PREEMPTION; NOTICE OF DECISION”; PROVIDING FOR DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE RELATING TO “GLEN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA: MOTOR VEHICLES”; PROVIDING FOR DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE RELATING TO “ENDANGERED AND THREATENED WILDLIFE AND PLANTS; ENDANGERED SPECIES STATUS FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY-DELTA DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENT OF THE LONGFIN SMELT”

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.J. Res. 87, providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “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”; H.J. Res. 88, providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”; H.J. Res. 89, providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad

Engine Pollution Control Standards; The ‘Omnibus’ Low NOX Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”; H.J. Res. 60, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to “Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles”; and H.J. Res. 78, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Distinct Population Segment of the Longfin Smelt”. The Committee granted, by voice vote, a rule providing for consideration of H.J. Res. 60, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to “Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles”, H.J. Res. 78, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Distinct Population Segment of the Longfin Smelt”, H.J. Res. 87, Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “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”, H.J. Res. 88, Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”, and H.J. Res. 89, Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The ‘Omnibus’ Low NOX Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”. The rule provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 60, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to “Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles”, and H.J. Res. 78, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of

the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Distinct Population Segment of the Longfin Smelt”, under closed rules. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of each joint resolution. The rule provides that each joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in each joint resolution. The rule provides one hour of general debate on each joint resolution equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees. The rule provides each joint resolution one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.J. Res. 87, Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “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”, H.J. Res. 88, Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”, and H.J. Res. 89, Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The ‘Omnibus’ Low NOX Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”, under closed rules. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of each joint resolution. The rule provides that each joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in each joint resolution. The rule provides one hour of general debate on each joint resolution equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees. The rule provides each joint resolution one motion to recommit. Finally, the rule provides that each day during the period from April 29, 2025, through September 30, 2025, shall not constitute a legislative day for purposes of clause 7 of rule Thirteen (Resolutions of Inquiry). Testimony was heard from Chairman Westerman, and Representatives Dexter, Joyce of Pennsylvania, and Tonko.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D284)

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”. Signed on April 10, 2025. (Public Law 119–5)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: business meeting to consider the nominations of Stephen Vaden, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Secretary, and Tyler Clarkson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, both of the Department of Agriculture; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the nominations of Luke Lindberg, of South Dakota, to be Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, and Devon Westhill, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Agriculture, 3 p.m., SH–216.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for Congressional Budget Office, the Government Accountability Office, and the Government Publishing Office, 10 a.m., SD–138.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael Cadenazzi, of Rhode Island, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, and Scott Pappano, of Pennsylvania, to be Principal Deputy Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider the nominations of William Kimmitt, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, and Kenneth Kies, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine bridging the gap, focusing on enhancing outreach to support veterans' mental health, 10:30 a.m., SD–106.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service, Office of Congressional Workplace

Rights, and Congressional Office for International Leadership, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Member Day”, 10:30 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, markup on Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “Energy, Installations, and Environment Update”, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Full Committee, markup on Committee Print to comply with reconciliation directives included in H. Con. Res. 14 Section 2001(b)(3); and H. Res. 344, of inquiry requesting the President, and directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to transmit respectively to the House of Representatives certain documents relating to the elimination of the Administration for Community Living, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2483, the “SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025”; H.R. 1520, the “Charlotte Woodward Organ Transplant Discrimination Prevention Act”; H.R. 2319, the “Women and Lung Cancer Research and Preventive Services Act of 2025”; H.R. 1669, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond to Health and Wellness Training Program; H.R. 1082, the “Shandra Eisenga Human Cell and Tissue Product Safety Act”; and H.R. 2484, the “Seniors' Access to Critical Medications Act of 2025”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions, hearing entitled “Regulatory Overreach: The Price Tag on American Prosperity”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Capital Markets, hearing entitled “Exposing the Proxy Advisory Cartel: How ISS & Glass Lewis Influence Markets”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Europe Subcommittee, hearing entitled “Shaping the Future of Cyber Diplomacy: Review for State Department Reauthorization”, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, markup on Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Why the Wait? Unpacking California's Untimely Election Counting Process”, 10:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Exploring the Potential of Deep-Sea Mining to Expand American Mineral Production”, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 528, “Post-Disaster Reforestation and Restoration Act of 2025”; H.R. 655, the “Dalles Watershed Development Act”; H.R. 1276, to remove restrictions from a parcel of

land in Paducah, Kentucky; and H.R. 2876, the “University of Utah Research Park Act”, 10:30 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “Tracking Progress: Updates to DoD’s Financial Management Scorecard”, 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled “Made in the USA: Igniting the Industrial Renaissance of the United States”, 11 a.m., HVC–210.

Subcommittee on Military and Foreign Affairs, hearing entitled “Securing the Skies: Addressing Unauthorized Drone Activity Over U.S. Military Installations”, 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation, hearing entitled “Unlocking Government Efficiency Through IT Modernization”, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2984, the “ASTRO Act”; H.R. 2600, the “ASCEND Act”; H.R. 2313, the “Celestial Time Standardization Act”; H.R. 2613, the “Next Generation Pipelines Research and Development Act”; H.R. 1223, the “ANCHOR Act”; and H.R. 3029, the “Nucleic Acid Standards for Biosecurity Act”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled “America Builds: The Need for a Long-Term Solution for the Highway Trust Fund”, 10:15 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Dignity Denied: The Case for Reform at State Veterans Homes”, 2:15 p.m., 360 Cannon.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of April 29 through May 2, 2025

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of David Perdue, of Georgia, to be Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of David Perdue, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Warren Stephens, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Warren Stephens, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Thomas Barrack, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey.

Additional roll call votes are expected during Tuesday’s session of the Senate.

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: April 29, business meeting to consider the nominations of Stephen Vaden, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Secretary, and Tyler Clarkson, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, both of the Department of Agriculture; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the nominations of Luke Lindberg, of South Dakota, to be Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, and Devon Westhill, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Agriculture, 3 p.m., SH–216.

Committee on Appropriations: April 29, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for Congressional Budget Office, the Government Accountability Office, and the Government Publishing Office, 10 a.m., SD–138.

April 30, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine biomedical research, focusing on keeping America’s edge in innovation, 10:30 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Armed Services: April 29, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael Cadenazzi, of Rhode Island, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, and Scott Pappano, of Pennsylvania, to be Principal Deputy Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

April 30, Subcommittee on Airland, to receive a closed briefing on America’s Air Force, 4 p.m., SVC–217.

May 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Matthew Lohmeier, of Arizona, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force, Justin Overbaugh, of Florida, to be a Deputy Under Secretary, and Daniel Zimmerman, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: May 1, to hold hearings to examine insurance markets and the role of mitigation policies, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: April 30, business meeting to consider S. 29, to make daylight saving time permanent, S. 191, to require the Secretary of Transportation to modify certain regulations relating to the requirements for commercial driver’s license testing and commercial learner’s permit holders, S. 196, to improve online ticket sales and protect consumers, S. 259, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to publish a list of entities that hold authorizations, licenses, or other grants of authority issued by the Commission and that have certain foreign ownership, S. 320, to authorize the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, S. 580, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People’s Republic of China, S. 606, to authorize the Administrator of the

National Aeronautics and Space Administration to reimburse the Town of Chincoteague, Virginia, for costs directly associated with the removal and replacement of certain drinking water wells, S. 688, to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing at its sources globally, S. 725, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting, to categorize public safety telecommunications as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification system, S. 769, to amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act to clarify the definition of foreign country for purposes of malign foreign talent recruitment restriction, S. 1003, to require the Federal Communications Commission to issue an order providing that a shark attack is an event for which a wireless emergency alert may be transmitted, S. 1081, to require the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to submit certain reports to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, S. 1278, to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to conduct a project to improve forecasts of coastal marine fog, S. 1378, to enhance the use by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of artificial intelligence for weather forecasting, S. 1433, to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits, S. 1437, to require the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to establish a program to identify, evaluate, acquire, and disseminate commercial Earth remote sensing data and imagery in order to satisfy the scientific, operational, and educational requirements of the Administration, S. 1492, to require the Secretary of Commerce support the leadership of the United States with respect to the deployment, use, application, and competitiveness of blockchain technology, and the nominations of Olivia Trusty, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, Jared Isaacman, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and routine lists in the Coast Guard, 10 a.m., SR-253.

May 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul Dabbar, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: April 30, business meeting to consider S. 714, to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, and the nominations of Preston Griffith, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary, and Dario Gil, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Science, both of the Department of Energy; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the nominations of Leslie Beyer, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Andrea Travnicek, of North Dakota, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of the Interior, and Theodore J. Garrish, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary (Nuclear Energy), and Tristan Abbey, of Florida, to be Ad-

ministrator of the Energy Information Administration, both of the Department of Energy, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: April 30, to hold hearings to examine opportunities to strengthen water infrastructure programs, focusing on the IJIA's successes, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on Finance: April 29, business meeting to consider the nominations of William Kimmitt, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, and Kenneth Kies, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD-215.

April 30, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Rodney Scott, of Oklahoma, to be Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: April 30, business meeting to consider the nominations of Brian Burch, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Holy See, Brandon Judd, of Idaho, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Chile, Nicole McGraw, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, Thomas DiNanno, of Florida, to be Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, Sarah Rogers, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy, and Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary (Political Affairs), all of the Department of State, 10 a.m., S-116, Capitol.

May 1, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Leah Campos, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, 10:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: April 30, business meeting to consider S. 558, to provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and S. 163, to require institutions of higher education participating in Federal student aid programs to share information about title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, including a link to the webpage of the Office for Civil Rights where an individual can submit a complaint regarding discrimination in violation of such title, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on the Judiciary: April 30, to hold hearings to examine certain pending nominations, 10:15 a.m., SD-226.

May 1, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, and Brett Shumate, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10:15 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: April 29, to hold hearings to examine bridging the gap, focusing on enhancing outreach to support veterans' mental health, 10:30 a.m., SD-106.

Select Committee on Intelligence: April 29, closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

April 30, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: April 30, to hold hearings to examine the rise of Antisemitism and supporting older Americans, 3:30 p.m., SH-216.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, April 30, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, oversight hearing on the U.S. Postal Service, 10 a.m., 2358–A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, April 30, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled “Missile Defense and Missile Defeat Programmatic Updates”, 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 30, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing entitled “Military Department Personnel Chiefs: Personal Posture”, 3:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

May 1, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled “Small UAS and Counter-Small UAS: Gaps, Requirements, and Projected Capabilities”, 9 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, April 30, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled “Investing for the Future: Honoring ERISA’s Promise to Participants”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, April 30, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “Global Networks at Risk: Securing the Future of Communications Infrastructure”, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

April 30, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Assuring Abundant, Reliable American Energy to Power Innovation”, 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, April 30, Full Committee, markup on Financial Services Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025; and H. Res. 259, of inquiry requesting the President to provide certain documents in the President’s possession to the House of Representatives relating to the access provided to the staff and advisers of, including any individual working for or in conjunction with, the Department of Government Efficiency to the systems, applications, and accounts, and any information contained therein, of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, April 30, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Need for an Authorized State Department”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, April 30, Full Committee, markup on legislative proposals to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 2001 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025, H. Con. Res. 14, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, April 30, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing entitled “Advancing Federal Water and Hydropower Development: A Stakeholder Perspective”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 30, Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, hearing on H.R. 1451, the “Quapaw Tribal Settlement Act of 2025”; H.R. 2302, the “Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Land Transfer Act of 2025”; H.R. 2389, the “Quinault Indian Nation Land Transfer Act”; and H.R. 2400, the “Pit River Land Transfer Act of 2025”, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, April 30, Full Committee, markup on Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Reconciliation Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 14; H. Res. 264, of inquiry requesting the President transmit certain documents in his possession to the House of Representatives relating to the security clearances held by Elon Musk, members of the United States Department of Government Efficiency Service, and any other individual considered to be a member of the DOGE team; H. Res. 286, of inquiry requesting the President to transmit certain documents relating to the dangerous, unaccountable use of AI by the United States DOGE Service to jeopardize the private information and essential services of the American people; and H. Res. 316, of inquiry requesting the President to transmit certain documents relating to the use of insecure electronic communication platforms, including Signal, for official communications and to the compliance of the Administration with all Federal records laws, 10 a.m., HVC-210.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, April 30, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Risky Business Part 2: The DOE Loan Guarantee Program”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, April 30, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1163, the “Prove It Act of 2025”; H.R. 2027, the “Returning SBA to Main Street Act”; H.R. 2987, the “Capping Excessive Awarding of SBLC Entrants Act”; H.R. 2931, the “Save SBA from Sanctuary Cities Act”; H.R. 2968, the “Business over Ballots Act”; H.R. 2965, the “Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act of 2025”; and H.R. 2966, the “American Entrepreneurs First Act”, 9:45 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, April 30, Full Committee, markup on Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, April 30, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Answering the Call: Examining VA’s Mental Health Policies”, 10 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, April 29

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of David Perdue, of Georgia, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of David Perdue, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Warren Stephens, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Warren Stephens, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Thomas Barrack, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey.

Additional roll call votes are expected during Tuesday's session of the Senate.

(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Warren Stephens until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, April 29

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.J. Res. 60—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to "Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles" (Subject to a Rule).

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