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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 6, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DALE W. STRONG 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 11:50 a.m.

MEDICAID IS A LIFELINE

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM of Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, our kids, our seniors, and constituents deserve to live healthy, prosperous, and independent lives. That is why I spoke with hundreds of my constituents at a Medicaid townhall this past weekend, since most of them depend on Medicaid to live fulfilling lives with dignity.

The impacts of the \$880 billion in cuts being proposed to Medicaid are not statistics. They are children, par-

ents, educators, and grandparents. They are our neighbors and our friends.

I heard from a father whose son was almost institutionalized. He was getting ready to quit his job to take care of his son full time. Instead, his son got access to care through Medicaid, which allowed the father to continue running his nonprofit, which was helping adults with intellectual disabilities.

I listened to a grandparent of two intellectually disabled kids who has been their legal guardian for 15 years now. With the help of Medicaid, both children are living independently. Yet, with these cuts, they may face medication bills of \$7,000 per month and be forced to move back in with their grandparents.

I heard from a nurse who shared that 40 percent of the births in her hospital are covered by Medicaid, including prenatal, maternal, and postpartum care. That is what supporting families and family values looks like.

A speech language pathologist at a title I school told me that most of her students are on Medicaid. They rely on it for free and reduced school lunches, and students with disabilities rely on it for their education.

Mr. Speaker, let's look at the facts. Medicaid supports 1.8 million Virginians, and hundreds of thousands of them would lose their Medicaid access because a 1 percent cut in the Federal Government's contribution to Virginia's Medicaid program will mean everyone from Medicaid expansion loses their Medicaid.

There are 3 in 10 children who are on Medicaid, 2 in 7 working-age adults with disabilities are on Medicaid, and 5 in 8 nursing home residents are on Medicaid.

Medicaid is also the fourth largest Federal funding source of our public schools. It provides mental health services. It ensures kids with disabilities get what they need. In 43 States, including Virginia, it also provides ac-

cess to free and reduced-priced school meals.

There are over 37 million children enrolled in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program, or CHIP, in the United States. These are the most vulnerable people in the country who stand to lose the most from these deep funding cuts.

If my colleagues want to talk about fiscal responsibility, cuts to Medicaid will mean less preventative care, more costly emergency room visits, and much higher costs for treating preventable diseases and illnesses. That will increase premiums and costs for every single American, even those with private insurance, those who are not on Medicaid. Everyone will be affected by these cuts.

Yet, we hear that these cuts won't touch Medicaid, but that is not true. Just look at the math. It is the only way to make these cuts.

Medicaid is a lifeline. It is not a line item that can be blindly chopped to pay for a partisan wish list of bad ideas and tax cuts for the biggest corporations. In the richest country in the world, we should be working to cure diseases, explore new medical technologies, and expand Medicaid, not cutting off basic care.

Mr. Speaker, our kids, our seniors, and our communities deserve better.

MYTHS OF MEDICAID REFORM

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I will respond that, once again, we hear myth after myth when we talk about reforms to Medicaid, which its greatest threat is \$37 trillion in debt.

Yet, when we talk about reforms to a Medicaid program, it is to preserve Medicaid, and children, the disabled, and nursing homes would not be impacted.

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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HONORING CHIEF KEITH KIMBALL ON HIS
RETIREMENT

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Chief Keith Kimball, who served the people of Bettendorf and the State of Iowa with distinction for 35 years.

Chief Kimball started on third-shift patrol and worked his way through the ranks with grit, integrity, and a heart for service. From becoming Bettendorf's first-ever school resource officer to leading the Investigative Services Bureau and, finally, being named chief in 2018, he never lost sight of his mission: to serve and protect with honor.

He has been a mentor to many, a leader in his department, and a trusted figure in the community. Chief Kimball represents the very best of law enforcement: steadfast, compassionate, and committed to making a difference.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chief Kimball for his dedication to the people of Bettendorf and for setting an example that will inspire future officers for years to come.

I congratulate Chief Kimball on his retirement. He has earned it.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, this National Small Business Week, I rise to celebrate the small businesses that power Iowa and make our country strong.

As a former small business owner myself, I know the early mornings, the long nights, the lack of vacations, and the risks it takes to keep a business running. These men and women are the heart of Main Street America, and they deserve leaders who will fight for them.

In Iowa, small businesses represent 99 percent of all businesses in the State. In President Trump's first term, Congress passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, giving small businesses the relief that they needed to grow and hire.

I will also say that there are no Fortune 500 businesses without first starting as a small business, or a mom and pop.

If we don't act now, those tax cuts will expire, and Iowa's small businesses will be hit with a crushing 20 percent tax hike. We cannot let that happen.

Let's extend the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, protect small business owners and farmers, and keep the American Dream alive in Iowa and across the country.

IN MEMORY OF JAY BYERS

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of President Jay Byers, a proud Iowan and dedicated public servant who has led Simpson College at Indianola until his untimely passing on April 17.

Jay spent his life working to make Iowa a better place, from his years as CEO of the Greater Des Moines Partnership, where he championed economic growth across the metro, to his time as president of Simpson College, where he put his students first every single day. He brought energy, vision, and a heart to everything he did.

Jay is survived by his loving wife, Katie, and their daughters, and my

prayers are with them, the entire greater Des Moines area, and Indianola during this difficult time. Iowa has lost a leader, Simpson College has lost a champion, and many of us have lost a dear friend.

Mr. Speaker, may Jay rest in peace. Our prayers are with him.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
IS NOT JUST A CONVENIENCE

(Ms. MCBRIDE of Delaware was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, the United States Postal Service isn't just a convenience. It is a constitutional promise.

For more than two centuries, the USPS has connected every corner of this country, delivering prescriptions to seniors, paychecks to workers, and ballots to voters. They do all of this without taxpayer funding because it was never built for profit but for the public good.

Today, that promise is under threat. This administration's effort to privatize the Postal Service would mean higher costs, slower service, and the elimination of rural delivery because corporations won't serve what isn't profitable. It will also mean the loss of strong, middle-class jobs for over 640,000 postal workers across the country, including nearly 74,000 U.S. veterans. In Delaware alone, nearly 1,000 of my neighbors would be at risk.

This isn't about efficiency. This is about dismantling public services so that Republicans can prove that government doesn't work and then hand those services to the highest bidder.

We should be strengthening the Postal Service, not selling it off, because some things should serve people, not profit.

ADDRESSING SHORTAGE OF AIR TRAFFIC
CONTROLLERS

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, this week's travel delays and cancellations are frustrating millions, but behind the headlines is a deeper issue: a national shortage of air traffic controllers, pushing a vital workforce to the brink.

I recently toured the Philadelphia International Airport and met directly with controllers managing the skies above Delaware. They are working 10-hour days, 6 days a week, making split-second decisions to monitor thousands of lives at once. The pressure is relentless, and the margin for mistakes is zero.

On top of all of this stress, this administration and Republicans in Congress are trying to gut their retirement security. Air traffic controllers are mandated to retire at 56. Yet, this administration and House Republicans are advancing a proposal to shrink the retirement benefits for Federal employees who are retiring before 62, all to help pay for tax cuts for the wealthy. We cannot expect to solve for shortages by breaking our promises to air traffic controllers after a lifetime of work.

The problems we are hearing about at Newark could be a nationwide problem if the majority in Congress continues to disrespect and deplete this vital workforce.

CONGRATULATING STUDENTS OF CHARTER
SCHOOL OF WILMINGTON

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate an extraordinary achievement by students from the Charter School of Wilmington, who were just named national winners of Samsung's Solve for Tomorrow STEM competition.

These brilliant students, who I met with last week, tackled Delaware's physician shortage with an innovative solution: an AI-powered smart bandage that monitors wound healing in real time.

Their project, called AKQUA-Gel, rose to the top from thousands of entries nationwide, earning their school a \$100,000 prize package and a national title.

This isn't just a win for Delaware. It is a powerful reminder of what young people can achieve when we invest in education, in STEM, and in their belief that they can solve big problems in their communities.

While I am a proud graduate of Cab Calloway, I couldn't help but come to the well of the House to congratulate the Charter School of Wilmington. They have made Delaware proud and inspired us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRUCE AND
PAM FRIEDLANDER

(Mr. BACON of Nebraska was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my great friends and two wonderful civic leaders of Omaha, Bruce and Pam Friedlander, during Jewish Heritage Month for their lifelong commitment to service, generosity, and helping others in our community.

Bruce and Pam grew up in Omaha, attending Omaha Central High School, but they didn't meet until they both attended the University of Nebraska Lincoln. They were married in July 1971, and each proudly say that the other is the best decision they have ever made.

Bruce tells people he started working at his grandfather's store, Louis' Market, at the age of 2 and jokes that he failed retirement five times.

In addition to running a successful business, Bruce's grandfather Louis, who is from Russia, was an avid baseball fan and would frequently take Bruce and the other grandchildren to baseball games.

Bruce said his grandfather would tear up during the national anthem at every game because he was free. Bruce says he is not trying to be his grandfather but credits him as being the best mentor he ever had.

After learning a strong work ethic from his grandfather and his father,

Bruce bought Food 4 Less at 84th and Harrison and attempted his first retirement in 1993. He then worked for Bakers, following the owner's motto: Find a way to say yes to your customers. That is something I have heard Bruce say many times. He then became director of operations for Cubby's, Incorporated, in 2005 and retired in 2015 once again.

Pam is an accomplished educator who devoted 32 years to Omaha Public Schools. She is passionate about going to the synagogue and reading the Torah. She believes people should listen to each other, be there for each other, and listen to God every day. That is great advice for everyone.

Their pride is their two children, Andee and Jimmy—I know both of them; they are wonderful—and their four grandchildren. Bruce credits Pam with their smarts. Enhancing the quality of life for others is their family's mission.

Bruce has continued his service as a member of the Jewish Federation, which oversees the Jewish Community Center, also known as the JCC, and the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home. He served as president from 2017 to 2018.

Approximately 1,500 people visit the JCC every day, and a significant number are not Jewish. Bruce credits this to the theme of the Jewish Federation, which says: "Everyone is welcome." The Friedlanders apply this to their work every day.

As the JCC gets ready to celebrate 100 years, Bruce is helping to lead a 100 Days of Giving campaign to expand the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home and serve more people. He tells everyone that the home is our safety net.

The Friedlanders have volunteered at Beth El Synagogue. In addition, Bruce helped to revamp the Omaha Community Playhouse, serving as the president of the board. Bruce and Pam were the honorary chairs for the Omaha Community Playhouse's 100th anniversary.

Bruce was named Volunteer of the Year by the Jewish Federation in 2009, 2010, and again in 2015. He has added a new role of serving with the Boys Town Boosters, who help to raise funds to ensure that every child deserves a future.

□ 1015

Reflecting on his life, Bruce often says that he was "blessed to be born into a wonderful family and a wonderful community." He tells others: "My family were experts at helping people. During the time I have spent giving back, I have had three rules: first, take care of yourself and those you love; second, do your job; and, third, take someone with you."

Bruce and Pam have passed down their wisdom to future generations, including their grandchildren. Their advice? It is not who gave the money but who made the difference; don't get your information from social media; and when you hear the jets fly overhead toward Offutt Air Force Base, realize that they are keeping us safe."

As Bruce has said: "When you save someone, God remembers your name."

Thank you, Bruce and Pam. Surely, God does remember your names. "Thank you so much"; "Toda rabah."

RECOGNIZING MAKIKO SHIRAI

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and service of Makiko Shirai, a Japanese foreign service worker who worked to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Japan.

On May 20, Makiko will be presented with Japan's Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold and Silver Rays, for 35 years of supporting the U.S.-Japanese relationship.

Throughout her career, Makiko served more than 90,000 Japanese nationals in the Los Angeles area, and she played a large role in the Consulate's emergency response to the 1994 Northridge earthquake and again during the attacks of 9/11 on our country.

I thank my good friend and neighbor, Makiko. I thank her for being a role model and showing us all what the power of relationships between countries can do.

Congratulations to Makiko on a well-deserved honor.

RECOGNIZING SOPHIE GARCIA

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sophie Garcia, a sophomore at Orange Lutheran High School in my district, who is making school history as the first female wrestler to win a CIF Southern Sectional individual wrestling championship.

Sophie's championship run included winning five matches in the 2-day tournament, showcasing her exceptional skill, determination, and competitive spirit.

Sophie trained very hard but studied even harder. She maintained a 4.2 GPA, earning recognition as a student-athlete scholar.

I am very proud of Sophie. I know she is going to do even better and will keep up the good work.

RECOGNIZING FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA

(Mr. FLOOD of Nebraska was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor and celebrate the recent recognition of one of Nebraska's preeminent banks and a pillar of the community it serves, First National Bank Omaha, better known as FNBO.

FNBO has long led Nebraska's banking sector, especially in their efforts to expand access to affordable housing across our State. By engaging with local communities, listening to stakeholder feedback, and leveraging the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka's Affordable Housing Program, FNBO

has become a driving force in promoting homeownership across Nebraska.

Their dedication was recently recognized when FNBO was named Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka's overall Housing Champion of the Year. Along with the honor, they received a \$5,000 award, which is going to the Nebraska Housing Developers Association.

All of Nebraska is proud of the work FNBO is doing in housing. I look forward to seeing what they can do next to strengthen our communities through more affordable housing.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF BRYAN HEALTH

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize and celebrate a truly remarkable milestone for the city of Lincoln and the entire State of Nebraska, the 100th Anniversary of Bryan Health.

Since first opening its doors in 1925, Bryan Health has grown from a hospital in Lincoln into one of Nebraska's most innovative, trusted, and patient-oriented healthcare networks.

Over the past century, Bryan Health has expanded its reach and services to meet the needs of communities in Kearney, Crete, Grand Island, Merrick County, and well beyond.

Bryan Health's commitment to compassionate care and medical excellence continues to draw patients from across our State. Their enduring mission puts patients, families, and their communities first, and it has earned them the respect and gratitude of generations of Nebraskans.

Once again, I congratulate all of Bryan Health's staff and medical professionals for their 100 years of remarkable service and leadership in healthcare.

REBEL ROBOTICS FTC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the next generation of leaders and innovators emerging from my own hometown. This inspiring group of young people is known as the Rebel Robotics FTC team.

Rebel Robotics is a FIRST Tech Challenge team hailing proudly from Norfolk, Nebraska. Founded in 2019, the team gives students the opportunity to engage directly with cutting-edge technologies and robotics shaping our future.

Most recently, Rebel Robotics stood out at the FIRST Championship held this year in Houston, Texas. Competing against top teams from across the country, they earned the prestigious Inspire Award, which recognizes excellence in programming, robot design, engineering portfolios, judged presentations, professionalism, as well as community outreach.

The Inspire Award is the highest honor presented at the competition, and it also means that Rebel Robotics secured a world championship title in Houston.

I congratulate these exceptional high school students on their achievements and for inspiring others to explore the world of robotics.

**RECOGNIZING SCRIPPS VICE
CHANCELLOR MARGARET LEINEN**

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Margaret Leinen, who is stepping down as director of Scripps Institution of Oceanography and vice chancellor for marine science at the University of California San Diego.

The Scripps Institution of Oceanography works to study and find solutions to our most pressing environmental challenges, such as the relationship among our oceans, climate change, and human health.

Under Dr. Leinen's leadership, Scripps grew its degree programs and student enrollment, doubled its sponsored research and philanthropic funding, and furthered UC San Diego's reputation as one of the prestigious research institutions on the world stage.

Dr. Leinen has shaped our ocean and climate research. She oversaw the commissioning of state-of-the-art research vessels, the opening of multiple new facilities, and fostered Scripps' relationship with San Diego's developing blue economy industry.

Dr. Leinen has also served as the U.S. Department of State's science envoy for the oceans to Latin America and the Pacific and as assistant director for geosciences at the National Science Foundation. I have enjoyed working with her and learning from her at the U.N. climate change conferences, or COP.

Dr. Leinen's work has left an extraordinary mark on oceanography. I thank Dr. Margaret Leinen for her service. Along with all of San Diego, I wish her the best in her retirement.

RECOGNIZING DR. ALESSANDRO SETTE

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of mine, Dr. Alessandro Sette, for being awarded the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic and being granted the status of knight, or Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella d'Italia, for his exceptional work in immunology. He was previously elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Academy of Microbiology.

Dr. Sette is a professor at the La Jolla Institute for Immunology in the centers for autoimmunity and inflammation, infectious disease, and vaccine research. He has dedicated his career to understanding our body's immune system and developing interventions against cancer, autoimmunity, allergies, and infectious diseases. His laboratory works to understand scientific structures called epitopes that the immune system recognizes in diseases, and he uses this knowledge to improve our immune responses.

Dr. Sette's research led to the creation of the Immune Epitope Database, which is a vital source of experimental data on antibody and T cell responses.

Dr. Sette's research revealed how T cells can fight pathogens like tuberculosis, dengue, SARS-CoV-2, pertussis, and the virus that causes Mpox.

Dr. Sette and the La Jolla Institute team were the first in the world to publish a detailed analysis of our immune system's response to the coronavirus. Their research exemplifies San Diego's role in developing the cures and treatments of tomorrow.

I congratulate Dr. Alessandro Sette on his achievements and on this most recent distinct honor of being knighted by the Italian Republic.

RECOGNIZING DR. SHANE CROTTY

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable Shane Crotty, a San Diegan and world-renowned immunologist whose work has transformed our understanding of the human immune system.

Dr. Crotty's groundbreaking research into the body's response to virus was not only vital to the global fight against COVID-19 but also to the advancement of vaccines and treatments for a wide range of infectious diseases.

In recognition of Dr. Crotty's enduring contributions to research on the immune system, he was recently elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. This honor is a testimony to the value of his scientific contributions and to the curiosity, integrity, and commitment to public service that define his work.

At a time when public trust in science is more important than ever, Dr. Crotty stands as a beacon of integrity, innovation, and hope. His tireless pursuit of knowledge continues to save lives and will inspire future generations of researchers.

I am grateful for his leadership and proud to honor his legacy, and I thank Dr. Crotty.

CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS

(Mr. HARIDOPOLOS of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I keep hearing the term "constitutional crisis" over and over again. Candidly, the only constitutional crisis that has taken place over the last 4 years was the last administration abandoning their responsibility to defend our border and allowing over 10 million people to enter this country illegally, cutting in line over people who want to come here legally and add to the American Dream.

We don't know who these 10 million people are, where they came from, or if they could be a danger to our community and country. On top of that, they put a strain on our social welfare system, schools, hospitals, and law enforcement, taking away resources from the tax-paying citizens in areas not just on the border but around the country.

When food, gas, and rent prices were going up by 20 and 30 percent, if not more, over that time period, the very

people who were breaking the law were actually getting free things, whether it be rent, phones, cash cards, and other things that Americans were struggling to pay for every single day.

Cleaning up this mess has become our responsibility, the new majority, the new administration that has committed itself to actually keeping the promises from the campaign trail in 2024. Instead of bending over backward to help people who are breaking the law, they want to look at it and say: How about those folks that were left behind?

They were facing a constitutional crisis in the sense that their own government was not enforcing the laws of this land.

As the new administration is moving forward to deport gang members, wife-beaters, and others, the real constitutional crisis is finally being defined, that America should finally stand up for the citizens who make this country great and allow people to enter this country in a legal way so they can contribute to the American Dream.

I am so proud of this administration for keeping those campaign promises and working swiftly and in a smart way to deport those folks who broke the law, not just coming to this country but once here in this country.

For a change, I think a lot of people are finally saying that the government is working for them instead of against them. Let's send a clear message that law and order mean something, the Constitution means something, and we can finally end this constitutional crisis.

I applaud the President for moving forward and allowing the American people to stand up. Let's just look at it candidly: When you are standing up exclusively for judges, you are not having a checks-and-balances system. You are putting one single judge above the American public's popular vote, let alone the electoral college.

I am so glad that this House said that we are going to move forward in a thoughtful way and not allow, again, one single judge, who is not elected by the people, to decide the policies of this government.

I thank the President for his leadership. We stand with him in making sure that the rule of law is finally followed, ending the constitutional crisis that existed for the last 4 years.

□ 1030

**CONGRATULATIONS TO MARELY
GUTIERREZ**

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

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, I will just say if this administration was keeping their promises, we would actually have a President, who, when asked if it is his responsibility to uphold the Constitution, wouldn't say I don't know, and instead of passing laws

about renaming bodies of water, we would actually be doing things to help the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the winners of this year's Congressional Art Competition.

Art is a cornerstone of educational success for our students, giving them a healthy, creative outlet to process their emotions and share their stories with the world.

We had over 80 talented young artists submit their work to my Congressional Art Competition as the California 31st Congressional District's Representative.

I am proud to announce Marelly Gutierrez, an Azusa High School senior, as our first-place winner. Her charcoal and graphic artwork, Heartfelt Gaze, will be hung in the Cannon tunnel for the next year for everyone to see.

I had the pleasure of meeting Marelly and the other talented young artists at a ceremony we hosted last month. Our ceremony was held in the beautiful Vincenzo's Terrazza in San Dimas, where we celebrated with students, parents, teachers, and everyone who participated in this year's competition.

It was such a joy to meet many of California 31st District's bright young artists and hear about the impact art has on their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Marelly again and all the students who submitted their artwork. I am so proud of each and every one of them.

HELP SMALL BUSINESSES THRIVE AGAIN

(Mr. MANN of Kansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, the Big First District of Kansas is home to more than 20,000 small businesses who employ over 80 percent of working adults in my district. These small businesses are the backbone of our economy. Their stories, defined by sacrifice, hard work, and determination, serve as a reminder of what the American Dream is all about: that anyone, from anywhere, can come to the U.S. the right way, work hard, make an honest living, and succeed. That is what it is all about.

Many of the small businesses I represent are family owned and operated. As the fifth generation to grow up on my family farm and feedyard in western Kansas, I understand the immense sense of pride and gratitude that comes with growing up around a family business. It is much more than a 9 to 5; it is a personal investment of endless hours to see a dream come to life. When that dream gets off the ground, families give it their all to keep it afloat. They take pride in serving their neighbors and leaving their communities better than they found them. Our Federal policies ought to help them do just that.

Since I came to Congress, I have worked nonstop to make this a reality.

Every year, I have introduced legislation to preserve stepped-up basis and to stop far-left Democrats' farm killer tax. For decades, stepped-up basis has protected families from being forced to pay capital gains taxes on inherited assets.

President Biden tried his best to remove this provision, which would have resulted in the destruction of family farms across my district and around the country. I have always and will continue to oppose any effort to impose new taxes on small, family-owned businesses, period.

I have fought to protect similar exemptions for students from family farms and small businesses. Last year, new FAFSA provisions altered the Federal formula for student aid, counting assets in small businesses and family farms as part of the family's net worth. My Family Farm and Small Business Exemption Act seeks to correct this flaw and to level the playing field for students who come from these families.

When these students are applying for higher education financial aid, assets tied up in a small business should not count against them. As their families work tirelessly to make an honest living and serve their neighbors, we should make it easier for them to succeed and pass on these businesses to the next generation.

My bill evens the playing field and protects the American Dream for every student. I was proud to see it included in the bill that the House Education and Workforce Committee marked up last week.

Congress should also roll back burdensome regulations that further handcuff our small businesses in an already challenging environment. For the last 4 years, our small business owners navigated regulation after regulation imposed by the Biden administration. President Biden attempted to regulate every aspect of small business owners' livelihoods if they didn't fall in line with his Green New Deal agenda.

Small business owners, already struggling with sky-high inflation, begged Washington, D.C., for less regulation and more freedom to just make a living. The Republican majority has spent the last 4 months rolling back these regulations. That is what our small business owners want and that is what they deserve.

Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, over the last few months, this body will work to further support small business owners by extending the 2017 tax cuts. These historic tax cuts by President Trump during his first term ushered in an economic boom that benefited America's small businesses and the communities they serve. We have a duty to bring back the growing economy and to ensure that family businesses that are the backbone of our country can thrive again.

If we fail to extend the Trump tax cuts, small businesses will see their tax rates nearly double, harming local economies and Main Street. This finan-

cial burden would limit small businesses' ability to grow and force some to reduce the size of their staffs or even close their doors entirely. America can't afford to leave these men and women out to dry.

During this National Small Business Week, we thank the hardworking men and women who make up the more than 33 million small businesses across our great Nation, employing nearly 62 million Americans, and equipping them to feed their families, put a roof over their heads, and clothes on their backs. I look forward to working with my colleagues in this body to see America's small business community thrive once again.

Mr. Speaker, if our small businesses fail, America fails, and the world cannot afford that. I recognize that over these next few weeks we will have very difficult conversations on the best way to extend these cuts and enact President Trump's agenda, but they are conversations worth having.

Mr. Speaker, America is counting on us.

THREATS NONESSENTIAL HELICOPTERS POSE TO PUBLIC SAFETY

(Mr. MENENDEZ of New Jersey was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, last month, an air tourism helicopter crashed into the Hudson River near Jersey City killing six people, including three young children.

This tragedy is yet another example of the threat that nonessential helicopters pose to public safety, especially in the congested airspace over New Jersey and New York.

Since 1983, there have been at least 30 helicopter crashes in our region, resulting in at least 31 fatalities. We also continue to hear from countless New Jersey residents whose lives are upended by the constant, incessant noise of helicopters traveling at low altitudes over our neighborhoods.

Since taking office, we have consistently worked to address these challenges, from the noise and nuisance they cause to the safety risks that have been well documented.

In the 118th Congress, we introduced two pieces of legislation and directly engaged with the FAA to address these issues, hosting a workshop in Jersey City with stakeholders and local leaders, but this crash is a clarion call to every level of government that further urgent action is needed.

That is why, along with my colleagues from New Jersey and New York, I introduced the Improving Helicopter Safety Act, which bans all non-essential helicopter traffic within a 20-mile radius of the Statue of Liberty.

It is clear that the helicopter industry is not a good actor or one willing to proactively take measures to protect our communities. In the wake of this most recent tragedy, one air tourism

company offered discounts to their customers for flights in our region. They are clearly more interested in profit than public safety, making it abundantly clear that they should no longer be allowed to operate.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in support of this bill so that we can protect lives in our communities and ensure that tragedies like this one never happen again.

CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF BUDDY BASEBALL IN BAYONNE

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Buddy Baseball in Bayonne.

Every year, more than 100 children and young adults with special needs gather for a season of Buddy Baseball, giving everyone the opportunity to succeed, play, and enjoy this incredible game.

This year, I was proud to march in the parade to celebrate their opening day and commemorate the opening of their brand-new field. Hundreds of spectators lined the streets to cheer on this year's players, and it was heartwarming to see our community come together for such a great cause.

The city of Bayonne is leading the way in bringing communities together in an inclusive way, lifting up those around us, and showing what we can achieve when we work together.

Mr. Speaker, I thank everyone who made this dream a reality and for reminding us what we can do when we come together as one in a community.

RECOGNIZING ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE DAY AND 77TH BIRTHDAY

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Israel's Independence Day and 77th birthday.

The United States and Israel have a binding, ironclad partnership that continues to grow stronger as the months and years go on.

As President Reagan once said: "For the people of Israel and America are historic partners in the global quest for human dignity and freedom. We will always remain at each other's side."

Our values are one and the same, and our joint commitment to advancing freedom and human dignity will never cease.

To the State of Israel and the Jewish people, I say this: We will always stand firmly alongside you. You can count on us today, tomorrow, and always.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, this week we recognize National Small Business Week and, with it, the incred-

ible contributions of our many small business owners, workers, and entrepreneurs across Pennsylvania and the United States.

These individuals, Mr. Speaker, deserve more than recognition; they deserve our support and applause. Small businesses aren't just a line in an economic report; they are the lifeblood. They are the employers, the mentors, and the community leaders, and they are the ones giving to local charities and sponsoring youth sports, putting their names on the back of Little League jerseys in communities across our Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

We also recognize the critical role of our local chambers of commerce in assisting small businesses. Throughout Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, we are blessed with some of the best chambers in Pennsylvania, if not the country.

Throughout my district and Pennsylvania, from Schuylkill County to Wyoming County, to the Susquehanna Valley to Lebanon, from Luzerne to Lycoming, these chambers are working every day to support job creators and bring small businesses together. They serve as a bridge between the private sector and government, and they help ensure that entrepreneurs have a voice. Their efforts deserve our thanks.

As someone who worked in small business, I understand the challenges entrepreneurs face, and while I was fortunate to help grow a small business into a larger business, I never lost that small business mindset. That mentality, grounded in what we call the WIT principle, Whatever It Takes, is built on hard work, results, teamwork, and customer service. It continues to guide my work here in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, that work, on behalf of small businesses, starts with regulatory relief. Small businesses don't have compliance departments or teams of lawyers. Every hour spent on paperwork is an hour not spent on growing their business.

That is why House Republicans and the Trump administration have taken important steps to roll back burdensome regulations that never should have applied to small employers in the first place. We fought to eliminate the Biden administration's imposed Beneficial Ownership Rule, which would have forced small businesses to submit sensitive ownership information to FinCEN, adding compliance burdens and creating legal risk with little benefit.

We pushed back against the CFPB's 1071 rule, which mandated that lenders collect and report demographic and financial data on small business loan applications, raising costs and potentially limiting access to capital.

To ensure we are hearing directly from those affected, the Small Business Administration has also now launched recently a red tape hotline, giving small business owners and manufacturers a direct channel to report excessive or unworkable Federal regu-

lation so we can act on them. As a matter of fact, their hotline phone number at the SBA is 1-800-827-5722.

Beyond regulatory relief, we are advancing smart legislation to support growth and innovation. I introduced the Investing in All of America Act, which expands access to capital for small manufacturers and startups in economically underserved and rural areas by raising the leverage cap on small business investment companies.

□ 1045

My 7(a) Loan Agent Oversight Act improves transparency and accountability in the SBA's most widely used lending program by requiring annual reports on loan agent activity. This bill ensures Congress has the data needed to provide proper oversight, protect taxpayer dollars, and keep the program strong for small businesses that rely on it.

The Regulatory Review Improvement Act, which I also introduced, ensures that Federal agencies take into account the real-world impact of their rules on small businesses. It requires agencies to regularly review existing regulations already on the books and evaluate whether they should remain in place based upon their effect on small businesses. That and ensuring access to capital are some of our major focuses here in Congress.

Finally, through reconciliation—also known as the one big, beautiful bill—we are committed to extending the provisions of President Trump's Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which helped countless small businesses invest, expand, and hire.

Provisions like section 199A, bonus depreciation, and the R&D tax credit have had a direct, positive impact on small businesses. These provisions, and the broader income tax reductions, must be extended to maintain growth and protect jobs.

By voting for this plan, we are simply continuing the tax plan that stimulated the strongest economy in the past 50 to 100 years. A "no" vote on this plan is a "no" vote for small business. Anyone who says this reconciliation package doesn't help small businesses either doesn't understand it or is choosing to ignore what is in it. This legislation is progrowth, proinvestment and pro-small business.

Separate from the small business provisions, if the individual tax cuts are allowed to expire, the average Pennsylvania family, Mr. Speaker, will face a tax hike of over \$2,500. If my Democratic colleagues oppose this bill, they are voting in favor of the largest tax increase on working families in American history, plain and simple.

Frankly, we need Pennsylvania's executive office and State agencies to get on board with this progrowth initiative, as well. Mr. Speaker, let's thank every entrepreneur, employer, team member, and small business for all they do to deliver for America.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 46 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

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

We take this moment, O Lord, to bless You. With all that we are and with everything that is in us, we praise Your holy name. As the Heavens are high above the Earth, so great is Your steadfast love for those who honor You.

Like a parent who has compassion for his children, have compassion on us as we seek to live according to Your will and do the work You have called us to do. As our creator, show us Your grace in the fleeting moments we are given to serve You.

In our mortality, there are those in this House who are battling diseases like cancer that take over their bodies and threaten to shorten their lives. We pray Your healing hand over these Your servants who continue to labor faithfully under the burden of this infirmity.

In our fallibility, there are those who have made grave mistakes in their conduct, in their judgment, and in their life choices. We pray Your mercy in the rebuilding of their lives and the restoration of their right living.

Let us each claim anew today the promise that You are merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

In this certainty, we stand, and in Your 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 Rhode Island (Mr. MAGAZINER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MAGAZINER 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.

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

HONORING THE NURSING PROFESSION

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the men and women in the nursing profession.

This week is National Nurses Week. Every year, from May 6 through 12, we celebrate the work and the contributions that nurses make in the healthcare field.

National Nurses Week ends on Florence Nightingale's birthday, the founder of modern-day nursing.

Prior to serving in Congress, I spent nearly three decades in the healthcare profession. There, I worked closely with nurses and saw firsthand the care and compassion that they showed their patients.

Nursing is a science and an art reserved for those who are the most caring, giving, and passionate about helping others. Nurses provide their patients and families with comfort, compassion, guidance, and care.

Mr. Speaker, we should always thank our nurses for their hard work and dedication. Please join me in recognizing the nursing community this week. We should all be grateful for their commitment to caring for others, especially during these trying times.

A special shout-out to my Aunt Jessie, who is retired now as a nurse but cared for so many and made her way to the point where she was the executive director of the Pennsylvania Nurses Association. We are very proud of the difference that she has made.

BIOLOGY OF HUNGER

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the fifth time to bring attention to the Trump administration's failure to restore funding for food aid for malnourished children, despite their promise to do so.

I speak today about the biology of hunger. A 2-year-old child may weigh the same as a newborn. Their bodies stop growing. Their immune systems shut down. They lose the ability to walk and sometimes even the ability to cry. That is what severe malnutrition looks like, and it is the leading cause of death for children under 5.

There is treatment. Ready-to-use therapeutic food is a nutrient-rich peanut paste that delivers the fat, protein, and vitamins that starving children need to survive. It can save a child's life in just 8 weeks.

The Edesia factory in Rhode Island has helped save 25 million lives with

this food, but that work is now in jeopardy because the administration hasn't followed through on its own promises to continue funding the program.

We must restore funding for emergency food aid now. Lives are at stake. I will keep speaking on this floor until that funding is restored.

RECOGNIZING SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

(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, it is Small Business Week, and we are getting back to the basics: less red tape, lower taxes, and policies that actually help people who run a business and hire workers.

Small businesses are the building blocks of our economy. They do not need more interference from Washington or their home State. They need us to be out of the way of what they need to do to provide the things people actually want.

That is why I am working to stop the largest tax hike in American history and to make the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act provisions permanent. These lower rates help businessowners grow and reinvest in their own workers.

Under President Trump, we saw how lower taxes and fewer regulations actually sparked real growth. We are building on that by passing bills that support small businesses and American manufacturing in America. When Main Street is strong, our country is strong.

We are going to keep doing what works and stop what doesn't, what actually hurts. That is how we get this economy moving in the right direction and actually being dedicated to the needs of the American people and the economy that drives it.

DEFUNDING SUICIDE HOTLINE FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, in 2005, the 988 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline was launched to provide 24/7 access to counseling and referrals for Americans in crisis.

In recognition of these challenges, the challenges these Americans face, the 988 lifeline provides specialty services targeted at LGBTQ youth, who are at a higher risk of suicide than the population at large.

According to a 2024 survey by the Trevor Project, 12 percent of LGBTQ youth attempted suicide in the past year—12 percent of American youth in this category.

Now, the Trump administration is reportedly considering eliminating these specialized support services, which would cut off the lifesaving resources they provide.

Young people, young Americans, when they are in crisis, should be able to speak to a professional counselor who understands their experiences and is trained to communicate with people facing similar struggles.

This is a cruel idea. For the health and safety of all young Americans, the President must immediately reverse course on this ill-advised, cruel, and dangerous plan.

MANDATE FOR FREEDOM IN GEORGIA

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, friends of freedom are grateful that the House overwhelmingly passed the bipartisan, bicameral Mobilizing and Enhancing Georgia's Options for Building Accountability, Resilience, and Independence Act, the MEGOBARI Act. This bill counters the Ivanishvili regime dragging Georgia toward Iranian terrorists, the Chinese Communist Party, and war criminal Putin.

The passage of the MEGOBARI Act, with a mandate vote of nearly 90 percent, demonstrates America's support for legitimate President Salome Zourabichvili and the Georgian people and the rejection of the tyrannical mafia cabal, which is selling out Georgia to dictators. The Georgian Dream insults President Trump. The only way forward is for fair elections and the release of all political prisoners.

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 reinstating existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength, revealing that war criminal Putin lies, subverting freedom in Belarus from legitimate President Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya.

RECOGNIZING JJ HOLMES AND ALISON HOLMES

(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 today to honor this year's Orlando Sentinel's Central Floridians of the Year, JJ Holmes and his mother, Alison Holmes. Together, they are a force, not just in central Florida but across the entire State and country.

JJ has a severe disability, but he hasn't allowed that to stop him from speaking out and advocating tirelessly for our disability community.

His mother, Alison, shows up every day to care for JJ and to stand up for families across the country just like theirs.

Their advocacy and their continued work started 10 years ago when JJ was

just 12 years old and was removed from a Trump rally in 2016, after protesting the President's mockery of a reporter with a disability.

For over a decade, they have continued to speak out at the local, State, and Federal levels, advocating for expanding Medicaid, closing coverage gaps, quality healthcare, and affordable healthcare for everyone.

The way that they lead with love and courage should stand as a testament to their strength and the amazing work they do. Central Florida is stronger because of both of them.

I congratulate both JJ and Alison on this honor. I thank them for never giving up on the fight to build a more inclusive world for everybody, no matter who you are. I am so proud to be in this work with them.

REMEMBERING VAN ROBINSON

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

Mr. MANNION. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Van Robinson, of Syracuse, who died Saturday at the age of 87.

The history books will remember him as the first African-American president of the Syracuse Common Council, a body whose chambers now bear his name, but his legacy and contributions are far richer.

It was Van Robinson who began the conversation about tearing down the highway that divides our city through a thriving African-American neighborhood. Now, the reimagining of I-81 is the largest infrastructure project in the history of upstate New York.

It was Van Robinson who revived the local NAACP chapter. It was Van Robinson who always advocated for his community. It was Van Robinson who went out of his way to mentor and support the leaders of Syracuse, including me.

I thank Van for making Syracuse, a place we both love, a better place.

I send my prayers and condolences to Linda Brown-Robinson and the Robinson family.

God bless you, Councilor. Rest in power.

MASS SHOOTING IN GLENDALE, ARIZONA

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

Ms. ANSARI. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday night, the community that I represent in Glendale, Arizona, was rocked by yet another mass shooting in America.

As families and friends came together to eat, drink, and dance, they looked forward to celebrating Cinco de Mayo and spending time in their community. Instead, their worlds were shattered as someone with a gun fired

into the crowd outside the restaurant, killing three people and injuring five more.

I cannot imagine the pain and sadness that their families and loved ones now feel, and I am sending them love and strength.

Every single person there will be forever impacted by the violence and trauma that mass shootings impose on communities.

For far too long, we have been forced to watch as gun violence devastates our communities, and we feel unsafe going to the movies or eating out at a restaurant.

One thing is clear. These acts of violence and the trauma they inflict on all of us are preventable. They are a policy choice. It is time for us to make a new choice.

Commonsense policy reforms to regulate guns and prevent mass shootings like this one in Glendale have broad, bipartisan support. It is beyond time we stand up and do something.

□ 1215

ELIMINATE THE SALT CAP

(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, today, I rise to address the unfair double taxation that my constituents are facing due to the State and local tax deduction cap.

Hardworking families across Long Island and across our State and many other States already face some of the highest tax burdens in the Nation. For 8 years, they have been unfairly penalized and subject to double taxation.

I have heard from countless hardworking families in my district over the past few years who have had to pay tens of thousands of dollars more in taxes, making their lives even more expensive and adding to the cost-of-living crisis on Long Island.

Last year, the President came to my district and vowed to get SALT back. My constituents deserve this real relief; so let's go.

I will continue to push for a full repeal of this cap, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the same. Anything less than eliminating the SALT cap and restoring the full deduction fails Long Island and fails our State.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 276, GULF OF AMERICA ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CON- SIDERATION OF H.R. 881, DHS RE- STRICTIONS ON CONFUCIUS IN- STITUTES AND CHINESE ENTI- TIES OF CONCERN ACT

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 377 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 377

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 276) to rename the Gulf of Mexico as the "Gulf of America". All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 881) to establish Department of Homeland Security funding restrictions on institutions of higher education that have a relationship with Confucius Institutes, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Homeland Security now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119-2 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, last night the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 377, providing for consideration of two measures.

The first one is H.R. 276, the Gulf of America Act, under a closed rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally

divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees, and provides one motion to recommit.

Additionally, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 881, the DHS Restrictions on Confucius Institutes and Chinese Entities of Concern Act, to be considered under a closed rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Homeland Security or their respective designees, and provides one motion to recommit.

Mr. Speaker, we are here to debate a rule on two pieces of legislation beginning with H.R. 276, the Gulf of America Act.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 276 is straightforward. It permanently renames the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America and directs Federal agencies to update their documents and maps to incorporate the new name.

President Trump directed the name change a few months ago, Mr. Speaker, and there have been no issues during that time. We are simply using our Article I authority to reflect the Gulf's importance to our country.

Moving on, Mr. Speaker, the rule also provides for the consideration of H.R. 881, the DHS Restrictions on Confucius Institutes and Chinese Entities of Concern Act.

It goes without saying, Mr. Speaker, that the Chinese Communist Party does not share our interests or our values.

Confucius Institutes were originally established in America in 2004 and marketed as a way to promote Chinese language and culture, support local Chinese teaching internationally, and facilitate cultural exchanges; however, it has become clear that this was not the real goal, Mr. Speaker. The true intent was a sophisticated and global influence campaign, allowing the CCP to conduct espionage in our country and steal our intellectual property and trade secrets.

While there are less than five Confucius Institutes still currently active in the United States, the Government Accountability Office has reported that 43 of the 74 schools it surveyed still maintain a relationship with the entity that supported their Confucius Institute.

Further, the Department of Education has shown that over \$3 billion has been collected by U.S. universities from entities connected to the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party.

This bill, which has been worked on and will pass in a bipartisan manner, I believe, simply bans eligibility for DHS funding from an institution with a relationship to a Confucius Institute, Thousand Talents Program, or Chinese entity of concern until such a relationship is terminated.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to consideration of these pieces of legislation and urge passage of this rule.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as much as it pains me to say this, we are here on the House floor today because the House Republican majority has chosen to prioritize debate and passage of a bill to rename the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America. That is not what my constituents think is the most important thing Congress should tackle this week or this year, and I bet it is not what your constituents think either.

It is easy to mock this legislation because it is so inane and embarrassing, and we have, but its very existence and the fact that House Republicans have chosen to waste time and taxpayer dollars to bring it up for a vote, is worth considering.

Let's talk about the real gulf of America—the gulf in America—the gulf between the ambitions and priorities of this White House, aided and abetted by the House majority, and the needs of the American people.

That is the gulf that makes Republicans think that it is more important to give tax cuts to billionaires than to make sure that America's children, veterans, and seniors have food, housing, and medical services, and that we protect the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the food we eat.

It is the gulf that causes the Speaker to bring ridiculous legislation to the floor to flatter the President and appease his base rather than meet the needs of the American people.

Americans want a Congress and a White House that solves problems rather than creates them. Americans aren't asking to rename the Gulf of Mexico. In fact, public polling, including on FOX, says that nearly 70 percent of Americans oppose that executive order and this legislation to rename the Gulf of Mexico.

Like many Americans, I follow the news each day with trepidation. Many folks tell me that the chaos and missteps of this administration are too painful or upsetting to follow. They have tuned it out because the only guarantee we have is that every day the President or his administration will have done something dumber or more dangerous than the day before.

Each day brings its own self-inflicted crisis with this White House, and millions of Americans are exhausted by it. They are pleading with their elected officials to act, to do something, anything, to bring normalcy back to this country, to bring decency back to this country.

There was a time when American public life was guided by a genuine sense of duty and a converse fear of shame, but today neither appear to hold much sway.

Instead, we have a White House filled with charlatans, con men, snake oil salesmen, grifters, billionaires, and criminals, all using the power of the Federal Government to enrich themselves at the expense of the American

people and to punish their political opponents.

Last week was President Trump's 100th day in office, a customary benchmark by which we measure the successes and failures of a new President's term. I think it is safe to say that Trump's first 100 days have been a disaster. His tariff policies are likely to cause a recession. Millions of people have seen their retirement savings evaporate. Families don't know if they are going to be able to afford basic goods, much less Christmas dolls. Businesses, big and small, are paralyzed by uncertainty and reducing their spending, and many small businesses may not survive.

To add insult to injury, when faced with these facts, the President says: Deal with it. Those are the President's own words. The tariffs will be painful, but it is a price that must be paid; but paid by whom? It won't be Trump or the billionaires in his Cabinet or at his golf clubs. No, it is going to be real people, people who work for a living, who will have to pay the price for his ill-conceived trade war. It is not going to be guys like Bessent and Lutnick, who have multimillion-dollar mansions and fly on private planes. They will be just fine.

However, for working parents, according to Trump, maybe the kids will have 2 dolls instead of 30. I don't know who has 30 dolls. Maybe the moms who live in my district will have to pay more for the stroller they use to transport their kids to daycare and doctors and the grocery store. So much for the guy who said he was going to bring down prices on day one.

It is worth noting that just yesterday in our Rules markup, our Republican colleagues voted, once again, to keep the Trump tariffs in place. Over a month ago, they rigged the rules of the House to prevent Congress from voting to end the Trump tariffs. They literally voted to stop time, to say that for the purposes of protecting the Trump tariffs, there is only one day between now and the end of September in order to prevent anyone from being able to force a vote on whether to end Trump's tariffs. They are dragging down our economy and American families with it.

That is just the terrible Trump tariffs. In these first 100 days, the administration has cut services at Social Security, fired medical staff at VA hospitals, and withheld aid to food banks, children's health programs, and community violence prevention efforts. They have waged a political war against universities and scientific research, and illegally froze over \$400 billion in congressionally appropriated funds, including billions of dollars to FEMA, to everyone from local firefighters to States that have been affected by natural disasters.

This White House has issued hundreds of controversial executive orders, many of which courts have deemed illegal or unconstitutional. Every day this

administration is disappearing hundreds of people, sending them to far-away detention centers without any due process, due process that would expose mistakes and lies about some people who are not criminals and, in some cases, are even citizens and, therefore, should not be deported.

The damage that is being caused right now by this administration to our communities, to our international standing, to our national security and national fabric, will take years to unwind. Eager to do their part and contribute to the chaos, House Republicans continue to find novel ways to bring this Chamber to new lows.

This week, Republicans are putting forward two bills, one that is pretty much a redundant effort to counter Confucius Institutes and another to change the name of the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America.

The second bill may be the dumbest bill brought to the floor during the 6 years I have served in Congress. With all of the important work this Congress should be tackling, the Speaker and House Republicans have chosen to indulge the President in a whim that the American public does not support.

Frankly, if I had to vote on a bill like this, I would find it deeply embarrassing. I know my Republican colleagues are smart people. They are not dumb, so I have to think that they share this embarrassment, unless they are members of a cult, a cult of personality based around a dear leader who they are required to obey or risk retribution, and upon whom they bestow endless compliments and praise in order to seek personal favors.

It doesn't matter how much damage he causes, how much money he wastes, how many lives and families he hurts. It doesn't matter if he causes a recession. It doesn't matter if he encourages influence peddling and grift with a Trump coin, or his Gulf of America merch, or if he gives insider stock tips before taking executive action. House Republicans seem to always do what Trump says.

If he wants to do something as dumb as rename the Gulf of Mexico, Republicans apparently will fall in line. We will watch them twist themselves into pretzels to come up with increasingly convoluted rationales for the President's actions. Today will surely be a master class in delusion.

Further adding to the chaos, this month, House Republicans are expected to finish drafting the text of the reconciliation bill through which they are planning to cut healthcare benefits to seniors, children, and people with disabilities and cut nutrition assistance to the poor in order to pay for a huge tax giveaway to billionaires and big business.

Despite more than 40 years of empirical evidence showing that Republican trickle-down economics are a resounding failure, Republicans are nonetheless pushing ahead with their party orthodoxy. We have more than enough

evidence that trickle-down economics does not work. It doesn't help the middle class. It doesn't create jobs. It doesn't increase business investment, and it doesn't grow the economy.

□ 1230

What these policies actually do is allow companies and their shareholders to pocket more profits at the expense of everyone else. It is because of trickle-down economics that we now have some of the most extreme income inequality in this country in our Nation's history.

To pay for this giveaway to the rich, Republicans are going to take away healthcare benefits and food assistance and cut critical Federal investments in our local communities, our democracy, the environment, and our national security, all so millionaires and billionaires can get an extra buck. It is horrifying, immoral, and un-American.

Unlike many of my Republican colleagues, I have participated in multiple townhalls this year to hear from my constituents. One message that I hear consistently is that people are scared. These are good, honest, hardworking Americans who in one way or another have been forced to rely on Medicaid, Medicare, SNAP, WIC, Head Start, Social Security, or LIHEAP in order to make ends meet for their families, and they are rightfully scared that Republicans are planning to gut those programs.

We will surely hear all kinds of mental gymnastics from our colleagues about how millionaires really need that extra tax cut or how cutting Medicaid won't really lead to a loss of coverage or service. We will hear tortured arguments from Republicans to hide what they are really doing.

When you take a step back and look at everything that is happening, this White House, in concert with Elon Musk and congressional Republicans, have put the country on a dark and troubling path, a fear-based path. It is leading us to a place that has more in common with Stalin's Russia than the free society envisioned by our Founding Fathers. It is heartbreaking to see the lengths to which some people will go to destroy the ideas and institutions that for decades have made this country great.

Mr. Speaker, I think it goes without saying that I rise in strong opposition to this rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would just remind my colleagues that Donald Trump was elected President of the United States. While we are yet to put many of his policies into law, where the Democrats left us was with an interest payment of \$2.6 billion a day.

If you took 100 percent of the money from the people that are billionaires in this country, you probably couldn't pay the interest on the national debt for a year.

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON).

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this complete waste of time, the Gulf of America Act.

While Americans are struggling with real problems, while Trump is trampling over the constitutional rights of the citizens he swore to protect, Republicans are wasting this Chamber's time with performative nonsense.

Here is the choice this comes down to:

We could focus on helping 40 million Americans saddled with medical debt, or we could rename the Gulf of Mexico.

We could ensure that the 10 million children going hungry every night have enough food to eat, or we could rename the Gulf of Mexico.

We could address our Nation's highest maternal mortality rate, where women are dying in this country every day while giving birth, or we could rename the Gulf of Mexico.

We could address our Nation's lack of affordable housing, where families are struggling to find safe shelter, or we could rename the Gulf of Mexico.

We could make sure our veterans, who are waiting for weeks for appointments at VA clinics, get the desperate care they need after making such extreme sacrifices in the honor of service to our country, or we could rename the Gulf of Mexico.

We could be protecting Social Security and Medicare, protecting Medicaid, finding affordable childcare for the millions of children in this country and reducing the high cost of living that so many families in all of our districts are struggling to afford basic necessities, or we could rename the Gulf of Mexico.

Republicans have made their choice. They want to focus on renaming a body of water that doesn't need renaming instead of the emergent needs of the people that we all represent. The bill's co-sponsor, the woman from Georgia, in her district one in five residents live below the poverty line. Her district ranks near the bottom in Georgia for health outcomes, and opioid overdose rates continue to climb. Broadband access remains limited, and public schools are underresourced.

However, again, instead of working on bills to bring down the high cost of healthcare, making broadband accessible for Americans all over the country, or helping families struggling with addiction, we are renaming the Gulf of Mexico as if it is the most important, pressing issue facing this country.

This is not governing. It is a distraction. It is political theater, and it is an insult to the intelligence of every American who expects us in Congress to do the serious work of solving real problems and making their lives better.

This bill does not achieve any of those ends. The American people did not send us here to troll and suck up to a President. They sent us here to legislate, lead, and make their lives better.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this stupid bill and focus on what matters to the American people.

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to point out that in the State of Georgia in the district that was referenced, 68 percent of the voters in that district, as patriots, voted for Donald J. Trump to be President of the United States because they don't believe they need the Federal Government to micromanage their life.

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

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

In January when House and Senate Republicans punted once again on passing a budget and instead passed a continuing resolution, they forgot to include the funding to operate the District of Columbia.

The Senate moved to rectify that mistake and has passed a bill to fix it, and the President has said that he will sign that bill. The Mayor of D.C. has repeatedly spoken to House Republicans about the urgency of fixing the city's budget. The clock is ticking, and if the fix isn't passed, D.C. will have to lay off hundreds of teachers and police officers and curtail critical services in the District.

While this is going on, House Republicans are instead using floor time to prioritize removing the longfin smelt from the endangered species list, to rename the Gulf of Mexico, and to do other, frankly, stupid messaging bills like those we are considering today.

The Speaker may claim that it is just a matter of schedule, but once again, clearly, the gulf in America is between what Americans—the people who live in D.C. and most of the country—think is important and what House Republicans are willing to do.

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would remind you that the Chinese Communist Party is no longer an economic adversary. They are an enemy. They have been very creative in the way they have embedded themselves into the university systems in this country. This rule gives us a vote on kicking them the rest of the way out of this country. I think, Mr. Speaker, that that is going to pass in a very bipartisan manner.

With all of the antics, yelling, screaming, and pointing of fingers, I just remind you, there is a very serious piece of legislation to deal with the Chinese Communist Party in this rule that I believe will pass in very much a bipartisan manner.

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up H.R. 2753, the Hands Off Medicaid and

SNAP Act, which will prevent the Republican budget from cutting Medicaid or SNAP benefits.

Mr. Speaker, this week the House is voting to rename the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America. I am not joking. This is what House Republicans are spending their time doing publicly. However, privately, behind closed doors, according to reports, Republican leadership is meeting with vulnerable, moderate Republicans to try to sell them on trading devastating cuts to Medicaid for tax cuts for billionaires.

Under their plan, they have to cut \$880 billion from Medicaid and \$230 billion from food assistance just to make the math work for their disastrous reconciliation bill. Mr. Speaker, what is worse is they continue to argue that they aren't doing that, but the math doesn't lie. They can't reach the levels of billionaire tax cuts they want without gutting vital programs like Medicaid and SNAP, programs that the most vulnerable in our country rely upon.

Republicans are publicly claiming that they won't make those cuts, so today I will give them a chance to prove that to the American people by putting their money where their mouths are and voting to ensure those devastating cuts can't move forward in this House.

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "no" vote on the previous question. The country deserves better leadership, leadership focused on the common good and public service rather than culture wars and private profit.

The United States faces enormous challenges, and the American people want Congress to act on their behalf. They want us to lower the cost of groceries, rent, and healthcare. They don't want Congress wasting time on performance, on pointless legislation like the bills we are debating today.

The American people want real solutions. They want their elected officials to collaborate, to govern with decency and discipline in ways that benefit the American people, not deep-pocketed donors. They don't want politicians who chase headlines or who try to flatter the whims of erratic leaders with insane ideas like renaming the Gulf of Mexico, invading Greenland, annexing Canada, or reinstating Alcatraz.

While many Americans are struggling just to get by, the last thing they want is a Republican tax bill that guts their healthcare and denies food and housing to children and seniors so that millionaires can pay less in taxes. It is obscene.

If Republicans carry out their stated plans, it will be one of the largest government handouts in American history, paid for by those who can least afford it and delivered to those who need it least. Talk about corporate welfare.

While the rich will get their tax cut, working families will be stuck footing the bill for Trump's tariffs. It is not too late for Republicans to change course. I pray that enough of them find the courage to push back against this plan, to listen to their constituents, and to do the right thing.

We don't need to slash Medicaid and SNAP, and we can move forward with a sensible tax bill that invests in families and the middle class, not just billionaires and the Fortune 500. I urge my colleagues to vote down this resolution, reject these unserious bills, and join us in the business of governing for the public good, the common good.

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot over the last few minutes about the \$2.6 billion a day interest payment that the Democrats, under Joe Biden's lead, left the United States citizens with. Now we hear their demand that we allow the current tax rates to expire, thereby raising taxes on virtually every American citizen.

It is very convenient that they say billionaires. Now, they have acknowledged millionaires, but just factually speaking, if the tax rates are allowed to expire, virtually every American that works would receive a tax increase. We as Republicans are committed to stopping that.

Today, and this week, the House has the ability to advance two pieces of legislation under this rule:

H.R. 276, the Gulf of America Act, which simply reflects the Gulf's importance to our country, the United States of America, and H.R. 881, the DHS restrictions on Confucius Institutes and Chinese Entities of Concern Act which puts our national security first and bans eligibility for DHS funding from an institution with a relationship to a Confucius Institute, Thousand Talents Program, or Chinese entities of concern until such relationship is terminated.

Mr. Speaker, the Chinese Communist Party is our enemy. That is a decision that they have made. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on the previous question and "yes" on the rule.

The material previously referred to by Ms. SCANLON is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 377 OFFERED BY
MS. SCANLON OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 3. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 2753) to amend the Congressional Budget Act

of 1974 to provide for a point of order against reconciliation measures that cut benefits for Medicaid or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Rules or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 4. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 2753.

□ 1245

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1330

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WEBER of Texas) at 1 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:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 377; and

Adoption of House Resolution 377, if ordered.

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.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 276, GULF OF AMERICA ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 881, DHS RESTRICTIONS ON CONFUCIUS INSTITUTES AND CHINESE ENTITIES OF CONCERN ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 377) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 276) to rename the Gulf of Mexico as the "Gulf of America"; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 881) to establish Department of Homeland Security funding restrictions on institutions of higher education that have a relationship with Confucius Institutes, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 206, nays 200, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 117]

YEAS—206

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

Self
Sessions
Shreve
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Stauber
Steil
Steube
Strong

NAYS—200

Adams
Aguilar
Amo
Ansari
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragan
Beatty
Bell
Bera
Beyer
Bishop
Bonamici
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bynum
Carbajal
Carter (LA)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dexter
Dingell
Doggett
Elfreth
Escobar
Espallat
Evans (PA)
Fields
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Friedman
Frost
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gillen
Golden (ME)

NOT VOTING—27

Alford
Cammack
Carson
Castro (TX)
Connolly
Crockett
Dunn (FL)
Figures
Garamendi

□ 1353

Messrs. PAPPAS and LARSON of Connecticut changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Wied
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Houlihan
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Riley (NY)
Ross
Ruiz
Ryan
Salinas
Sanchez
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schneider
Scholten
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simon
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Subramanyam
Suozi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tlaib
McDonald Rivet
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velazquez
Vindman
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Whitesides
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

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

Stated for:
Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 117.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 213, noes 209, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 118]
AYES—213

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei (NV)
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Barr
Barrett
Baumgartner
Bean (FL)
Begich
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs (AZ)
Biggs (SC)
Bilirakis
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Bresnahan
Buchanan
Burchett
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crank
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Downing
Edwards
Elzey
Emmer
Estes
Evans (CO)
Ezell
Fallon
Fedorchak
Feenstra
Fine
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxy
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher

Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)

Wittman
Womack

Yakym
Zinke

NOES—209

Adams
Aguilar
Amo
Ansari
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragan
Beatty
Bell
Bera
Beyer
Bishop
Bonamici
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bynum
Carbajal
Carter (LA)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dexter
Dingell
Doggett
Elfreth
Escobar
Espallat
Evans (PA)
Fields
Figures
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Friedman
Frost
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gillen

Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Goodlander
Gottheimer
Gray
Green, Al (TX)
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlihan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy (NY)
Khanna
Krishnamoorthi
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larsen (CT)
Latimer
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Liccardo
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Mannion
Matsui
McBath
McBride
McClain Delaney
McClellan
McCollum
McDonald Rivet
McGarvey
McGovern
McIver
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Min
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Morrison
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Neal
Neguse
Ocasio-Cortez
Olszewski
Omar

Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Riley (NY)
Rivas
Ross
Ruiz
Ryan
Salinas
Sanchez
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simon
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Subramanyam
Suozi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velazquez
Vindman
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Whitesides
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—11

Alford
Carson
Connolly
Dunn (FL)

Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Huizenga
Johnson (SD)

Mfume
Norcross
Stefanik

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1400

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT KUMARA JAYASURIYA ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kumara Jayasuriya on his remarkable tenure as the president of Southwest Minnesota State University.

Under President Jayasuriya's leadership, SMSU thrived. In a period where most Minnesota schools saw an enrollment drop, SMSU's rose by nearly 20 percent.

Just last year, the university recorded its highest enrollment in 14 years, and I am incredibly grateful for what he has done to improve higher education in western Minnesota and to protect the legacy of a respected institution.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate President Jayasuriya on his retirement and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with him to advance SMSU.

NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY

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

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, to the more than 3.8 million educators across the country, I wish you a happy National Teacher Appreciation Day.

I know our teachers work tirelessly to provide our students with an education that opens the door to opportunity, and I am sure everyone in this body can think of a teacher that profoundly impacted their lives.

Despite working long hours, without a salary that reflects the work they do, our teachers in Virginia have made sure that Virginia schools consistently rank high in the country for K-12 performance, test scores, and even safety. Over 92 percent of our students here in Virginia graduate high school in 4 years, and we have amazing teachers to thank for that.

We need to make sure our teachers are being paid what they are worth, have the support they need in the classroom, and have access to all the resources they need to do their jobs.

Happy National Teacher Appreciation Day to all the teachers out there.

RECOGNIZING DR. WILLIAM CLARK

(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 recognize Dr. William Clark, who is stepping down as chair of the Okefenokee Swamp Park Board of Trustees after 15 years of hard work and dedicated service.

Since 2010, Dr. Clark has advanced the mission of Okefenokee Swamp Park, promoting a community connection with nature and preserving its ecological health through stewardship, education, and outdoor recreation.

While serving as chairman, Dr. Clark was instrumental in expanding the park's mission to promote tourism and education. Under his leadership, the park strengthened partnerships with organizations such as the University of Georgia, focusing on conservation efforts to maintain the swamp's native alligator population.

He was instrumental in expanding ecotourism by acquiring the visitor concession at the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge headquarters and the nomination by the U.S. Department of the Interior as the next American World Heritage site.

After his successful tenure in this role, Dr. Clark has expressed enthusiasm for this transition and remains confident in the ongoing excellence of the Okefenokee Swamp Park board.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Dr. Clark for his commitment to improving the Okefenokee Swamp Park and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

TO TEACH IS TO TOUCH A LIFE FOREVER

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Teacher Appreciation Week. My gratitude for teachers far surpasses 1 minute of time.

Our Nation is a better place because of the work teachers do every day to teach the next generation and arm them with the skills that are needed to succeed.

My favorite teacher was Rayella B. Heely, who taught my eighth grade algebra class in Mount Vernon, New York, in 1966. She was tough, and she did not give out easy grades. I did not get a particularly good grade, but she taught me concepts that I remember to this day.

Teachers are increasingly asked to do more in addition to teaching. They check in on the well-being and mental health of their students. They make sure that students get enough to eat during school meals and have notebooks and pencils and crayons. They are advocates in front of school boards to prevent cuts to funding and to resources.

There is a famous saying: "To teach is to touch a life forever."

Mr. Speaker, I thank teachers for the lives that they continue to touch and shape. As former students and parents of students, we are forever grateful.

RECOGNIZING KEITH VANBUREN

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

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize a valued member of my staff and a true American hero, Mr. Keith VanBuren.

Keith's service in the United States Army reflects the very best of sacrifice and devotion to our Nation. While deployed in Afghanistan, Keith was severely wounded when his vehicle was struck by an IED in Logar Province. For his bravery, he was awarded the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star Medal, and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

After completing his military service, Keith continued his commitment to our country. He served on my predecessor's staff, Congressman BILL POSEY, and he still proudly serves now on my staff assisting veterans and so many people in our community.

Keith recently was elected commander of the Space Coast chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. In his role, he will continue the proud tradition of honoring local heroes who have sacrificed in the line of duty.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Keith and salute him for his courage, his service, and his unwavering dedication to our State, our Nation, and our district.

CONSTITUENT OF THE WEEK: MAYOR KERRY DEVINE

(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, today, on National Teacher Day, I rise to recognize Fredericksburg Mayor Kerry Devine as this week's Constituent of the Week.

Mayor Devine also spends her time as a history teacher in Stafford County. She is a role model in civic leadership, both for the city of Fredericksburg and for her students in Stafford.

Whether in city hall or in the classroom, she has made community a cornerstone of her tenure as a public servant and educator. She has also tirelessly worked to increase reading comprehension, counter the harmful impacts of social media on young people, and she supports phone-free schools.

Her work reminds us that educators don't just teach; they shape the future. As a dad of two kids who have attended Virginia schools, I am grateful.

Mr. Speaker, today, I thank Mayor Devine and all the teachers across Virginia's Seventh Congressional District who go above and beyond to make sure every student feels seen, valued, and empowered. Their work is incredibly important.

□ 1415

MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA NAMED A 2025 GREAT AMERICAN DEFENSE COMMUNITY

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

Mrs. FEDORCHAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Minot, North Dakota, my husband's hometown, named one of the 2025 Great American Defense Communities.

Only three cities across the Nation received this honor, reflecting the remarkable commitment the people of Minot have shown to the men and women stationed at the Minot Air Force Base.

Through events like the Prairie Warrior Auction and efforts by local leaders and initiatives led by the Minot Area Chamber, this community goes above and beyond to welcome airmen and support their families.

Whether it is raising funds to send airmen home for the holidays or educating the Nation on nuclear deterrence, Minot leads with pride and purpose. Their motto sums it up best: Only the Best Come North.

Again, congratulations to the city of Minot on this well-earned recognition, and thanks to this amazing community for standing behind our military every day.

WINGS OVER WAYNE AIR SHOW

(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 to recognize the Wings Over Wayne Air Show, hosted at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

It was an incredible event that showcased the pride, professionalism, and precision of our Air Force, which brought our community together on Military Appreciation Day.

Seymour Johnson is a pillar in our community that drives our local economy and brings us pride and joy. The base reflects the deep bond between servicemembers and the people of east-north North Carolina.

With the roaring of the Thunderbirds, Wings Over Wayne celebrated freedom, patriotism, and community. I thank the men and women who continue to serve our country. They make us extremely proud.

FLOWER MOUND, TEXAS, NAMED BEST PLACE TO LIVE IN AMERICA

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

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a tremendous honor for the heart of Texas' 26th Congressional District, Flower Mound, Texas, named the best place to live in America. My family and I are blessed to call it home.

The distinction didn't come from luck. It came from leadership, vision, and a community where hometown charm meets national excellence.

In Flower Mound, top-tier schools set the standard, green spaces stretch for

miles, and small businesses like Flurry's Market + Provisions bring neighbors together. It is a town where families plant roots, where freedom is felt, and where opportunity isn't just a promise; it is a way of life.

At the heart of Texas-26, Flower Mound shows what happens when faith, family, and hard work form the foundation of a community.

I congratulate the local leaders whose dedication made this recognition possible. Flower Mound isn't just the best place to live in America, it is proof that the American Dream lives right here in north Texas.

IMPROVING BENEFIT AWARENESS FOR SERVICEMEMBERS

(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 urge my colleagues to support my bipartisan, bicameral legislation, H.R. 3159, the Improving SCRA Benefit Utilization Act.

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act includes a specific benefit that caps interest rates on preservice debts like mortgages, credit cards, and auto loans, at 6 percent. Unfortunately, too few Active-Duty servicemembers even know about this hard-earned benefit, let alone use it.

My bill would address this knowledge gap by expanding military financial literacy programs. It would also require details of existing SCRA benefits on military activation orders.

Under H.R. 3159, creditors would be required to automatically apply the 6 percent cap to all accounts on active servicemember holds instead of requiring military members to request the cap account by account as they prepare to enter duty service.

My bipartisan legislation identifies commonsense opportunities to improve benefit awareness and utility. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to cosponsor this bill.

RECOVERING FROM NORTH CAROLINA FLOODS

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, many parts of Kentucky are just now recovering from a devastating flood that we saw a few weeks ago. I thank the first responders who were first on the scene, and thank our utility crews who worked day and night to restore utilities.

I want to let the families who lost everything know that if there is anything my office can do to be of any assistance, don't hesitate to reach out. President Trump has signed a declaration for individual assistance. FEMA should be on the ground, working with families to try to help identify any

type of assistance that the families in need can qualify for, and I encourage FEMA to continue to work with the local governments to ensure that the heavy burden of debris removal is reimbursed by the Federal Government. That is something that my office will continue to ensure to see that it happens.

We have had devastating floods. The government's responsibility is to help those in need, and that is what we expect to do. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to make that point loud and clear and hope that we can continue to work through the recovery phase.

HOLDING THIS ADMINISTRATION TO ACCOUNT

(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, Donald Trump says that he isn't sure if he needs to uphold the Constitution. It is clear to all of us from his attacks on the courts, the rule of law, our democratic institutions, our civil and legal rights, an open and free press, the dismantling of Federal agencies, and attacks on our communities that, indeed, he does not know what his constitutional duties are.

I have to say, Mr. Speaker, we are a nation of laws, a nation governed by a Constitution of the people and by the people. Donald Trump and his administration are not above the law. We will hold them to account, and that is why we are here every day fighting back, pushing back, and defending our democracy and the rights of the American people.

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

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

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tireless dedication of our public servants.

Michigan is seeing the real-time impact of President Trump's and Elon Musk's mass firings. I have heard and seen people's fears firsthand at my townhalls because civil servants are the quiet force behind the services that hold our communities together.

When a farmer in west Michigan loses a season's worth of crops, it is the USDA employee who helps them adjudicate a crop insurance claim, making sure they can recover and keep food on our tables.

Public servants are the problem-solvers, neighbors, and first responders in times of crisis. They protect our food supply, ensure veterans receive their benefits, and respond when disaster strikes. These are the people who have devoted their careers to making our country better.

We must continue to honor and support our public servants, not only during Public Service Recognition Week,

but every week. Let us do right by them and the American people they serve.

REPUBLICANS ARE NOT CUTTING MEDICAID

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

Mr. HARRIS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, a lot of times on this floor and in the press you hear about how the Republicans somehow are cutting Medicaid or slashing Medicaid, but the facts are that in the Republican budget resolution, we increase Medicaid expenditures by at least 25 percent over the next 10 years.

Yes, we will fight fraud, waste, and abuse. We think the American people agree that fraud, waste, and abuse robs the Medicaid system from covering the people like the disabled, the elderly, pregnant women, and children. It robs money from those programs and wastes it.

Even after we eliminate fraud, waste, and abuse, we have enough to increase Medicaid expenditures by at least 25 percent over the next 10 years. Those are the facts. There is no cutting going on. There is no slashing. There is elimination of fraud, waste, and abuse, and it is about time that happened to the U.S. Government bureaucracy, not only in Medicaid, but across the government.

OUTRAGEOUS GOVERNMENT- FUNDED INCENTIVES

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KNOTT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. KNOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside four of my esteemed colleagues to both highlight and condemn the misuse of taxpayer dollars funneled to illegal immigrants.

An outrageous pattern of perverse and intentional incentives reveal deliberate efforts to worsen the border crisis and to allow tens of millions of illegal aliens to invade our Nation at direct cost to the American taxpayer.

The Biden-Harris administration cycled through repeated falsehoods: claiming the border was secure, claiming they did not have what was needed to stop this invasion, claiming that they were helpless and needed Congress

to take the lead. Meanwhile, that same administration lined the pockets of leftwing NGOs to shower illegal immigrants with incentives in the form of open-ended access to your tax dollars.

Earlier this year, reports surfaced from the watchdog group, Open The Books, exposing Biden's Department of Health and Human Services for awarding shockingly large amounts of grants and dollars to nonprofits focused on aiding illegal immigrants, amounting to as high as 20 million people who illegally crossed into our country during Biden's term in office.

Taxpayer-funded awards paid for illegal aliens' housing, healthcare, education, even music lessons, therapy. You name it, the taxpayer covered it.

Using NGOs as a proxy, the Biden administration sent a clear message that our laws were not to be taken seriously, and living off of the American taxpayer was both acceptable and encouraged. The same people fueling this elaborate scheme also pushed a false narrative that supporting illegal activity somehow gives them a moral high ground. This, of course, is false.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to tell the American people that they are right to expect secure borders. They are right to demand law and order. They are right to be outraged that hundreds of billions of their dollars have gone to illegal aliens and politically connected NGOs who facilitated this recent invasion.

President Trump's swift actions to halt illegal crossings and to deport illegal aliens in his first 100 days has made one thing painfully clear: The Biden-Harris administration was never working to fix our immigration system. They actively and deliberately worked to undermine it.

The Center for Immigration Studies found illegal immigrants annually take—and this is a conservative estimate—nearly \$120 billion directly from public services, to include public schools, public welfare, and healthcare. Every American across the country should expect more from their government.

Joining me today are a few of my colleagues. I yield first to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MOORE), my fellow North Carolinian and a fierce border security advocate. Congressman MOORE has been a leading voice in the fight to reform FEMA and to ensure its funds go toward helping American citizens rather than to illegal immigrants, especially those recovering from Hurricane Helene.

Mr. MOORE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, just a couple things about Congressman KNOTT, for folks who don't know, before he was a Member of Congress here, he was actually a very well-esteemed prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's office. Congressman KNOTT has shared many stories where he was personally having to prosecute a lot of these violent gang members, these MS-13 gang members. For some reason, some of our colleagues want to go down

and hug a thug or something and see these folks down in Central America.

Mr. KNOTT was helping prosecute these folks, and I know the prosecutors were very frustrated at the time with what they were seeing with these open borders. I appreciate, one, what he did before he came to Congress; two, what he is doing now; and, three, hosting this opportunity today to bring attention of this to the American people.

□ 1430

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise on behalf of the people of North Carolina, particularly western North Carolina. I represent hardworking Americans playing by the rules, doing everything they can right—paying their taxes, raising their kids, and taking care of their neighbors whose lives were impacted substantially by Hurricane Helene that hit last year. It tore through our region. It destroyed roads. It destroyed homes. It took lives. It changed so many things.

I will say the good news is the resilience of North Carolinians, not only in government, not only in local government, but also in volunteers and the faith community. I see my good friend, Congressman HARRIS, over there. The churches stepped up in such a tremendous way to help folks out in a serious time of need to do what they needed to do.

We also saw where the Federal Government, in a lot of ways, failed to do the job. Under the past administration, we saw where FEMA wasn't doing the job. I am proud to say that under this new administration, FEMA is getting the job done. Many folks who didn't live there saw pictures of the mass destruction that was in western North Carolina and the lack of response in so many ways.

Just to kind of put some points on that with some numbers, according to the Department of Homeland Security's inspector general, FEMA could not account for \$7.4 million out of an audit sample of \$12.9 million. These sound like small numbers, but that is an audit sample. Think about that. That is 58 percent of those funds were either unsupported or not properly documented.

There was an example where one contractor billed \$9 million for labor and could only support or back up \$1.5 million of it. Another was reimbursed twice for the same \$40,000. Some grantees couldn't even prove they delivered services. FEMA had approved it all.

Then you compare things, Mr. Speaker, where folks were needing help, and they were getting the runaround and getting the delay. Again, I stress to folks that that has changed since January of this year. We are seeing FEMA getting the job done in a lot of ways. I will talk about what FEMA did with some of this other money in just a moment.

Here is another example of some mismanagement by the previous administration. Remember the so-called American Rescue Plan. Democrats passed a

bill of \$1.9 trillion on a party-line vote. Less than 9 percent of that money, by the way, went to combat COVID. Tucked inside that bill was \$110 million to FEMA. We would think that is a great thing, right?

Here is the problem. It wasn't for disaster recovery. It was to fund something they were calling humanitarian assistance. What that was, was to help illegal immigrants at the border. That was just the start.

Mr. Speaker, they followed it with another \$150 million in March 2022 and then \$800 million more in December of that year. FEMA was effectively converted into a border response welfare agency and rebranded as the Shelter and Services Program. It paid for migrant housing, transportation, and services in sanctuary cities, while American disaster victims waited months just to hear back about their applications. It is absolutely shameful.

My constituents were patching their roofs and clearing debris by hand. FEMA was busy footing the bill for nice hotel stays in New York for folks who weren't even supposed to be in the country. This was a willful effort by the other side to just enable this border crisis.

I have to say that Congressman KNOTT pointed out how the border is finally secure, and it didn't require a change in law. It simply required a President who would follow the law.

What do we have going on now that things have changed? My colleagues on the other side of the aisle, respectfully, are not showing up in towns that were damaged by the storm, asking questions of FEMA, and looking to go see what is happening. Who has shown up? Secretary Noem has shown up. President Trump has shown up.

Instead, some of my colleagues—and I don't know why—have decided they want to go to El Salvador and rub elbows and maybe grab a margarita with some former MS-13 gang members. It looks like it is a delegation to meet face-to-face with Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a known member of MS-13.

That gang is responsible for countless murders, assaults, and human trafficking. Instead of demanding justice, Democrats took selfies. For example, I know Congressman KNOTT had to prosecute MS-13 when he was prosecuting in the Eastern District of North Carolina.

We don't need any more hug-a-thug diplomacy. We need a Federal Government that puts the American people first, puts their safety first, their livelihoods first, and their families first.

My friends, we are still feeling the consequences of this failed border policy in North Carolina. Just last week, this picture to my right, the FBI in Charlotte—and I want to give a shout-out to the FBI agents based out of Charlotte. They arrested an illegal migrant who had already been deported.

That is a picture of him right there. He was charged with the kidnapping of

a mother and her 1-year-old child in Garner, North Carolina. That is in Congressman KNOTT's district right there. They kidnapped her. They tied up her husband, took the woman and the child at gunpoint, demanded a ransom of \$1 million, and then dumped them in the woods.

By the grace of God and the swift action of the FBI, Garner police, and the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, they were rescued.

That crime never should have happened. Estrada-Hernandez should never have been in this country in the first place. Do you know what, Mr. Speaker? He would not have been if it weren't for the Biden administration's open-border policy and refusal to simply follow the law.

Mr. Speaker, this is not compassion. This is not justice. This is chaos, engineered and endorsed by some on the other side. I do hope those on the other side who disagree with this will start stepping up and pushing back with what is happening there.

I will say this, too. Thankfully, under President Trump's leadership, we are cleaning house. The Department of Government Efficiency has exposed FEMA's failures in the past administration. Secretary Noem is working to get this agency back on mission, and Congress is moving to eliminate the Shelter and Services Program and return those funds to real disaster recovery where they belong.

To the families who are still recovering from Hurricane Helene and to those who were told there was no money left while FEMA lost track of millions, I hear you. Help is on the way.

This, my friends, is what it means to put Americans first, to restore common sense, and to lead with integrity.

Mr. KNOTT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Congressman from North Carolina (Mr. MOORE).

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HARIDOPOLOS), my good friend from the Eighth Congressional District, otherwise known as the Space Coast.

Congressman HARIDOPOLOS and I have had many conversations about the cost of illegal immigration on programs that are designed to help and support vulnerable Americans, especially Medicaid.

Congressman HARIDOPOLOS has extensive experience in the Medicaid space, and he knows that it must be guarded to protect those who rely upon it here in the United States. It is not an international charity, and it is especially not for the illegal immigrants here in this country. I will ask him to elaborate on his experience with this issue.

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman KNOTT for yielding and for holding this hearing.

Mr. Speaker, these are the kind of conversations the American public needs to hear. They need to understand the impact that illegal immigration is having on our country and how it un-

dercuts the rule of law and really undercuts those people who truly want to play by the rules and enter the United States in a legal fashion.

It is frustrating when we can bring so many bright, conscientious people who want to come into the United States, yet they are deprived of these opportunities because of the long line that exists because of the challenges we have with illegal immigration.

I very much appreciate the Congressman leading the charge on this and bringing in some of us who have experience with Medicaid to talk about the impacts that it has on our individual States.

As we know, Medicaid is designed to help our most vulnerable citizens—seniors, veterans, kids, low-income families, and especially the disabled. Today, that lifeline is being strained by illegal immigration and open-door policies.

While Democrats and sanctuary States deny the problem, the data is clear. Let's be clear that every dollar spent on illegal immigration is a dollar taken from a senior, a veteran, a child, and a family struggling to pay the bills.

For the past 4 years, the pattern has been very clear. Migrants cross the border and surrender to authorities. They repeat carefully rehearsed lines, provided by NGOs, to meet the bare minimum threshold for asylum. They are released into the country and set a court date years in the future. They will begin to actually receive healthcare benefits at the expense of taxpayers, who have already been hard hit by higher prices for basic things like gas, food, and rent.

The burden is real. From 2017 to 2023, the Federal and State Governments spent \$27 billion on emergency Medicaid for noncitizens, according to the CBO. Also, according to the CBO, around \$18 billion came directly from Federal taxpayers, and I mean every single American.

Under the Biden-Harris years, Medicaid spending on illegal immigrants surged 124 percent higher than under President Trump. In 2021 alone, \$7 billion was spent on emergency care for illegal immigrants. Meanwhile, Democrats in Washington and blue States are demanding we actually pay even more.

To put this into perspective, as the Congressman from North Carolina (Mr. KNOTT) mentioned, I am from the State of Florida. We actually audited how much we spent on Medicaid emergency care last year. It was \$660 million for hospital care for illegal immigrants, according to the Agency for Health Care Administration in Florida. That was \$660 million that was intended to be spent on healthcare for American citizens, or to maybe move the dollars around for education or roads, or to help our environment.

Instead, \$660 million was spent on people who came here illegally. That is a substantial amount of money, and we

will never get it back. Again, it rewards bad behavior.

How the system works is very frustrating. Mr. Speaker, if you pay taxes in America, you are paying for illegal immigrants to get healthcare, whether you like it or not. Federal law requires Medicaid to cover emergency healthcare, period. That is just the law. If they go to the emergency room and that person qualifies, the American public pays for it. States, of course, pick up the costs initially, but the Federal Government reimburses somewhere between 59 and 73 percent of those costs to the States.

American taxpayer dollars are being spent on this program, whether we like it or not.

Reimbursement quietly channels billions of Federal dollars into care for illegal immigration through State Medicaid programs. States like California and New York are actually the most abusive of this law. These sanctuary States choose to allow illegal immigrants to receive State Medicaid programs and then send the bill to Washington, D.C., for all taxpayers to pay for it. It is not like they are being generous with just their taxpayer dollars. It is spread across the entire system in the United States.

States like California and New York manipulate provider taxes and use creative accounting to maximize Federal reimbursement, thus shifting more of the burden to taxpayers across the country.

Here is the gall of it all. New York even promotes free medical care for illegal immigrants with official State flyers, encouraging them to use emergency services. That is pretty rich.

I mean, think about it. They are saying they are just using their State tax dollars. That is not the truth. They are promoting, with taxpayer dollars, this push to have, again, other people pick up the costs.

This is not some federalism deal where it is handled by one State. This is, again, real life in that someone else will pay the bill. Thus, they are being generous with other people's money.

To counter this myth that the Democrats are trying to push, that illegal immigration does not cost taxpayer dollars—it is just not true. This is why I want people to look closely at what Medicaid is.

Again, every Republican that I talk to—and I go across the country to talk about this issue—wants to provide Medicaid for seniors in nursing homes. We want to provide it for pregnant women. We want to provide it for kids. We want to provide it for the disabled. Mr. Speaker, when that relationship is upset by having people here illegally, you are actually potentially putting Medicaid programs at risk.

For those who really want to study the issue, there is a water balloon effect here. Medicaid really doesn't reimburse doctors for their care. It causes private healthcare costs to go up. Imagine the ire that so many people have.

Mr. Speaker, if you talk to a family of four and talk to the parents, they are going to say, for a family of four, they pay like \$1,500 to \$2,000 a month for private healthcare. Yet, a person who comes into the country illegally pays zero in healthcare because they get Medicaid services where there is not even a copay.

That is the ironic part about this. They break the law and are rewarded for it. That undercuts the American Dream.

People start thinking logically: Why do I play by the rules? Maybe I will manipulate a form so that I qualify for Medicaid, and they might never check it again. Mr. Speaker, that is happening today.

□ 1445

People are even objecting to the idea that we check to see if the person still truly qualifies for Medicaid; that is theft from other taxpayers.

So as the CBO confirmed, \$18 billion in Federal spending was put on emergency care, and these are just the facts that play out.

Again, let's have the honest conversation. If the other side wants to fund it, then say it; but don't say it is not happening or bury it under the typical bureaucratic or political doublespeak. These are the conversations we need to have.

Just so you know, Mr. Speaker, in the policy that we are looking at today where we are going to let's say reconsider the budget, they are going to spend \$45 billion for basically jails for illegal immigrants who come across, because if we don't have that jail space or the detention centers as they are looking at asylum, then they go into the country. That means they might not have a court case for a few years.

Let's just think logically here, Mr. Speaker, there are 10 million people.

How many judges, lawyers, public defenders, bailiffs, and other folks do you need to actually have 10 million court cases in their version of due process?

As our lead prosecutor today, Mr. KNOTT, will tell us: The law is simple. If you came here illegally, then the only thing you are allowed is a ticket out of here.

Let's be honest about immigration. This is about the rule of law. I want to bring in a lot of folks. I want to have an immigration system that works and they actually sign up, they get online, and we find out who these folks are. Just like they check us on an airline, they check them at the border.

Instead, this previous administration literally said: Here is the script. Tell them this, you will get the court case in years to come, and you can go into the interior of the country.

That is a double standard.

I applaud Congressman KNOTT for taking this opportunity to talk about this in a real way and my friends from North Carolina talk about how it impacts every one of us. It is taking from the system, causing people to pay more

for insurance, and undercutting the rule of law.

That is why we had an election last year, and the voice was good. The President said that he would stop this crazy idea because we are already \$1 trillion in debt year by year and \$37 trillion in debt overall.

This is common sense, and the President has finally stood up for those people who have been left behind the last 4 years.

So, Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman KNOTT very much for taking on this real issue. It is the kind of discussion we need to have. If the other side feels that we have not been telling the whole story, then come up and have the debate. We would love to see it.

Mr. KNOTT. Mr. Speaker, I am ready for that debate any day, and I am ready for that discussion any day.

Again, the Republicans believe that American tax dollars should serve American citizens and not those who are here illegally.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the Eighth Congressional District of the great State of North Carolina (Mr. HARRIS).

Congressman HARRIS pointed out back in February that an NGO in North Carolina was actively working to hinder law enforcement, aid illegal immigrants, and further worsen the crisis engulfing our communities both in North Carolina and all over our country. A pastor of more than 30 years, Congressman HARRIS is proof that allowing this humanitarian crisis to continue is not compassionate and that enforcing our laws is not hateful.

Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman KNOTT for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure today to be able to share in this time together. I am grateful to Congressman HARIDOPOLOS for sharing, also for Congressman MOORE whom we heard from earlier. I am honored to be a part of this, and I am very thankful for the vision and the passion that Congressman KNOTT has shown in pulling together this Special Order.

When a burglar breaks into your house, Mr. Speaker, you don't set a place for them at the dinner table. That principle seems pretty obvious. However, for some reason, radical progressives just can't understand it.

For the past 4 years, radical, progressive Democrats have openly welcomed criminal aliens into American communities.

Lest we forget, here are just a few of the violent guests the left has invited into our country:

Felix Rojas, an illegal alien who was deported multiple times, was charged just last week for raping a corpse on a Manhattan subway.

In my home State of North Carolina, two illegal aliens whom Congressman MOORE alluded to earlier, Paola Duran Duran and Miguel Duran Duran, were arrested for breaking into a home and kidnapping a mother and her 11-month-old daughter.

Just outside Washington, D.C., an illegal alien, Hyrum Rodriguez, was arrested by ICE after a local court dropped his charges.

What was the crime that he was charged with?

It was abducting a 4-year-old.

These heinous criminals are only a small number of those welcomed into our country by Joe Biden and who were arrested in just the past few days by the Trump administration.

Mr. Speaker, you can only imagine what is happening in our country on a grander scale. While under President Trump's leadership, illegal border crossings are down 95 percent from last year, yet we are still suffering from the impacts of the open-border policies of the last 4 years.

The left did not just facilitate an open-border invasion, they have made the American taxpayer pay for it, and we are still paying for it.

Under former President Biden's open-borders agenda, it is estimated that at least 10 million illegal aliens entered our country, and on top of the massive financial cost of the crimes they commit and the jobs they take away from Americans, a huge chunk of them have been accessing government benefits like Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

Mr. Speaker, this is unacceptable. Americans are hard workers. That is why we have the best country in the world. They don't work backbreaking jobs their whole careers for their taxpayer dollars to subsidize the lives of the very invaders who have subverted their sovereignty.

The left loves to fact-check, so why don't we take a moment and hear some cold, hard facts:

Fact number one, under the Biden administration, more than 1 million illegal aliens received Medicaid benefits.

Fact number two, in fiscal year 2024 alone, over 2 million illegal aliens were given Social Security numbers.

Fact number three, a 2023 study showed that the net cost of illegal aliens to the American taxpayer was at least \$150 billion annually.

Fact number four, States are still having to bear the financial burden of Biden's border crisis. Texas taxpayers have to shell out \$8.88 billion a year to pay for the illegal aliens who invaded their State. For Californians, it is almost \$22 billion.

By the way, fact number five, in some States, in a complete affront to citizens, illegal aliens can get mortgages, bank loans, insurance, driver's licenses, in-State college tuition, and free healthcare. For illegal aliens, the U.S. has been an all-you-can-eat buffet. However, the American taxpayer and innocent women like Laken Riley, Jocelyn Nungaray, and Rachel Morin have paid the full price of the left's open-border agenda.

It is time to turn off the faucet permanently. American taxpayers shouldn't have to fund their own demise, paying for government programs that actually encourage an invasion.

President Trump has shown us the path forward. Border crossings are down. As I mentioned earlier, criminal aliens and gang members are being deported left and right. In other words, the forgotten American is first once again.

Nevertheless, there is still much work to be done, especially in this 119th Congress. Under President Biden, Americans' hard-earned taxpayer dollars in the Federal budget were used as a slush fund for the radical left to facilitate a border invasion of millions of illegal aliens, export their woke ideologies across the globe with wasteful pet projects, and weaponize the government against anyone who disagreed with their policies.

However, President Trump's budget proposal, when signed into law, will be a crucial step in taking our country back from the left. It will defund the wasteful government programs subsidizing illegal aliens and provide President Trump with the very tools to solidify his sensible border security initiatives.

For example, President Trump's budget would eliminate the shelter and services program that facilitated swarms of illegal aliens into American communities and save taxpayers \$650 million at the same time. It will also stop funneling \$428 million to migrant education programs that are taking away from struggling American students.

Those are just a glimpse of the countless wasteful projects for which the American citizens should not be footing the bill. It is up to Congress now to come together and advance both the President's budget and the reconciliation package across the finish line.

Mr. Speaker, we owe nothing less to the American people who are tired of being placed behind illegal aliens. When illegal aliens are given benefits like Medicaid and Social Security by the thousands, then they will keep coming into our country, burdening the American taxpayer, and exacerbating the crime in our cities.

This is why it is so important that this Congress act now with a budget reconciliation, to give President Trump the tools he needs to keep both the wallet and the soul of America safe.

Burglars are in the house, and they don't just want a seat at the dinner table. They want the entire spread.

It is time for us to use this historic opportunity to correct our course.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman KNOTT for his vision and his leadership.

Mr. KNOTT. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman HARRIS for his remarks.

At least 1 million illegals are on Medicaid. I would submit that I have heard not one syllable from the Democratic Party from 5 years ago when Joe Biden took power until today protesting that fact. The Republican Party wants to protect Medicaid and

get the 1 million-plus illegals on it out of the country and off of the program.

Mr. Speaker, I mentioned earlier that some of the ridiculous benefits that taxpayers have unknowingly funded for illegal aliens include something as unique as music lessons. When digging into this issue, Congressman KENNEDY and I were both outraged and simply shocked at the brazen and flagrant waste of funds on these perverse incentives.

I know Congressman KENNEDY to be a fierce advocate for conservative principles both for his district in Utah and for the country at large.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the Third Congressional District of Utah (Mr. KENNEDY).

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman KNOTT for shining much-needed light on this issue and for the opportunity today to speak about some of the consequences of the Biden-Harris administration's irresponsible actions over the past 4 years and how Congress and the Trump administration are working to claw our way back to sanity for the United States of America.

We have lived through the most devastating border crisis in modern American history. Let's be honest. It wasn't a natural disaster, and it wasn't an accident. It was the direct result of bad choices made by the Biden-Harris administration.

This wasn't mere mismanagement. It was facilitation, it was incentivization, and it was done at the expense of our laws, our national security, and our people.

During their time in office, President Biden and Vice President Harris dismantled nearly every meaningful safeguard at the southern border. Their administration presided over a record surge in illegal immigration, over 700,000 illegal aliens were apprehended at the border from October through December of 2023 alone. That was more than any full year during the Obama Presidency when President Obama famously stated that over 1,000 illegal border crossings a day would be considered a crisis.

The Biden-Harris administration frequently allowed in 6,000 a day.

Unfortunately, instead of restoring our control and protecting our sovereignty, they did the unthinkable. They rewarded the lawbreakers. Rather than empower border enforcement, the Biden-Harris administration threw open the Federal checkbook, funneling billions of taxpayer dollars to private nonprofits like Family Endeavors Incorporated, Southwest Key Programs, and Global Refuge. These NGOs didn't just shelter illegal aliens. They pampered them.

Those contracts paid for luxury hotel rooms, room service, 24-hour snacks, laundry, bilingual television, recreation, cultural events, and individual tutoring for mathematics and social studies. Most shockingly, it paid for

pet therapy, music therapy, and horticultural therapy for illegal alien children.

In 2021 alone, Endeavors paid Christy Merrell, a music therapist, \$533,000 for her services. In addition to this nonsense, the nonprofit conducted 1,656 people-plant interactions and 287 pet therapy sessions between April 2021 and March 2023.

This wasn't emergency aid. It was five-star treatment funded by hard-working American families, families that are struggling to pay their own rent and put food on their own table, much less providing themselves with music, plant, and pet therapy.

I know many taxpaying American families who would love to be able to provide their children with one-on-one academic tutoring but simply cannot afford it.

This all begs the question: Why are we investing in illegal families while stripping financial resources from our own citizens to do so?

In one case, Endeavors Incorporated, a Texas-based NGO, received a \$1.3 billion contract from the Federal Government in a single year. Meanwhile their top executives are paid over \$600,000 annually, and the group spends more than \$700,000 on lobbyists all to keep the money flowing.

□ 1500

Contrast that with the conditions our military servicemembers faced during the same time: moldy barracks, sewage overflows, and rodent infestations to highlight a few. In 2022, a mere \$56 million was spent on housing maintenance for military families, less than one-twentieth of what was spent for illegal aliens.

Who did the Biden-Harris administration care about? It certainly wasn't our men and women in uniform.

Unfortunately, the extreme misuse of funds wasn't their only slight to the American public. The Biden-Harris administration relaxed vetting standards for those who claimed to sponsor alien children. DNA testing was scrapped, and background checks were watered down. There were no public records checks required for other adults living in a sponsor's home, and tragic consequences followed.

In one case, a 24-year-old Honduran man posed as a 17-year-old child and was placed with a sponsor in Florida who he later murdered. Sadly, that was not a one-off failure. This type of senseless violence became a regular news story.

While Americans were working multiple jobs to afford rent and groceries, the Biden-Harris administration was funding a billion-dollar pipeline for unaccompanied aliens, and empowering NGOs that had no incentive to solve the crisis, only to profit from it.

They called it compassion, however, in reality, it was corruption, recklessness, and disregard for the rule of law.

The good news is this: Their time in office is over. However, the ramifica-

tions of their decisions persist. While our southern border is certainly more secure now, we have hundreds of thousands of illegal alien cases that will overwhelm our legal system for years. The nonprofit industry they supercharged is still bloated, and the American people are still waiting for real accountability.

Now is the time to fix what they broke. We must defund corrupt NGOs, restore vetting and enforcement, and put the American people first again. We owe it to our citizens. We owe it to our troops, and we owe it to the integrity of this Nation. The crisis wasn't spontaneous. It was built, funded, and incentivized. Let's make sure it is never repeated.

Mr. KNOTT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, you have heard today from our colleagues and myself about the outrageous government-funded incentives and plans to keep illegal aliens not only flowing into this country but also to stay in this country. This scheme goes beyond waste. It represents, candidly, a betrayal of the American people and the American taxpayers, who have suffered mightily in this country because of the illegal immigration crisis.

In closing, I simply ask the following of the American citizens who rely on Medicare or Medicaid: Should we allow illegal immigrants to dilute the quality of your benefits and run up costs in emergency rooms who are precluded from turning illegal immigrants away?

I say, along with my colleagues: Absolutely not. No tax dollars should be allocated to covering healthcare costs for any person who is in this country illegally.

To the American parents, whether rural or urban, who are struggling to feed your children, I ask: Should illegal immigrants receive tax-funded meals day in, day out to eat on your dime?

Again, I heartily say: Absolutely not.

To the children at risk of falling behind in lagging schools all over this country, I ask: Should we continue to allow millions upon millions to arrive here illegally and crowd out your classrooms?

I would say, again: Under no circumstances should we give public education dollars to any person or any family who is here illegally.

To the Social Security recipient I ask: Should we take on more debt and endanger your access to continued benefits just to keep our borders open?

With no hesitation, I again say: Absolutely not. We must protect the tax dollars of American citizens.

To the veterans who are battling homelessness or addiction or the western North Carolinians who are left without shelter following Hurricane Helene, I ask: Should your tax dollars go to housing illegal aliens, to transporting illegal aliens while you continually suffer?

Again, I say definitively: Under no circumstances is this appropriate.

I urge all of my colleagues in Congress to join me in reversing this perverse incentive structure by sending a clear message that the United States laws are to be respected. Put candidly, if you are here illegally, leave. If you return here illegally, you will be punished.

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

THE MATH

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

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I could almost hear the joy from my staff saying: Hey, it is only 30 minutes this time, not an hour.

Mr. Speaker, I want to do just a handful of things. One of these days we are going to have not enough noise about the facts, the numbers, the data, the debt, those things that we can come in and sort of do our boards, our charts, on things that actually reduce spending and modernize.

I do want to sort of start with this. We have spent time since last summer working on pieces of legislation. The Wall Street Journal series and the ProPublica series came out about the scale of bad acts that were happening in what we call Medicare part C, which is Medicare Advantage for most of us, which is now I think about 55 percent of the Medicare population. We have been working on that to sort of modernize it, and so for all the lobbyists who are making money trying to beat us up for trying to actually fix it, I will warn you that the legislation is almost done. We now have to work with the economists and others to score it. We have been stunned though that it continues. Even last Thursday, I think, there was another whole set of investigations or indictments announced.

Let's get on to some of the math here. Mr. Speaker, I have come behind the microphone many times and talked about the scale of debt. We borrow about \$72,000 per second. Our math next year, that goes up to about \$82,000 borrowing per second. If you are a country that needs to borrow about \$6 billion a day, we borrow about \$6 billion a day, what happens in a world where you actually—the liquidity of the debt markets.

I grabbed an article that was in one of my—I think it was in one of my bond publications because I have some weird reading habits. "Japan prepared to use its role as America's largest creditor as leverage in Trump's trade talks." The point I want to make by reading that headline to everyone is: Japan now is our largest individual creditor country. When you have a country that has \$900 billion, maybe a trillion dollars of U.S. sovereign debt, and you walk in the door and say: We want to renegotiate some of our trade pact with you or we want to build an actual trade pact with you, they look

at you and say: But we right now take those dollars that you send us because you have been buying our stuff, and we are buying your debt.

The fact of the matter is if you are a country that is borrowing \$6 billion a day, does anyone understand the fragility, and I am going use that fancy word a couple of times, because also interest—we are actually seeing some indications that when we get out of extraordinary measures—for everyone who doesn't understand, we hit the debt ceiling a couple months ago. Right now, the Treasury every day for that \$6 billion shortfall is juggling money internally and borrowing it out of the military retirement accounts or our thrift savings accounts, the cash accounts, and those things. We are doing internal borrowing. All that has to be paid back, and it all has to be paid back with interest.

We are still working on the rough calculation. Treasury put out a number, but I don't like their number because I don't think it was real, and we had all the visibility. We worked on the dataset saying: When we finally raise the debt ceiling, let's say a month or two from now, Treasury is going to need to pay back those dollars plus the interest. They are going to come to market with \$400 billion, \$500 billion, \$600 billion of borrowing. Just be prepared for what is really going on in the interest rate markets, the debt markets, and will we be beyond some of the discussions of trade where countries like Japan aren't leaking stories that they are going to use our debt as leverage against us.

I used this board a couple of times now, but I want it to make sense. This is the estimate for net interest as a share of revenues in 2035, so that is 9 budget years from now. The chart here and the bar here I want people to pay attention to is Moody's, who has this whole thing where they do analytics on debt and spending. Mr. Speaker, their estimate is in 9 years, 30 percent of U.S. tax collections, that is everything, corporate, individual, estate, the tariffs, everything, they estimate in 9 years, 30 percent of all those tax receipts that come into the Federal Government will just pay interest. This is based on sort of today's interest rate projections.

I showed some charts a couple weeks ago that showed an estimate that if U.S. debt went up 1 percent in interest—selling our bonds, if interest rates went up 1 percent on us, in that 9 budget years, it is not 30 percent of tax receipts that go to just interest, it is 45 percent.

Are you prepared to have a world where here is \$1 of taxes I am paying, and 30 cents of that just pays interest; or God forbid, interest rates go up, and 45 cents of that dollar just pays interest on the bonds?

There is also a chart where we actually went back to the early 2000s when we were kissing up against 6 percent, and it was just like devastating, the

amount of tax collections that get consumed by interest.

Remember, when we finish this fiscal year, the CBO estimate is U.S. sovereign debt, all of it, the gross debt, will be at \$37.2 trillion. The thing we are not supposed to tell people because it hurts their feelings, gets them upset, but it is called math, is over the next 10 years, the vast majority of debt is interest and healthcare costs, mostly Medicare.

Unless you are willing to have honest conversations about debt deficits and demographics, the demographics is the driver of U.S. sovereign debt. We have a shortage of young people in America. We have foreigners come and get educated here, and we send them home because we are so brilliant.

Healthcare costs: We do all this game playing around here where our healthcare discussions are about healthcare finance, not about changing the cost of healthcare.

The thing about this, the ACA, many of you know it as ObamaCare, it is a financing bill. It is a financing bill. It is who gets subsidized and who has to pay. The Republican alternative was a financing bill. Medicare for All is a financing bill.

We don't have the discussion of how to revolutionize this either through technology, a healthier society, taking on obesity, the things that drive the cost of healthcare—how about this concept of we build a healthier society, and we use technology.

I am wearing one of these Oura rings. We are doing experiments in our office with other wearables trying to build data. Is that Republican or Democrat? It is just data. I don't know why we haven't been able to build a love connection here or a policy connection or whatever the hell we are supposed to call it between the left and right saying: What would happen if we engage in policies that change the price of healthcare? Instead, we do these debates because everything in Washington is about the money.

□ 1515

The people marching up and down our hallways here are not coming to our office to say: David, adopt technology. Lower the price of living. Lower the price of healthcare.

It is: We want more money, or we want you to build a barrier to entry to our competition.

We call it rent-seeking, if you remember your high school economics class.

Let's take a look here. I need you to understand how rough our position is in the world right now. Global 10-year borrowing rates. I brought the charts before. We have been bouncing between the 13th position—I think we fell to the 12th position, then the 14th position—where other countries are able to sell their bonds cheaper. Yet, the one that just enrages me, here is Greece. Greece can sell a 10-year bond cheaper than the United States today.

When you run around thinking that the United States is the gold standard, we are also screwing up our extraordinary privilege of having the world reserve currency, and the dollar is coming back to us because you start to see some slowdown in buying U.S. sovereign debt.

Mr. Speaker, we don't know the real numbers because we are in extraordinary measures. We are not coming to market with new debt. Yet, think about this. Here are the countries that can sell a 10-year bond cheaper than the United States: Italy, Greece, France, Canada, Germany, China, and Japan all can sell a 10-year bond cheaper than the United States with lower interest rates. Does that make anyone concerned?

I think I have a chart that shows that the United States will consume 30 to 40 percent of all of the world capital that is going to sovereign debt in the next decade. Yet, we are not supposed to talk about that. Then, the absurdity from the left: Well, we tax rich people more.

Okay, at best, you might get 1 percent, 1.5 percent of GDP. For all of the things we talk about cutting, we get about 1 percent. So the 2.5 percent—Mr. Speaker, this year, we are on pace to borrow 7.3 percent of the entire economy. That is just this year.

One of our charts—and I think this one comes straight from CBO—says that with that little change in interest rates, in 2035, we may be well over 9 percent of the entire economy that year in borrowed money. It doesn't have to be this way.

We are doing these reconciliation negotiations, all of those things, and the inability of groups that come into the office and demand more money to come in with an idea, saying: Maybe we shouldn't be spending billions and billions of dollars on duplicative MRI scans or the things we just waste money on because it turns out that that waste—some people who come behind these microphones call it fraud—turns out to be the profit model of many of the bureaucracies and many of the business models. It doesn't have to be this way.

Start to take a look at the actual data. Last year, the gross interest—that is what we sold publicly and had to pay interest out internally. When we borrow money from the Social Security trust fund or these other things, which all that money has already been borrowed, we have to pay interest back. When Social Security redeems its bonds, we pay them back the money they need for that next month's checks to come out because, remember, Social Security is running about a little less than a structural 25 percent shortfall from tax collections to checks out the door. We also pay them interest.

Last year, we spent \$1.133 trillion in interest. Our best estimate right now is your government will spend just a little shy probably of about \$1.3 trillion

in interest this year. Why that is important: Realize that is more than defense. Let's take a look at this. Think about that.

Starting at about 2022, our interest became more than the Department of Defense budget. How many of the public understand that interest, if you actually calculate the gross interest, is now the second biggest spend in the United States? Social Security comes in at about \$1.480 trillion. Interest this year will probably come in at, what, \$1.2 trillion, \$1.3 trillion?

Interest now is No. 2. Defense right now is actually coming in around No. 4—Social Security, interest, Medicare, defense.

How many times do you hear people come behind these microphones who actually at least know their basic math or want to tell the truth to the voters? Once again, is this Republican or Democrat? It is just math. It is an obligation that we have to pay.

We are going to do what about it? We are going to squeeze out our ability to do the things that we believe are important for protecting the Constitution and the society because, God forbid—the bond markets forbid—that we all of a sudden start to have a spike in interest rates.

You start to understand that many of our brothers and sisters who come behind these microphones—I show the chart all the time saying: Here is the pie chart of all of our spending. Today, about 75 percent is on autopilot. Mr. Speaker, you and I get to vote on 25 percent of the spending. About half of that is defense; about half of that is nondiscretionary. Every dime that a Member of Congress votes on today is borrowed.

Think about that. Other than when you are in reconciliation where Members actually get to have a vote or try to work on mandatory spending, which is formulaic, all defense and all non-defense discretionary is borrowed.

My colleagues have heard a number of Members come behind the microphone and talk about how much non-defense discretionary has gone up, and it has. We have lied repeatedly when we did sequestration.

Paygo, how many times—paygo, I actually think was a Democratic proposal from years ago that, if we are going to add new spending beyond the 5-year window, there needs to be an offset. Members saw a number of bills that expired just before the fifth year so that they don't set off the paygo, or like we did back in January when we owed approximately \$1.2 trillion in cuts to meet the paygo—pay as you go—rules.

Now we just waive it, just like we have done with sequestration and all these other things. We tell people that we are going to be fiscally disciplined. As soon as it is uncomfortable, then we will just waive it.

Why this is important is we will say that there is a 45 percent increase in discretionary spending since 2019, and

it is. Yet, when my colleagues actually look at it, it is a lot of money.

Did I mention that we are borrowing \$6 billion a day? We went from \$662 billion—this is nondefense discretionary, this is the Park Service, this is the IRS, this is the State Department, all of the things we think of as the government—it went up to \$960 billion.

Yet, why this is important to understand—I would vote to roll that back to the 2019 budget. Yet, if you see it as a percentage of GDP, the size of the economy, we are spending, which is the proper way to do big-boy math on budgets.

In 2019, nondefense discretionary was 3.1 percent of the economy. Last year, it was 3.3 percent of the economy. It went up, but the economy got bigger. It turns out that, if you are borrowing 7.3 percent of the economy this year, you could get rid of all of what you think of as government, nondefense discretionary, and you could get rid of all of defense, and my math on the top of my head—I probably should have calculated this before coming behind the microphone—you would still need about another \$400 billion to cover borrowing that covers Medicare. Think about that.

There are those who say: David, balance the budget today.

I can do it. Of course, you are not going to have a military, you are not going to have what you think of as government, and I need to find \$400 billion in the mandatory space.

There is this lack of understanding of the scale. Getting old, when it is healthcare and interest, that is the primary driver. No one wants to hear that. That doesn't set off the dopamine receptors. It doesn't make people mad. It doesn't get you on television.

If you tell the truth about the drivers of U.S. sovereign debt, you will never end up on MSNBC or FOX News or any of those because no one wants to hear the actual math. We want things that anger people. It turns out that good accounting isn't really that exciting, but it is math.

Mr. Speaker, here is the punch line which worries me and why I beg my brothers and sisters: For those of us in the House, we have a reconciliation budget. We are trying not to let the expiring provisions raise people's taxes. We have a reconciliation budget in the House that, if we do everything right, we get a couple trillion dollars of savings over 10 years. We are going to spend over \$68 trillion in the next 10 years.

How many Members of Congress have had protesters outside of their offices saying that they can't cut things. We are talking about a total of \$2 billion or \$2 trillion in savings over 10 years when we are spending \$68 billion. Have we lost our minds?

Yet, if we were to do the Senate's reconciliation budget, which has almost no cuts in spending in it, we will borrow approximately—I am conflating publicly sold debt with the debt we

would create in the next 10 years. What took us 240 years to build, we will double in 10 years, or come close to doubling in 10 years.

Does this body, the lobbyists in the hallways, the groups in the hallways demanding more spending, or any of the staffers who might not have a life so they are watching this really think that the bond markets aren't going to go: They are doubling U.S. debt, maybe we should ask for a little premium, which is called term premium, on U.S. sovereign debt, but I just showed you and told you what happens if we go up 1 percent.

Just that 1 percentage point is \$3 trillion of additional interest. It is more than everything we are talking about trying to cut.

Here is your balance: How do you communicate to the people we borrow money from that we are a good credit risk? We are going to pay you back. We are going to pay you back appropriately. We are not going to say crazy things: Maybe we should force you to go longer on the bonds, or maybe we should ask you to do this or that. You can't do that. You don't screw with your bankers.

Just as in the article, we are already up against the leverage of Japan in this one, but I don't know why it is not about other countries using the fact that we have used them and we have needed them to finance our debt. Then we intend to leverage them?

Okay. They need trade with us. Let's use that leverage, but let's also be respectful of the fact that they are one of our bankers.

Understand the fact, Mr. Speaker, that if we don't get our act together, the United States is on track to double its borrowing over the next 10 years. If that becomes the perception in the world debt markets, we are going to pay a penalty for it, and that penalty is really expensive.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to go back to the office and have more coffee. I appreciate the Speaker's tolerance, and I yield back the balance of my time.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled joint resolutions of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.J. Res. 42. Joint Resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Certification Requirements, Labeling Requirements, and Enforcement Provisions for Certain Consumer Products and Commercial Equipment".

H.J. Res. 75. Joint Resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy relating "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for

Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator-Freezers”.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 7, 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-893. A letter from the Secretary, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule amendments — Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule (RIN: 3084-AB20) received April 29, 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-894. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Continuity of Care via Telemedicine for Veterans Affairs Patients [Docket No.: DEA-407VA] (RIN: 1117-AB40; 1117-AB88) received April 24, 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-895. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Expansion of Buprenorphine Treatment via Telemedicine Encounter [Docket No.: DEA-948] (RIN: 1117-AB78) received April 24, 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-896. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Pennsylvania; Redesignation of the Allegheny County Nonattainment Area to Attainment and Approval of the Area's Maintenance Plan for the 2010 1-Hour Primary Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R03-OAR-2024-0316; FRL-11777-02-R3] received April 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-897. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Kansas; Annual Emission Inventory and Fees [EPA-R07-OAR-2023-0462; FRL-11395-02-R7] received April 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-898. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Sec. 73.622(j) Television Broadcast Stations (Silver City and Truth or Consequences, New Mexico) [MB Docket No.: 25-84] (RM-11995) received May 1, 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-899. A letter from the Deputy Managing Director, Office of Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of the Schedule of Application Fees Set Forth in Sections 1.1102 through 1.1109 of the Commission's Rules [MD Docket No.: 20-270] received May 1, 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-900. A letter from the Associate Director, Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Emergency Response Planning and Preparedness for Nuclear Power Reactors, Regulatory Guide 1.101, Revision 7 received April 29, 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-901. A letter from the General Counsel, U.S. Office of Special Counsel, transmitting a notification of a designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-902. A letter from the Section Chief, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Limited Waiver of Penalties for Certain Disclosure Statements for Micro-captive Reportable Transactions (Notice 2025-24) received May 1, 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-903. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Certification regarding incidental capture of sea turtles in commercial shrimping operations, pursuant to Sec 609(b) of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1990 (16 USC 1537); jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Appropriations.

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. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 478. A bill to require the appropriate Federal banking agencies to establish a 3-year phase-in period for de novo financial institutions to comply with Federal capital standards, to provide relief for de novo rural community banks, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-90). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 976. A bill to repeal the small business loan data collection requirements under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, with an amendment (Rept. 119-91). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1919. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit the Federal reserve banks from offering certain products or services directly to an individual, to prohibit the use of central bank digital currency for monetary policy, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-92). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 2384. A bill to establish an Independent Financial Technology

Working Group to Combat Terrorism and Illicit Financing, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-93). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 2392. A bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-94). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. GARBARINO (for himself and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas):

H.R. 3206. A bill to provide additional requirements for the purchase and sale of conventional mortgages by the enterprises, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. STEUBE (for himself, Ms. TITUS, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. CORREA, Mr. MILLS, and Ms. TOKUDA):

H.R. 3207. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security or the Attorney General to deputize a State or local law enforcement officer to protect certain events with temporary flight restrictions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BAIRD (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. STUTZMAN, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama):

H.R. 3208. A bill to limit funds to the United Nations and other organizations that provide any status, rights, or privileges beyond observer status to the Palestine Liberation Organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. CAMMACK:

H.R. 3209. A bill to prohibit unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the app marketplace, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Mr. LIEU, and Ms. CLARKE of New York):

H.R. 3210. A bill to direct the National Science Foundation to make awards for artificial intelligence literacy programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Workforce, Small Business, 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. FEENSTRA (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 3211. A bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to establish a precision agriculture loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. FINSTAD (for himself and Mr. COSTA):

H.R. 3212. A bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to establish a last acre program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 3213. A bill to protect State and Federal courts' primary and inherent authority to regulate and oversee the legal profession by prohibiting Federal agencies from regulating licensed attorneys and law firms engaged in litigation activities, prohibiting opposing parties in legal actions from bringing private rights of action against such attorneys and law firms for their litigation activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HORSFORD (for himself, Ms. TITUS, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. VASQUEZ, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 3214. A bill to protect consumers from price gouging of residential rental and sale prices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, 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. HORSFORD:

H.R. 3215. A bill to facilitate the use of Federal lands for affordable housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HORSFORD (for himself and Mr. CLEAVER):

H.R. 3216. A bill to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to collect and make publicly available data on properties receiving an allocation of credit under the low-income housing tax credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mrs. HAYES):

H.R. 3217. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to expand the summer electronic benefits transfer for children program to include benefit transfer during school closures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. ROSS, Mr. FROST, and Ms. SCHOLTEN):

H.R. 3218. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to ensure requests for data on individuals do not pertain to reproductive services; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 3219. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to expand eligibility of veterans for a certain military adaptive sports program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. OBERNOLTE (for himself, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. HUDSON):

H.R. 3220. A bill to amend the National Quantum Initiative Act to establish a public-private partnership for near-term quantum application development and acceleration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself and Mr. MURPHY):

H.R. 3221. A bill to include Iceland in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E1 and E2 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of Iceland, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SPARTZ:

H.R. 3222. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve risk adjustment under Medicare Advantage, and for other purposes; 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. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Ms. VAN DUYN):

H.R. 3223. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish procedures relating to the attribution of errors in the case of third party payors of payroll taxes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 3224. A bill to enhance the operations and accountability of international financial institutions, strengthen support for low-income countries, and promote human rights and environmental standards in global financial projects; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas (for himself, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. PETERS, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. CROW):

H.J. Res. 95. A joint resolution recognizing the critical importance of the United States Special Operations Forces community and expressing support for the designation of SOF Week; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. EZELL (for himself and Mr. NEHLS):

H. Con. Res. 30. Concurrent resolution expressing support for local law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Mr. MIN):

H. Res. 386. A resolution condemning recent attacks on the free press by President Donald J. Trump and reaffirming the United States commitment to preserving and protecting freedom of the press as a cornerstone of democracy; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself and Mr. VALADAO):

H. Res. 387. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 2025 as "National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Mr. CARSON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. SCANLON, and Mr. COHEN):

H. Res. 388. A resolution supporting the designation of the first week of April as "Adolescent Immunization Action Week" and recognizing the importance of encouraging vaccination for adolescents and young adults to protect against serious illness; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, and Ms. UNDERWOOD):

H. Res. 389. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Nurses Week, to be observed from May 6 through May 12, 2025; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE (for herself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. BACON, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, and Mrs. HOUGHIN):

H. Res. 390. A resolution recognizing National Foster Care Month as an opportunity to raise awareness about the challenges of children in the foster care system and encouraging Congress to implement policy to improve the lives of children in, or at risk of entering, the foster care system; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MEEKS:

H. Res. 391. A resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H. J. Res. 72) relating to a national emergency by the President on February 1, 2025; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. TONKO, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. ADERHOLT, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H. Res. 392. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May as "National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STANTON:

H. Res. 393. A resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H. J. Res. 73) relating to a national emergency by the President on February 1, 2025; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself, Mr. MAST, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. AUCHINCLOSS):

H. Res. 394. A resolution expressing support for the designation of July 16, 2025, as "Glo-blastoma Awareness Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 3206.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 3207.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. BAIRD:

H.R. 3208.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

"Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or any Department or Office thereof."

By Mrs. CAMMACK:

H.R. 3209.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:
H.R. 3210.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Mr. FEENSTRA:
H.R. 3211.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. FINSTAD:
H.R. 3212.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. FITZGERALD:
H.R. 3213.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. HORSFORD:
H.R. 3214.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. HORSFORD:
H.R. 3215.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the US Constitution.

By Mr. HORSFORD:
H.R. 3216.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the US Constitution.

By Mr. LEVIN:
H.R. 3217.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. LIEU:
H.R. 3218.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const., Art. 1, Sec. 8

By Mr. MAST:
H.R. 3219.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. OBERNOLTE:
H.R. 3220.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. PINGREE:
H.R. 3221.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. SPARTZ:
H.R. 3222.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:
H.R. 3223.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18

By Ms. WATERS:
H.R. 3224.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the

following statement is submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas:
H.J. Res. 95.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 116: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 151: Ms. VAN DUYN.
H.R. 255: Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. SELF, and Ms. CROCKETT.

H.R. 404: Mr. WIED.
H.R. 429: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 479: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 556: Mr. WIED.
H.R. 574: Mr. VAN DREW, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 628: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 659: Mr. SOTO, Mrs. RAMREZ, and Mr. GARCIA of California.
H.R. 740: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS and Mr. KUSTOFF.
H.R. 802: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 833: Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BARR, and Mr. BURLISON.
H.R. 842: Mr. KILEY of California and Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 909: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 914: Ms. McDONALD RIVET.
H.R. 942: Mr. BRESNAHAN and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 956: Mr. BIGGS of Arizona.
H.R. 1004: Ms. ELFRETH and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 1024: Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 1041: Mr. EZELL, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Mr. CLINE, and Ms. DE LA CRUZ.
H.R. 1086: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 1106: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 1151: Mr. ROSE.
H.R. 1181: Ms. FEDORCHAK.
H.R. 1232: Mr. JAMES and Mr. PFLUGER.
H.R. 1241: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 1262: Mrs. HINSON and Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 1286: Mrs. FISCHBACH.
H.R. 1329: Mr. BURCHETT and Mr. MCCAUL.
H.R. 1330: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 1357: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 1378: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky and Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 1400: Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 1415: Mr. SCHMIDT and Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 1505: Mr. MIN.
H.R. 1509: Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. LEE of Florida, and Mr. FRY.
H.R. 1521: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 1539: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 1636: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 1659: Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 1676: Mr. HARIDOPOLOS.
H.R. 1682: Mr. JAMES.
H.R. 1695: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 1709: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 1775: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 1822: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 1868: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 1882: Mr. GILL of Texas.
H.R. 1909: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 1918: Ms. MCBRIDE.
H.R. 2028: Ms. VAN DUYN and Ms. MCBRIDE.

H.R. 2033: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
H.R. 2109: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 2126: Mr. BRECHEEN and Mr. JAMES.
H.R. 2145: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 2160: Mr. SCHMIDT.
H.R. 2189: Mr. FRY.
H.R. 2199: Ms. MCBRIDE.
H.R. 2230: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
H.R. 2253: Mr. FROST.
H.R. 2290: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 2294: Ms. MCBRIDE.
H.R. 2311: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 2315: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 2355: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 2395: Ms. HAGEMAN.
H.R. 2514: Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 2531: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 2536: Mr. RILEY of New York.
H.R. 2538: Ms. STANSBURY and Mr. GRAVES.
H.R. 2550: Mr. CLYBURN.
H.R. 2599: Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 2623: Mr. WIED.
H.R. 2687: Ms. PELOSI.
H.R. 2705: Mr. COLLINS and Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 2729: Mr. STAUBER, Mr. ROSE, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 2736: Mrs. SYKES.
H.R. 2753: Ms. CHU, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. GOODLANDER, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. DEXTER, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2761: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 2767: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2781: Mr. BISHOP.
H.R. 2788: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 2841: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 2904: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
H.R. 2941: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 2969: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 2979: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 3033: Mr. PFLUGER.
H.R. 3036: Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 3043: Mr. MCGUIRE.
H.R. 3048: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 3098: Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 3107: Mr. BISHOP.
H.R. 3112: Ms. PEREZ, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 3128: Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 3131: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
H.R. 3142: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 3177: Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 3179: Ms. VAN DUYN and Mr. SELF.
H.R. 3195: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
H.R. 3199: Ms. OMAR, Ms. MENG, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 3204: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.J. Res. 38: Mr. STEUBE.
H. Res. 155: Ms. PINGREE.
H. Res. 166: Ms. NORTON.
H. Res. 267: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. McCLELLAN, Mr. BACON, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. FIELDS.
H. Res. 364: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. FALLON, and Mr. KUSTOFF.
H. Res. 380: Mr. POCAN, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Ms. TOKUDA.



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No. 75

Senate

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Everlasting Father, enable us to love You with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. Give us humility so we can see Your divine image in the people around us and serve You by serving them. Lord, let this love expressed in service transform our Senate, Nation, and world.

Bless our Senators. Make them kind in thought, gentle in speech, and generous in action. Lift their lives from the battle zone of polemical words to a caring community of integrity and respect and civility. Lord, teach them that it is better to fail in a cause that will ultimately succeed than to succeed in a cause that will ultimately fail.

We pray in Your precious 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. SHEEHY). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "NATIONAL EMISSION STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS AIR POLLUTANTS: RUBBER TIRE MANUFACTURING"—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.J. Res. 61, which the clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 61) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Rubber Tire Manufacturing".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE DAY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, beginning in 1988, the month of May has been observed as National Foster Care Month. The first Tuesday in May, which is today, has been recognized by many organizations as National Foster Care Day.

The designations of this month and day have been used as a time to raise awareness of the needs of, roughly, 370,000 American children who are in our foster care system. It is also a good time to commend the many organizations that serve children in the foster care system. These children ought to have safe, loving, and permanent homes. I applaud the organizations and the individuals who tend to the needs of these children day in and day out.

For decades, I, too, have worked to support the needs of young people who experience the foster care system. I found that, to get a meaningful under-

standing of what the needs are, young people who experience foster care ought to have the chance to inform us. So, in 2009, for the purpose I just expressed, I launched the bipartisan Senate Caucus on Foster Youth. My work with the caucus has helped inform me of the many challenges that children in the foster care system face.

To give just one example, older youth who age out of the foster care system without a permanent place to call home or to call family to share life experiences with often aren't being set up for success. These older youth desire and need a permanent connection with an adult or family. They also need to be supported in ways that are beneficial to their long-term independence.

Congress ought to continue to explore solutions that improve long-term outcomes for every child in foster care. I am committed to supporting the needs of children who experience foster care to help them achieve their full potential.

On this Foster Care Day, I hope others are encouraged to do their part to see that no child goes without the love, safety, and stability that they deserve.

I got involved in the foster care issues because I hired a staff person by the name of Sarah Gesiriech, now about 30 years ago. I didn't hire her for anything dealing with foster care, but she came to me one day and said: I have been adopted into this family in Urbandale, IA, and I have observed the foster care system through my life, and I know there needs to be a lot of changes to make sure that the foster care system serves more of the needs.

So, as I usually do if a staff person comes to me with a special interest in something, I encouraged her to pursue that. Now, that is how I got involved in the foster care system.

Sarah Gesiriech worked on some reforms that we passed for the period of time she worked for me. She has then gone on to work for nonprofit organizations since then. We have been able to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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show some real progress because, 30 years ago, we had 700,000 kids in foster care. I gave the figure of 370,000 who are still in foster care today, but those 370,000 need our help as much as the 700,000 did several decades ago.

I thank Sarah for getting me involved in this issue as to the reforms that we have done, and she has the pleasure today of working on some of these issues in the White House, under the auspices and directorship of the First Lady of the United States of America, Mrs. Trump.

I wish her well, and I wish the First Lady well. In how I can help, I would be glad to help.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, as I said on the floor yesterday, when I meet with South Dakota business owners, I often tell them to let me know how we can help, even if that means getting out of the way, because that is often what the government needs to do: get out of the way.

It is a foreign concept to the government-knows-best crowd. But what my Democratic colleagues frequently fail to realize is that while government can sometimes be a help, it can often be a hindrance, especially under Democratic administrations, which tend to load down Americans and American businesses with burdensome regulations for extremely dubious gains. The Biden administration certainly did that.

One of our priorities this Congress has been taking advantage of the Congressional Review Act to repeal burdensome Biden administration regulations. We have passed 10 CRA resolutions so far, and this week we plan to add 4 more to that total. We will kick things off with Senator TIM SCOTT's resolution on the Biden administration's rubber tire manufacturing rule, an excellent example of a burdensome and unnecessary regulation.

The Biden EPA's rubber tire rule set new emissions standards for tire manufacturers. Why? Well, that is a good question. Tire manufacturers are already subject to strict emissions rules, and the Biden EPA—that is right, the Biden EPA—found the rule was not necessary to protect public health or the environment. And as for the rule's effect on emissions, while it will reduce the emission of certain air pollutants, it will increase emissions of carbon dioxide and methane. And then there is the cost. The Biden EPA estimated that this rule would cost tire manufac-

turers \$13.3 million per year, and there is reason to believe that that number could go much higher.

So we have costly new standards for tire manufacturers, justified by no public health benefit—including, as I said, by the Biden administration—and estimated to produce extremely dubious, if any, environmental gains. You might say we have the poster child for a burdensome and unnecessary government regulation, and we are going to repeal it this week.

We are also going to take up Senator CURTIS and Senator LEE's resolution to overturn a Biden administration regulation limiting access to public lands in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area for those with off-road vehicles. Senator CURTIS has noted that he hopes this measure will be a step toward ensuring that public lands remain accessible to Americans instead of being closed off by Washington bureaucrats.

A third CRA measure that we will take up this week is Senator CRUZ's resolution to block an unlawful Biden-era Federal Communications Commission regulation that allows a Federal program to subsidize unregulated, off-campus Wi-Fi hotspots for schoolchildren. The problems with this regulation are myriad. It is, as I said, unlawful. It violates the Communications Act, which clearly limits the use of the funds in question to classrooms and libraries, and it effectively extends a program that Congress chose not to renew. Then there is the fact that this rule endangers children by giving them unsupervised access to a whole host of potentially dangerous or unhealthy content. Add to that the fact that it creates the potential for duplication of government efforts to deploy broadband, and you have a whole host of reasons to repeal this Biden regulation.

Finally, this week, we intend to take up Senator KENNEDY's CRA resolution to repeal a Biden administration rule adding unnecessary redtape to bank mergers. This rule would delay approval of bank mergers that increase competition, potentially restricting choice in banks for consumers.

I am grateful to all of the Senators I have mentioned for their efforts to lift burdensome Biden-era regulations and for all those who sponsored earlier CRA measures. Senate Republicans will continue to work to lift unnecessary government burdens and get government out of the way of American families and American businesses.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

FAA

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, the closer you look at the troubles at Newark Airport, the more alarming the story gets. For months, especially over the past week or so, operations at Newark Airport have been mired by chaos, delays, and crippling system outages.

It was recently reported that on Monday, April 28, air traffic controllers overseeing Newark lost all communications with planes in the air for up to 90 seconds—"unable to see, hear, or talk to them." That is 90 seconds of a wholly filled up sky of planes literally flying blind over one of America's busiest airports. Thank God nothing happened, but we tempt fate if no changes are made. If during 90 seconds, the system goes down and so many airplanes are flying so close to each other at a congested airport, that is really sounding a five-alarm fire.

What was the culprit of this blackout? It was a burnt copper wire that shut communications down. This is unacceptable. We can't keep America's planes safe in 2025 if we rely on copper wires and floppy disks. Air traffic controllers and America's travelers deserve far more. Copper wires and floppy disks in 2025? When it comes to safety, the FAA is way behind the eight ball.

Yesterday, I called on the Office of the Inspector General at the FAA to conduct a full investigation into the deteriorating conditions at Newark Airport and to examine how we can prevent these problems from spreading to other airports around the country.

When Newark alone gets backed up, it affects other airports because it is such a busy hub, but if this starts happening at other airports, our air traffic is in real trouble—even more trouble than it is in now.

Donald Trump's FAA has failed spectacularly this year in showing the American people that the Trump administration is up to the task of keeping people safe. We need to get to the bottom as to why. The public deserves answers to some very important questions.

Why have the staffing shortages at Newark and other critical airports been allowed to continue? What role has DOGE's cuts played in aggravating the chaos? What is the plan to fill the vacancies of critical leadership at the FAA? Some of the top positions are not filled because some of the people there who are very capable resigned in disgust at what the administration was trying to do to the FAA.

We have seen chaos throughout the administration, and clearly it's here at the FAA, an Agency that cannot afford any chaos whatsoever because lives are at stake. The longer the FAA and the administration slow-walk these troubles, the greater the risk of a true catastrophe.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. President, now the Trump agenda, a few months into Donald Trump's second term, Americans are getting a clear look at what Trump 2.0 is all about.

Last week, Americans got a good look at Trump 2.0 when the White House released its so-called skinny budget. Trump's days of pretending to be a populist are over. His budget is an all-out assault on healthcare, education, public safety, and programs that help small businesses. They want to ax domestic programs that help tens of millions of people—hundreds of millions, really—by nearly a quarter. It is radical to its rotten core.

The budget is proof positive that the Emperor has no clothes. Donald Trump is a con man who does not care one iota about the struggle of everyday Americans. He would rather listen to his billionaire buddies than to the American people in terms of what the country needs.

Few things crystallize Trump's 2.0 as much as Republicans' signature bill—a massive tax break for billionaires financed by the biggest cuts to Medicaid ever. For months, Republicans have tried to muddle their way forward on their agenda with magic talk totally severed from reality. Republicans say they want trillions in tax giveaways for the wealthy, trillions in spending cuts, but somehow claim these drastic changes won't hurt average Americans. Cut Medicaid, they say, but nobody will lose benefits. That is totally illogical.

Even the worst studies I have seen show that the percentage of "waste, fraud, and abuse" is much, much less than the \$880 billion they say they are going to cut. They really want to slash Medicaid to the bone. Waste is something of a pretext for them.

Reality is now coming back to bite our Republican colleagues. In the House, Republicans are at total loggerheads about how to move forward. Now, mind you, there is zero disagreement among Republicans when it comes to the big goal: massive tax giveaways for the wealthy. They agree on axing popular programs like Medicaid, like Social Security, and like veterans. What Republicans disagreed on is simply the method for screwing Americans over, which is the better way to screw Americans over. That is what they disagree on. That is what they are fighting about—but not on the goals, which are pernicious.

Why do Republicans face such a conundrum, where they are so at odds with one another? Simple answer: 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 at town-halls or 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.

The idea that some of the Republicans are saying, "Well, we are going to our leadership to make a request"—if that request is not granted, if Med-

icaid is still slashed, for instance, it is how they vote that is going to matter, what they put into effect, not going to constituents and saying, "Oh, I agree with you. I will go to my leadership."

But when leadership says no, are they going to vote against the bill? We will see. I doubt it. I very much doubt it. Unfortunately, it doesn't look like it is going to happen. And they—each Republican who votes for reconciliation and bad budgets—will be left holding that hot potato.

NOMINATION OF FRANK BISIGNANO

Mr. President, on the Bisignano nomination, as Republicans press forward this week axing Medicaid and other popular programs, today, Senate Republicans will turn their attention to attacking Social Security in the name of voting on Frank Bisignano to lead the SSA. It is literally putting a fox in the henhouse.

If confirmed, Mr. Bisignano would be one of the greatest threats to Social Security in its 90-year history, one of the greatest threats we have ever had. He will accelerate the closures, the rollbacks, the risky practices that DOGE has already set in motion, and the anxiety Americans feel about their benefits will only get worse.

I am proud that every single Democrat will vote no on Mr. "Slash-and-Burn" Bisignano. The last person we need overseeing senior benefits is a DOGE fanatic. He says he is a proud DOGE guy whose claim to fame was overseeing mass layoffs in the private sector. Yes, that is his claim to fame.

During his testimony, Mr. Bisignano lied to Senators about his ties to DOGE and about his role in executing cutbacks at the SSA, the Social Security Administration. If he lied about that, what is stopping him from lying about cutting benefits down the line?

Donald Trump and Republicans can't say directly that they want to kill Social Security outright, so instead they are choosing another method of killing it: strangulation—office closures, delays, mass layoffs, trouble over the phone, trouble over the email.

Every single Republican Senator that votes yes on Bisignano will be complicit in strangling Social Security, plain and simple. If Mr. Bisignano is confirmed, Republicans will own all of the chaos he creates because, again, they are letting the slash-and-burn fox into the Social Security henhouse.

A yes for Mr. Bisignano is a vote for delayed benefits, for longer wait times over the phone, even more layoffs, and office closures. So today, Senate Republicans will have to make a choice: Vote no on Bisignano and protect the millions of Americans who rely on Social Security or vote yes on Mr. Bisignano and side with Donald Trump and Elon Musk and DOGE as they tear Social Security apart.

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. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The majority whip.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that during my speech, I have the opportunity to display some of my father's remembrances from World War II.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Military Appreciation Month. It is a time to renew our commitment—our Nation's commitment, our individual commitment—to those who defend our Nation. They defend our freedom. They have done it in the past, they are doing it today, and they will continue to do it into the future. Most importantly, it is a time to say thank you.

In Wyoming, our pride in the military runs very deep. This Saturday in Wyoming, there will be welcome home ceremonies. They will actually be in a number of communities throughout the State. This originally began as a welcome home to Vietnam veterans, who were never given the proper welcome home when they came home from the war. This weekend, all Wyoming veterans will be honored and welcomed home.

Tens of thousands of servicemembers, veterans, and military families live in Wyoming. Our airmen at F.E. Warren Air Force Base maintain our Nation's nuclear deterrent. Our Wyoming National Guard—they are ready to serve, and they are ready to serve at a moment's notice.

All of them embody America's spirit. It is a privilege to represent each and every one of them here in the U.S. Senate.

Let me take you back a moment to the changing world happening in 1945—May 8, 1945. It was Victory in Europe Day—VE Day. On that day, the world celebrated the triumph of liberty over tyranny. That triumph of liberty was paid for by the blood and the bravery of 16 million Americans who served, and one of those was my father.

I have his dog tags with me. I carry them whenever I travel overseas, whenever I visit our veterans, and whenever I visit our men and women in uniform. I did it earlier this year in Jordan and in Syria. I did it at Thanksgiving in the Middle East. I did it last spring in Djibouti where we had members of our Air National Guard serving there.

I also have his prayer book called "My Military Missal." These were given out in World War II in the Battle of the Bulge. They used them, and the back was a rosary, the beads printed in there as if in braille, with a crucifix. And this rosary has been well-worn, used by his thumb because he was walking and had it in his pocket on patrol.

He signed up 3 days after Pearl Harbor, my father did. He fought through

the war, through the bitter cold of the Battle of the Bulge, didn't come home until the war was over. My dad called the men who were with him in uniform at the time "ordinary men with extraordinary courage." Their lessons endure today. Weakness provokes, but strength deters.

Here we are 80 years later, and we face a dangerous world. Our enemies are aggressive, menacing, and powerful. Very few of those men who fought in World War II are alive today—very few. We celebrated the Battle of the Bulge and had ceremonies with those few in Bastogne this past December. They are gone. There is a next generation today and a generation after that. And under the bold leadership of President Trump, our military is rising to meet the challenge that we are facing today. And we are today restoring peace through strength.

In 100 days, President Trump and Secretary of Defense Hegseth have made our military stronger and, of course, more respected around the world. Recruiting is soaring. The last month was the best month in almost 40 years.

I was in Mills, WY, for a pancake breakfast for the Lions Club on Saturday morning. I met two young men who were helping to volunteer serving pancakes. One is going to go to the Naval Academy and one to West Point. The next generation: Ready to serve, ready to defend, ready to protect.

So what we are seeing today is maintaining military strength at a time where investment is needed, and that is what this Congress is debating—because the "greatest generation" built the arsenal of democracy and we carry that on by modernizing our military.

Under unified Republican government, America is embracing the new technology, such as artificial intelligence, to outpace our adversaries. We are rebuilding our industrial base. We are expanding shipbuilding so our Navy remains the world's finest. And, boy, what a reputation the Navy SEALs have, and the Presiding Officer's long and distinguished history of service to our Nation—now in the Senate but prior to that in the military and your wife, as well.

We are improving the quality of life of servicemembers and their families because a supported military is a strong military. We are creating an Iron Dome for America so our Nation is safe from danger. In all, we are investing more than \$150 billion in peace through strength. These efforts, backed by bold leadership, equip our military to deal with life in a dangerous and menacing world.

Military strength is not enough. VE Day reminds us that defending freedom also demands moral clarity. That means championing the values of liberty and justice, the values that Americans have always stood for.

The minutemen of Lexington and Concord stood for them, the paratroopers of Normandy stood for them.

Wyoming's troops serving around the world today continue to stand for them.

I visit with Wyoming troops every year overseas at Thanksgiving. I go wherever they are. It started in 2007, my first year in the Senate, when I visited troops in Iraq, outside of Baghdad, Andar province.

I try to visit every deployment of our National Guard. I just got back from visiting the troops in the Middle East in March. I go for the purpose of thanking them for their service and bringing a little piece of Wyoming today to wherever they are in the world. And when you go visit with them you ask: Do you have everything you need? Is there any way we can be helpful? But they want to talk about home. They want to talk about how the hunting was, how the weather is, how the football team has done. They want to talk about their families, which community they were from, and then their mission to make sure that the folks at home are protected so they can return to Wyoming and be with them once again.

Those currently deployed overseas are eight time zones away. You know, you want to make sure they have everything they need, and they do in terms of what they are getting in terms of supplies; they just miss a little bit of home in Wyoming.

We are blessed to have these soldiers. We are blessed to have soldiers from all of our States serving like this. People from all different backgrounds come to serve, and today I just want to be here to remember our history and think about the sacrifices that so many continue to make.

We honor them by doing what we need to do here to make sure that they are equipped to fight the modern threats that they face. We honor them by uniting as a nation to support them. We honor them by making sure that they have veterans healthcare available to them in their communities. I talked to Veterans Affairs Secretary Doug Collins about making sure that the veterans have what they need, and he as a veteran is committed to that.

Today we celebrate Military Appreciation Month, so let's thank our heroes who fought for our liberty. Thank them who served today; thank their families; thank them who have sacrificed as the Presiding Officer and his family have done. That is a commitment. Because of their courage, America remains safe; it remains free. And with bold leadership like we have today, it will stay that way.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, before I make my remarks, I want to join my colleague, Republican colleague from Wyoming in a salute to our military and appreciation for all they have given to America.

It is a touching story. I know he spends so many holidays visiting with Wyoming Guard troops stationed

around the world, and I didn't know he carried his father's World War II dog tags with him. That is an indication of his love and respect for his dad, and I want to join in those sentiments.

But though the military commitment that people make is a unique commitment because you say that you will risk your life for this country, there are many other commitments that can be made in public service which make this a greater Nation too.

AMERICORPS

Mr. President, for more than three decades, AmeriCorps has strengthened communities across the United States. From rebuilding homes to providing rural healthcare, tutoring kids after school, cleaning up after natural disasters, AmeriCorps supports our most underresourced communities. My Republican colleagues represent communities that benefit from AmeriCorps whose members serve in their State.

For decades, AmeriCorps has had bipartisan support, which it deserves, but last week, unfortunately, the Trump administration pulled the rug out from under these community organizations by eliminating their funding—eliminating. Organizations like the Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House in East St. Louis, IL, my hometown, which provides meals to members of all ages of the East St. Louis community—they were left scrambling after the President's announcement eliminating AmeriCorps.

Right after the funding cuts were announced, Reverend Gaston, the CEO, met with workers who serve as drivers for the center's Meals on Wheels program.

For many of the senior citizens in that town and around the country, Meals on Wheels is literally the only physical contact they have with the outside world. It is a moment in the day that they look forward to with great anticipation. It is more than just food.

The night before the drivers were set to deliver meals, Reverend Gaston had to tell them, "There [is] nowhere to go." He added that those workers would not get paid, even though they had worked earlier in the day.

The East St. Louis community is located in a food desert, which means members like Ayshia, who takes care of her grandfather, have come to rely on the center's food pantry for healthy options like fruits and vegetables. I know; I was just there 2 weeks ago.

Last month, eight dedicated AmeriCorps members worked in the center's cafe to offer a safe place for the community to eat a hot meal. Today, because of Trump's cuts, the tables are empty.

Camille, who is Lessie Bates Davis' program director for AmeriCorps shared that she has 120 days to close out the program. After that, even she will be left without a job.

While Camille is concerned about her own future, she has also shared how overwhelming it is to tell people that

she doesn't know the path forward, especially because she is a leader in the community.

Other programs across Illinois are feeling similar impacts. Take Lukas, an AmeriCorps member who has worked at the Boys and Girls Club in Livingston, IL, providing students with a safe place to learn and play after school. He won't get paid because of the Trump cuts, but he plans to continue to volunteer unpaid because of the impact on his community without people like him. He is feeling very bad for the young kids he knows so well.

Another constituent Ann is an AmeriCorps program director at Severson Dells Nature Center in northern Illinois in Rockford. Ann shared that one alum of AmeriCorps was inspired to serve this country by joining the U.S. Coast Guard after working in his community as an AmeriCorps volunteer and member in the nature center.

To use Ann's words:

AmeriCorps members are the best of us and have collectively served this country.

I urge my Republican colleagues to fight against this administration's senseless attempts to eliminate such small amounts of funding that have such incredible positive impact in their communities, as well as my own. Don't sit by in silence.

As if cutting funds from AmeriCorps wasn't enough, last Thursday, in the dead of the night, President Trump signed an Executive order trying to end Federal funding for National Public Radio and Public Broadcasting. As it currently stands, only 1 percent of Federal funding goes directly to NPR and PBS.

It is a marginal expense in comparison to the amount of good it does. They provide news coverage, lifesaving emergency alerts, and educational programming for our kids. While President Trump falsely claims that the public media is "biased and partisan," he is wrong. Public media provides local communities with unbiased and nonpartisan news coverage, especially in rural and smalltown areas where a newsroom often is working off limited resources.

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting is a private, nonprofit corporation authorized by Congress since 1967. For more than 50 years, Congress has provided funding on a bipartisan basis for Public Broadcasting. By doing so, we have ensured the independence of the public media system and provided an opportunity for a longstanding public-private partnership in service to all Americans.

President Trump's attempts to silence the media he does not deem acceptable should be responded to on a bipartisan basis. We must be united to let this President know that silencing a reliable news source is unacceptable in modern America. We have come to expect this kind of censoring by dictators and fascists, but we don't expect it in the United States.

Countries like Russia and China spend billions of dollars trying to undermine our news and spread disinformation; and cuts to free, untampered public news are not the way to fight off their advances.

As soon as I learned about the proposed cuts, I spoke out on the need for Congress to respond, to save these important institutions. And what was the response of my Republican colleagues? Silence. Crickets. It is the "Silence of the Lambs."

My Republican colleagues cannot afford to stay silent any longer. We must work in a bipartisan manner, continue to work to stop these funding cuts and prove to the American people that we care about our local communities and everyone's access to free, unbiased broadcasting. We must continue to allow NPR and PBS to provide essential news, information, and lifesaving services to the American public. Democracy cannot survive in silence.

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. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

H. J. RES. 61

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. In yet another of many attempts to unravel protections for human health and the environment, and in their endless quest to accommodate the country's biggest polluters, Republicans in the Senate are seeking congressional disapproval for EPA's final rule setting national emissions standards for hazardous air pollutants for rubber tire manufacturing.

A little history here. Since the 1970s, the Clean Air Act has required EPA to set emission standards for facilities that are major sources of hazardous air pollution. For over 50 years, these standards have allowed us to expand our industry and grow our economy while also making major improvements in air quality for the American people. Yet some toxic pollution remains unregulated, even at regulated facilities. And so, in 2020, the DC Circuit, the Federal court, directed EPA to regulate all unregulated hazardous air pollution from major sources. In response, EPA finalized long-overdue protections for the rubber processing stage of tire manufacturing.

Before then, this process was entirely unregulated by the Federal Government. But faced with new emissions data showing that rubber processing releases large quantities of hazardous air pollutants, EPA was obliged under the Clean Air Act to act. The rule is expected to significantly reduce toxic air pollution, nominally a goal of this administration. Pollutants include heavy metal like mercury, organic chemicals, and particulate matter—the little stuff that floats in the air, and this gets into people's lungs.

These pollutants, even in low doses, can cause significant harm to human health. Children, babies, and developing fetuses are at particular risk, vulnerable to the effects of these pollutants. So this rule protects the communities which house these rubber processing facilities, communities like Des Moines, IA; Topeka, KS; Social Circle, GA; Anderson, SC; and Findlay, OH. People living in those communities will be protected by this rule from an increased risk of cancer, heart disease, respiratory disease, and even cognitive impairments. This is dangerous pollution.

So make no mistake, this resolution to undo the clean air rule would deny clean air protections to the American people, with particular harm to American children whose lungs and brains, still developing, are most vulnerable to the effects of these pollutants.

My Republican colleagues have argued that the energy needed for the pollution controls will increase carbon emissions. Well, two things on that. First, it just ain't true. EPA found that secondary air impacts are minimal and do not outweigh the health benefits from reduced toxic pollution. It is also a bit laughable that my Republican colleagues now purport to care about carbon pollution after every single step they have taken in this arena has been to make carbon pollution worse, to help their big donors from the fossil fuel industry, and to lead us ever more rapidly into the climate crisis with its insurance meltdown component that is now so widely predicted—predicted even by the Chairman of the Federal Reserve here in the Senate Banking Committee, saying that in 10 to 15 years there will be whole regions of the United States where you can't get a mortgage anymore. Why can't you get a mortgage anymore there? Because the insurance has made it untenable. The insurance is untenable because the climate risk is both much worse and more unpredictable.

So what is widely predicted, including recently by a board member of the biggest insurance company on the planet, is that uncertainty and added risk in the natural systems caused by fossil fuel pollution makes insurance—particularly property insurance—untenable, which makes mortgages unavailable, which crashes housing prices, and that is predicted to lead to a 2008-style economic meltdown to the entire economy.

You may not want to hear this, but it is widely—widely—predicted by expert sources, many under a fiduciary obligation to get this right, unlike the fossil fuel industry which lies with impunity.

Anyway, given the record of this body and this administration on this issue, the idea that there is a sincere concern about carbon emissions happening on the other side of this aisle verges on the preposterous. The full story here is that the economic effects of this rule are minimal. EPA found during its rulemaking process that facility owners affected by this rule will

incur less than 1 percent of their revenue in compliance costs—1 percent. That is too much, obviously, for our friends on the other side.

The rule even offers flexible compliance options that could further reduce the burden if a company were to make an honest effort to come into compliance with air rules that protect the safety of their own communities.

In any event, that minimal 1 percent or less financial burden ought to be outweighed by the substantial public health costs that Americans will face if Congress and the Trump administration continue their mad quest to eliminate clean air protections. More doctors' appointments and emergency room visits, more inhalers and prescriptions, more lost school and workdays—that will be the cost of passing this resolution.

I urge all of my colleagues to protect the health of Americans and vote no on this misguided resolution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. I rise in support today for two strong nominees: Luke Pettit and Marcus Molinaro, who were moved out of the Banking Committee with broad bipartisan support.

Luke Pettit has been nominated to serve as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Institutions. Luke brings a wealth of experience and a deep understanding of our financial system, honed through his service of the Senate Banking Committee and in his role as senior policy adviser for Senator HAGERTY. And he has worked in the private sector. Luke is a servant leader who understands the difficult challenges facing American families and businesses.

Marcus Molinaro has been nominated as Federal Transit Administrator. His extensive experience, from his tenure in Congress to his outstanding leadership as Dutchess County executive, underscores his unwavering commitment to improving transit infrastructure and enhancing the lives of all Americans.

Marcus is a proven leader who understands that effective transit systems are the backbone of vibrant communities. Under his leadership, I am confident that the Federal Transit Administration will excel in its mission to connect communities, ensure safety, and promote new opportunities, including much needed housing initiatives, across this great Nation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in confirming both of these nominees.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 63 and 65; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately no-

tified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object. I want to note that President Trump is pushing our economy off a cliff. Over the past week, the President has told families to brace for more expensive toys for Christmas and he continues to lie about the fact that grocery prices are actually going up. He has managed to shrink the economy in his first 100 days and experts from across the spectrum are already predicting a recession.

He is also working to tear our Federal Government apart. And while President Trump works to burn down our economy and our future, the Senate is still chugging along with business as usual in confirming the President's nominees to lead the Agencies that he is actively trying to destroy.

My litmus test for any executive branch nominee is will they enforce the law and uphold our Constitution or will they simply bend the knee to the orders of President Trump? I am worried that Mr. Pettit will simply go along with the Trump administration's deregulatory agenda, instead of fighting to protect consumers and to ensure financial stability.

I know that Mr. Molinaro wants to improve the public transportation system and support public transit workers. I appreciate that. I genuinely do. I have no doubt about it. But it seems clear that the White House and Elon Musk's DOGE will gut the Federal Transit Administration and undermine the Department of Transportation.

We cannot wave these nominees through by unanimous consent without a real debate. Therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. I am so sorry to hear that.

H.J. RES. 61

Mr. President, I rise for another topic. Today, I rise in support of my Congressional Review Act to overturn one of the Biden-era EPA rules on the rubber tire manufacturing NESHAP.

In November 2004, Biden's EPA continued on its radical left climate agenda and issued and implemented a new rule to study after study proved to be unnecessary. Their claim was the implementation of the rule was a manner of public health. The EPA performed—the EPA—performed a risk review of the rule and found this was inconsequential to public health and that the rule increases CO₂ emissions.

Instead of listening to their own experts, the Biden administration ignored the experts to push forward their burdensome regulatory overreach. I am grateful to stand in this Chamber today to roll back these ill-advised rules so manufacturers can avoid millions of dollars in compliance fees that will cost the American consumer those millions of dollars and, instead, invest

in the American workforce, the greatest workforce on the planet.

It is time for us to act. It is time for us to roll back these unnecessary EPA rules so that the American people are not burdened with millions of dollars of additional costs simply to buy tires. Let us do the right thing.

VOTE ON H.J. RES. 61

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all time on H.J. Res. 61 has expired.

The clerk will read the title of the joint resolution for the third time.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 232 Leg.]

YEAS—55

Banks	Grassley	Mullin
Barrasso	Hagerty	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Hoeben	Ricketts
Britt	Husted	Risch
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Justice	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Curtis	McConnell	Warner
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	
Graham	Moreno	

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Reed
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schiff
Booker	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Coons	Lujan	Slotkin
Cortez Masto	Markey	Smith
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 61) was passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table.

The Senator from Louisiana.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY RELATING TO THE REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS UNDER THE BANK MERGER ACT—Motion to Proceed

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 69, S.J. Res. 13.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 69, S.J. Res. 13, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury relating to the review of applications under the Bank Merger Act.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Mr. KENNEDY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll. The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 233 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Table listing names of Senators who voted 'YEAS' (53 total): Banks, Barrasso, Blackburn, Boozman, Britt, Budd, Capito, Cassidy, Collins, Cornyn, Cotton, Cramer, Crapo, Cruz, Curtis, Daines, Ernst, Fischer, Graham, Grassley, Hagerty, Hawley, Hoeven, Husted, Hyde-Smith, Johnson, Justice, Kennedy, Lankford, Lee, Lummis, Marshall, McConnell, McCormick, Moody, Moran, Moreno, Mullin, Murkowski, Paul, Ricketts, Risch, Rounds, Schmitt, Scott (FL), Scott (SC), Sheehy, Sullivan, Thune, Tillis, Tuberville, Wicker, Young.

NAYS—46

Table listing names of Senators who voted 'NAYS' (46 total): Alsobrooks, Baldwin, Bennet, Blumenthal, Blunt Rochester, Booker, Cantwell, Coons, Cortez Masto, Duckworth, Durbin, Fetterman, Gallego, Gillibrand, Hassan, Heinrich, Hickenlooper, Hirono, Kaine, Kelly, Kim, King, Klobuchar, Luján, Markey, Merkley, Murphy, Murray, Ossoff, Padilla, Peters, Reed, Rosen, Schatz, Schiff, Schumer, Shaheen, Slotkin, Smith, Van Hollen, Warner, Warnock, Warren, Welch, Whitehouse, Wyden.

NOT VOTING—1

Sanders

The motion was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY RELATING TO THE REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS UNDER THE BANK MERGER ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 13) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury relating to the review of applications under the Bank Merger Act.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:19 p.m., recessed until 2:02 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. BRITT).

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY RELATING TO THE REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS UNDER THE BANK MERGER ACT—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

NOMINATION OF FRANK BISIGNANO

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, the Senate will soon vote on Frank Bisignano to serve as Commissioner of the Social Security Administration. I came to the floor last week to lay out my concerns surrounding the confirmation process for Mr. Bisignano.

This nominee lied multiple times to myself, my staff, and members of the Finance Committee. He directly contradicted a confidential whistleblower report that I received detailing his close ties to DOGE and its ongoing operations at Social Security. When pressed on it during his confirmation hearing, he lied to me and the committee saying he had no direct involvement with DOGE.

He has made a very lucrative career out of being the guy who swoops into failing businesses, guts them from the inside out, and moves on to the next target. This is not someone nominated because of his plans to bolster customer service and make it easier for seniors to access their hard-earned benefits or strengthen the Social Security guarantee.

He was nominated because Donald Trump hopes he will apply the same

approach to Social Security and upend life for millions of seniors and people with disabilities as we know it. The administration is already weaponizing Social Security to go after immigrants and other groups it wants to target, all under the guise of rooting out fraud and abuse.

Social Security is a lifeline to millions of seniors and Americans with disabilities. A missed Social Security check can be the difference between seniors being able to afford rent, groceries, or medications. But Donald Trump and the inner circle are so out of touch, they think that most Americans won't even notice if they start missing their checks.

In March, Commerce Secretary and billionaire Howard Lutnick mused that his mother-in-law wouldn't complain if she missed a Social Security check. I wouldn't expect the mother-in-law of a billionaire to complain either, but for the rest of America's seniors who aren't lucky enough to have a billionaire son-in-law, a missed Social Security check will be the difference between being able to put food on the table, keep a roof over their head, and get their prescriptions at the pharmacy.

Mr. Lutnick went on to say that anybody who did complain about a missed Social Security payment is a fraudster. That is some top-tier gaslighting if I have ever heard it. Lay the groundwork for Americans to miss their checks, and when they do, immediately write off anybody that complains as a fraud. The Trump administration is doing its best to get people used to the idea of seniors missing checks.

Their strategy here is death by a thousand cuts. First, they cut off customer service. Then they close field offices and lay off staff. Then they farm out customer service operations to private equity firms that employ AI chatbots in foreign call centers in an effort to plunge America's elderly into a maze of redtape designed to keep them from getting what are earned benefits. It is also a pathway to privatization.

None of us have to look hard to see the damage private equity has brought to nearly every corner of industry and business. Take healthcare, for example. The firms are gobbling up medical practices and hospitals in hopes of turning a profit. They have turned the simplest task of scheduling a doctor's appointment into an Olympic sport, forcing patients to navigate phone trees or automated online systems that don't offer any real help.

And if patients need to get lifesaving treatment, health insurers like UnitedHealth deploy AI programs to deny claims left and right. But this is exactly what Trump is hoping Mr. Bisignano is going to do: gut Social Security from the inside out. Then you can sell the parts off to the highest private equity bidder and make it harder for everybody to get their money. The

goal is to break the system so thoroughly that Americans buy in, and they can privatize the system entirely.

Everything the Trump administration is doing is part of an agenda that is going to make families poorer, sicker, and less safe than ever before. It is not an exaggeration to say that the country is at a turning point. At no time during the history of Social Security have we come this close to the possibility of seniors and people with disabilities actually missing their Social Security checks.

Social Security is money that Americans pay from each paycheck. So when seniors and people with disabilities start missing Social Security checks, that is DOGE and Elon Musk stealing your hard-earned money.

By confirming Mr. Bisignano, the Senate will be signing a death sentence to Social Security as we know it today. Republicans will be responsible when your grandma misses her Social Security check and can't pay her month's rent.

Republicans will be responsible when your aunt living in rural Oregon can't get the help she needs because the phone lines have been shut off, and her closest field office was shut down.

Republicans will be responsible when an entire generation of seniors and disabled Americans are left unable to afford basic necessities.

At a time when costs are rising, the Federal Government ought to be focused on cutting costs and helping families and seniors afford the cost of living.

Instead, it sure looks to me like Republicans are poised to pass another bailout for billionaires and corporations while simultaneously working to dismantle the Federal programs and resources that Americans rely on. That is the Republican agenda in a nutshell, and every single Member of this body that votes to confirm this nominee is going to own the consequences.

Mr. Bisignano is unfit to be the steward of Americans' hard-earned Social Security benefits. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote no on his nomination.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the previous scheduled rollcall vote begin immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be

Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031.

VOTE ON BISIGNANO NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Bisignano nomination?

Mr. YOUNG. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 234 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	

NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume legislative session.

The majority leader.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION RELATING TO "ADDRESSING THE HOMEWORK GAP THROUGH THE E-RATE PROGRAM"—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. I move to proceed to Calendar No. 24, S.J. Res. 7.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 24, S.J. Res. 7, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to "Addressing the Homework Gap Through the E-Rate Program".

VOTE ON MOTION

Mr. THUNE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 235 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	

NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

The motion was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION RELATING TO "ADDRESSING THE HOMEWORK GAP THROUGH THE E-RATE PROGRAM"

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 7) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to "Addressing the Homework Gap Through the E-Rate Program".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

(The remarks of Mrs. BRITT pertaining to the introduction of S. 1630 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mrs. BRITT. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

S.J. RES. 7

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am here to speak against S.J. Res. 7.

This resolution would prevent millions of students, educators, and families from getting online—literally from enjoying the vast benefits and resources of the online world.

Today, students and educators are dependent on broadband to learn and teach, to communicate with each other, to establish relationships and communities. Digital education has allowed for more flexible learning opportunities for all of us, whatever our ages, but most specifically, for students doing their homework, doing lectures, engaging in discussions, and so much more—all of it online. It is a different world, and now S.J. Res. 7 threatens to cut off and constrict that world.

The internet can be a tremendous educational resource, opening new doors for curious students, and digital literacy skills are fundamental to succeeding in this digital economy, but that economy also creates a new system of haves and have-nots. In education, that divide is called the homework gap. It is a fundamental question of equity and fairness to close that gap. Studies have shown that without broadband at home, people earn lower grades than their connected classmates—no secret as to why. It is a resource that enables better learning and more achievement. That learning loss sets them back in career prospects and other opportunities. It sets them back for a lifetime, potentially. We saw the impact of the homework gap during COVID, when students were forced to take classes and exams from the parking lots of McDonald's. Literally, some of us saw students in those so-called hotspots, away from their homes, because it was the only way they could access their homework.

Now, to combat that homework gap, Congress established a fund in 2021 for schools and libraries to loan Wi-Fi hotspots to students and educators. The program was an enormous success, ensuring nearly 18 million students at over 10,000 schools and libraries could get online. In Connecticut, that Federal support, in addition to State funding, was wildly successful to our closing the homework gap. We made sure that every single student had access to a laptop and to high-speed broadband. I am so proud of everyone in Connecticut who was responsible for this program of combining Federal and State resources in the best way; but, unfortunately, Federal funds ran out.

Rather than leave students behind, the Federal Communications Commis-

sion issued a rule last summer that would allow schools to continue providing Wi-Fi hotspots under its E-Rate program. The E-Rate program exists to help schools and libraries provide affordable internet access; so that was a natural step for the FCC last summer. In Connecticut, funds from the E-Rate hotspot rule are supporting hotspot lending programs in Hamden, Norwalk, and at countless other libraries. I have visited them. I have seen the faces of educators and students excited about this enormous potential that brings together communities, frankly, from all different political parties.

There is nothing partisan about this program, but, today, my Republican colleagues are trying to cut off those students in Hamden, Norwalk, and elsewhere in Connecticut and millions and millions of their peers all around the country. This resolution would nullify the FCC's rule that allows schools and libraries participating to join Wi-Fi hotspots to students.

I have to ask, Really? Are schools and teachers crying out to repeal this rule? Really? No, they are not. How does this proposal make any sense for them or for families? for the parents? for the community? It makes no sense.

This resolution would undo, in fact, all of the hard work in closing the digital divide in States like Connecticut, where people have devoted lives and careers to helping students close that homework gap and do better. It will renew and exacerbate those inequalities of access for rural and low-income communities. It will set back millions of students in the name of—what? In the name of what? What is the rationale? There is none. It is an embarrassment. It is a disaster. It is a self-inflicted wound that we can avoid here on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

I want to remind everyone here that once we vote in favor of this rule, we can't go back, literally. You all know the rules. We can't go back. The FCC may not adopt a similar rule in the future. This is an irreversible, self-inflicted wound. So I urge my colleagues to reject this misguided, wrong-headed resolution. It would be a disgrace if we deprive those students and their families of this vast resource, of literally life-changing access to a really necessary service that helps them not just now but throughout their futures. We ought to expand internet access, not constrict it. We ought to be enhancing it, not cutting it off.

And this effort is in the name of what? It makes no sense except that it exemplifies some of the cruelty and meanness and stupidity of the Elon Musk approach to public service and public access and fairness in our society.

I urge my colleagues to take the positive step—and it would be a positive step—of continuing this enormously important program in the name of educational future, tomorrow and in the days afterward, for our students in Connecticut and around the country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). The Senator from Hawaii.

MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AWARENESS WEEK

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, this week is Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Awareness Week, and it is a sobering reminder of both the breathtaking scale of this tragedy that has plagued Native communities for generations and how far we still have to go to bring justice and healing to the victims and families affected by it.

This crisis is likely out of view for most Americans, but it stares us in the face. Murder is the third leading cause of death for American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls, which is 10 times the national average—10 times the national average. American Indians and Alaska Natives are more than twice as likely to experience violent crimes, including rape and sexual assault, than any other group of people in the United States. In Hawaii, 64 percent of human trafficking survivors are Native Hawaiian.

Even so, we still don't know the true extent of the crisis because for so long, the Federal Government failed to take it seriously. It was more convenient to pretend as if it didn't exist than to dedicate Federal resources to investigating the crimes and prosecuting those responsible. As a result, in far too many instances, justice has not been served and families have not been able to begin the process of healing.

To experience the tragedy of a loved one gone or a neighbor suddenly found dead is horrific in and of itself. But worse, these communities often have to shoulder the burden of finding answers all by themselves while they are grieving. For that to happen anywhere else or to anyone else, we would be rightly outraged.

The fact that it is happening to Native Americans in cities like Anchorage or Albuquerque, on remote reservations, and on Hawaiian homelands should not change our outrage.

After decades of underinvestment, Congress finally took steps to address this crisis when we reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act in 2022. As chair of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs at the time, I was proud to work with Native leaders and advocates and especially my good friend the vice chair at the time, LISA MURKOWSKI, to restore Tribal jurisdiction for certain violent crimes and increase Federal resources to keep Native families safe.

No one bill or action is going to remedy generations of neglect and injustice, but it was an important step forward, along with other laws, in turning the tide on this shameful and longstanding problem.

There remains a lot of work to be done to ensure that Native people feel safe in their homes and in their communities. And it is a priority that we continue to advance on the Indian Affairs Committee with the chairman,

LISA MURKOWSKI, and many others. But today we remember the many victims lost to this devastating epidemic of violence and recommit ourselves to helping to find justice and healing for all of those affected.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

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"—Motion to Proceed

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 65, H.J. Res. 60.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 65, H.J. Res. 60, a joint resolution 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".

VOTE ON MOTION

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

Mr. CRAPO. I ask unanimous consent the rollcall vote begin immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 236 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hoeven	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	

NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Gillibrand	Murphy
Baldwin	Hassan	Murray
Bennet	Heinrich	Ossoff
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Padilla
Blunt Rochester	Hirono	Peters
Booker	Kaine	Reed
Cantwell	Kelly	Rosen
Coons	Kim	Sanders
Cortez Masto	King	Schatz
Duckworth	Klobuchar	Schiff
Durbin	Lujan	Schumer
Fetterman	Markey	Shaheen
Gallego	Merkley	Slotkin

Smith	Warnock	Whitehouse
Van Hollen	Warren	Wyden
Warner	Welch	

The motion was agreed to.

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"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A 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".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

GUIDING AND ESTABLISHING NATIONAL INNOVATION FOR U.S. STABLECOINS ACT—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 66, S. 1582.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 66, S. 1582, a bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 66, S. 1582, a bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

John Thune, Ted Budd, Katie Boyd Britt, John Cornyn, Deb Fischer, Roger Marshall, Jim Justice, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Mike Crapo, Tommy Tuberville, Bill Hagerty, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Markwayne Mullin, Mike Rounds, Steve Daines, Cynthia M. Lummis, Rick Scott of Florida.

MORNING BUSINESS

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS STERNBERG

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Mr. Dennis Sternberg for his exceptional and transformative leadership as the executive director of

the Arkansas Rural Water Association (ARWA) as he ends his successful career.

Thanks to Mr. Sternberg's selfless service and steadfast advocacy for improved water infrastructure, Arkansas communities are better suited to provide safe and reliable drinking water.

Over the past 22 years with Mr. Sternberg at the helm, ARWA has become Arkansas' largest water and wastewater utility membership association, with more than 600 utility members today.

Mr. Sternberg prioritized daily educational trainings and assistance programs to support the State's utility operators. He was an active advocate for legislation advancing water and wastewater issues both at the State and Federal levels. With every occasion, Mr. Sternberg championed the development of systems in small and rural communities.

During his tenure, Mr. Sternberg made numerous trips to Washington, DC, to testify on the behalf of Arkansas water infrastructure. His guidance and support were vital in the crafting and implementation of legislation such as the 2020 Water Resources and Development Act, Small and Rural Community Clean Water Technical Assistance Act, and America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.

ARWA has remained an active affiliate of the National Rural Water Association (NRWA) and State Rural Water Associations. Under Mr. Sternberg's leadership, ARWA staff were always on the frontlines when natural disasters struck to meet the needs of residents and help restore water services in a timely manner.

ARWA works vigorously to meet two critical needs: to provide Arkansans with safe water sources by building cost-effective and modest-sized water systems and to help rural communities address new contaminants and overcome regulatory hurdles. These two goals were always the highest priority under the direction of Mr. Sternberg, and his vision ensured they were consistently attained.

While Mr. Sternberg's time has come to close at ARWA, he has certainly left American water infrastructure better than he found it, and for that, we are all grateful.

I congratulate Mr. Sternberg on his exceptional tenure at ARWA and thank him for the impact he has made to strengthen water sources across our State.

I wish him the very best as he transitions into retirement.●

RECOGNIZING NIMROD MEATS

• 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 National Small Business Week, it is my privilege to recognize Nimrod Meats of

Iowa Falls, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

After moving to Iowa Falls in 2014, Dominick “Rocky” Damiano and his wife Karla recognized the need for a full-service meat processor and locker that farmers, hunters, and other community members could trust to deliver high-quality products. In 2022, the couple officially opened Nimrod Meats with the goal of reducing wait times for farmers and expanding local processing capacity in central Iowa. The business, housed in a state-of-the-art 9,800-square-foot facility, processes and packs its products on-site. Originally focused on custom processing for cattle, hogs, and game, Nimrod Meats quickly unlocked third-party processing capabilities through cooperative interstate shipment (CIS) certification. In 2023, the business expanded further with the addition of a farm-to-table retail market. The market offers ground and fresh cuts of meat, nonhomogenized dairy products, local honey, specialty oils, and other health-conscious products rarely found in conventional grocery stores.

Today, Rocky, a Marine Corps veteran, oversees business development and meat processing, while Karla, a certified holistic health coach, leads much of the daily retail and marketing operations alongside their team of 13 dedicated community employees. Karla’s background brings a unique perspective, allowing Nimrod Meats to offer health-driven, natural products—from tallow soap to elderberry syrup—many sourced from fellow Iowa small businesses. When not in school, the Damianos’ four children play an active role in the family business and can often be found helping around the store on weekends and in the summer.

Nimrod Meats participates as members of the Iowa Falls Chamber of Commerce, Choose Iowa, and the American Meat Processing Association to connect with their community. Nimrod Meats regularly donates surplus products to the local food bank, supports nearby FFA chapter programs, and sponsors veteran-focused outreach. In 2023, the Small Business Administration honored Nimrod Meats with a prestigious Impact Award during National Veterans Small Business Week, recognizing Rocky Damiano’s entrepreneurial leadership and service to the veteran business community. In May, Nimrod Meats will celebrate its third anniversary in Iowa.

The entrepreneurial spirit and positive local impact demonstrated by Nimrod Meats is clear. I want to congratulate Rocky, Karla, the Damiano family, and their hard-working team for their dedication to enriching their community and providing meaningful products and services to families across Iowa. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success. ●

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 and withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:06 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 36. An act to counter the influence of the Chinese Communist Party, the Iranian Regime, and the Russian Federation in the nation of Georgia.

H.R. 530. An act to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1316. An act to amend the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 relating to licensing transparency.

H.R. 1486. An act to impose sanctions with respect to economic or industrial espionage by foreign adversarial companies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1512. An act to amend the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to require periodic reviews and updated reports relating to the Department of State’s Taiwan Guidelines.

H.R. 1540. An act to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to forced organ harvesting within the People’s Republic of China, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1724. An act to prohibit the use of funds supporting any activities within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China.

H.R. 1800. An act to repeal the sunset provision of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1912. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the repayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of benefits misused by a fiduciary, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2416. An act to amend the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 to provide that the United States, as a member of any international organizations, should oppose any attempts by the People’s Republic of China to resolve Taiwan’s status by distorting the decisions, language, policies, or procedures of the organization, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 214(a) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20944), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors: Mr. Donald F. McGahn II of Potomac, Maryland.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 214(a) of the Help

America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 20944), the Minority Leader reappoints the following individual to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors: Mr. Brian Michael Lemek of Potomac, Maryland.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 703(c) of the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000 (50 U.S.C. 361 note), the Minority Leader appoints the following individual to the Public Interest Declassification Board: The Honorable Valdez Butler Demings of Orlando, Florida.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 18(c)(2)(A)(i)(VIII) and (IX) of the Reforming Intelligence and Securing America Act (Public Law 118-49), the Minority Leader appoints the following Member to serve as a Commissioner to the FISA Reform Commission: Mr. HIMES of Connecticut. And from private life: Ms. Sharon Bradford Franklin of Bethesda, Maryland and Mr. Glenn Steven Gerstell of Washington, D.C.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

At 2:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolutions:

H.J. Res. 42. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to “Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Certification Requirements, Labeling Requirements, and Enforcement Provisions for Certain Consumer Products and Commercial Equipment”.

H.J. Res. 75. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy relating to “Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator-Freezers”.

The enrolled joint resolutions were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 530. An act to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

H.R. 1316. An act to amend the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 relating to licensing transparency; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1486. An act to impose sanctions with respect to economic or industrial espionage by foreign adversarial companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1512. An act to amend the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to require periodic reviews and updated reports relating to the Department of State’s Taiwan Guidelines; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1540. An act to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to forced organ harvesting within the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1724. An act to prohibit the use of funds supporting any activities within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1800. An act to repeal the sunset provision of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

H.R. 2416. An act to amend the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 to provide that the United States, as a member of any international organizations, should oppose any attempts by the People's Republic of China to resolve Taiwan's status by distorting the decisions, language, policies, or procedures of the organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEASURES DISCHARGED PETITION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 13, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury relating to the review of applications under the Bank Merger Act.

John Kennedy, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Bill Hagerty, Pete Ricketts, Steve Daines, Tom Cotton, Kevin Cramer, Rick Scott, John Husted, Ted Budd, Deb Fischer, Mike Rounds, James C. Justice, Tommy Tuberville, Katie Boyd Britt, Tom Tillis, Cynthia M. Lummis, Roger F. Wicker, Ron Johnson, Mike Crapo, Marsha Blackburn, David McCormick, John Cornyn, Tim Scott, Joni Ernst, Jerry Moran, Bill Cassidy, Roger Marshall, Ted Cruz, Eric Schmitt.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 13. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury relating to the review of applications under the Bank Merger Act.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 36. An act to counter the influence of the Chinese Communist Party, the Iranian Regime, and the Russian Federation in the nation of Georgia.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 97. A bill to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production (Rept. No. 119-18).

S. 260. A bill to amend the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act to require hygienic handling of breast milk and baby formula by security screening personnel of the Transportation Security Administration and personnel of private security companies providing security screening, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-19).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. SCOTT, of South Carolina, for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

*John Hurley, of California, to be Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes.

*David Fogel, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service.

*Landon Heid, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

*Andrew Hughes, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

*David Woll, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

*Michelle Bowman, of Kansas, to be Vice Chairman for Supervision of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years.

By Mr. COTTON for the Select Committee on Intelligence.

*John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1603. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the tax-exempt controlled entity rules with respect to certain stock of government-sponsored enterprises; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 1604. A bill to prohibit implementation of the Regional Transportation Optimization initiative, or similar initiative from being implemented by the United States Postal Service if the Postal Regulatory Commission has determined the initiative will negatively affect rural communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. TILLIS:

S. 1605. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain provi-

sions relating to the taxation of international entities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. RICKETTS, and Mr. JUSTICE):

S. 1606. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a deduction for certain overtime payments; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHMITT:

S. 1607. A bill to establish an Inspector General of the National Institutes of Health, an Inspector General of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and an Inspector General for the Food and Drug Administration; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1608. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to provide awards to recognize State and local governments that improve the process of forming a new business, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MULLIN):

S. 1609. A bill to provide for further comprehensive research at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke on unruptured intracranial aneurysms; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1610. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion of Pell Grants from gross income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1611. A bill to promote public service announcement campaigns targeted at youth substance use prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. LEE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MCCORMICK, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 1612. A bill to limit funds to the United Nations and other organizations that provide any status, rights, or privileges beyond observer status to the Palestine Liberation Organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. COONS, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. GALLEGO, and Ms. ALSOBROOKS):

S. 1613. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitations for deductible new business expenditures, to consolidate provisions for start-up and organizational expenditures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. SHEEHY):

S. 1614. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to approve a rehabilitation program for certain veterans with service-connected disabilities that include the pursuit of non-degree flight training programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1615. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a regional pilot program to enhance habitat and water availability for shorebirds, waterfowl, and other wetlands-dependent birds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1616. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act and the Food Security Act of 1985 to leverage incentives for the adoption of precision agriculture practices and technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 1617. A bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to establish a last acre program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 1618. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to make precision agriculture practices and technologies eligible under the conservation loan and loan guarantee program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1619. A bill to provide for an online repository for certain reporting requirements for recipients of Federal disaster assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. 1620. A bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, with respect to prohibited financial transactions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. WARREN:

S. 1621. A bill to restore the fair housing mission of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 1622. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to expand the summer electronic benefits transfer for children program to include benefit transfer during school closures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1623. A bill to require reciprocity from certain countries with respect to the reporting of official meetings with State and local officials, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1624. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a floor on the work geographic index for physicians' services furnished in Hawaii; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. GALLEGÓ):

S. 1625. A bill to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 1626. A bill to reauthorize the National Landslide Preparedness Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1627. A bill to require Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation of the Inspector General of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1628. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to repeal the particular work requirement that disqualifies able-bodied adults for eligibility to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 1629. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to align Medicare fee-for-service payment rates across ambulatory settings; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1630. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide more opportunities for mothers to succeed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 1631. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to approve a risk evaluation and mitigation strategy for mifepristone that is identical to the strategy previously approved, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. Res. 205. A resolution condemning recent attacks on the free press by President Donald J. Trump and reaffirming the United States commitment to preserving and protecting freedom of the press as a cornerstone of democracy; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DAINES, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. Res. 206. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Nurses Week, to be observed from May 6 through May 12, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. Con. Res. 13. A concurrent resolution recognizing the critical importance of the United States Special Operations Forces community and expressing support for the designation of SOF Week; to the Committee on Armed Services.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 304

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 304, a bill to amend section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify those classes of individuals born in the United States who are nationals and citizens of the United States at birth.

S. 478

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) 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. 522

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 522, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modify the frequency of board of directors meetings, and for other purposes.

S. 554

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 554, a bill to enhance bilateral defense cooperation between the United States and Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 556

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors 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. 592

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 592, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to require that plain writing statements regarding the solicitation of subcontractors be included in certain subcontracting plans, and for other purposes.

S. 593

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 593, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to modify Reid Vapor Pressure requirements and to provide for the return of certain retired credits, and for other purposes.

S. 624

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 624, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to achieve parity between the cost-of-living adjustment with respect to an annuity under the Federal Employees Retirement System and an annuity under the Civil Service Retirement System, and for other purposes.

S. 627

At the request of Mr. SCHMITT, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 627, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make certain provisions with respect to qualified ABLE programs permanent.

S. 721

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 721, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration project to improve outpatient clinical care for individuals with sickle cell disease.

S. 838

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 838, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income interest received on certain loans secured by rural or agricultural real property.

S. 1206

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1206, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit the issuance of national injunctions, and for other purposes.

S. 1241

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1241, a bill to impose sanctions and other measures with respect to the Russian Federation if the Government of the Russian Federation refuses to negotiate a peace agreement with Ukraine, violates any such agreement, or initiates another military invasion of Ukraine, and for other purposes.

S. 1316

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) 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. 1441

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1441, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to nonprofit entities to assist such entities in carrying out programs to provide service dogs to eligible veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1448

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1448, a bill to address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color, and for other purposes.

S. 1459

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1459, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1532

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1532, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 1556

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1556, a bill to require the review of promulgated agency regulations and prohibit rule-making by agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 1593

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1593, a bill to exempt small business concerns from duties imposed pursuant to the national emergency declared on April 2, 2025, by the President.

S. CON. RES. 8

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 8, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. RES. 145

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 145, a resolution protecting the Iranian political refugees, including female former political prisoners, in Ashraf-3 in Albania.

S. RES. 190

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 190, a resolution seeking justice for the Japanese citizens abducted by North Korea.

S. RES. 204

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Virginia

(Mr. KAINE), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 204, a resolution recognizing escalating threats to freedom of the press and freedom of speech worldwide, including increasing harm to journalists reporting in conflict zones and under repressive regimes, reaffirming the vital role that a free and independent press plays in upholding democracy, fostering economic prosperity, and keeping the public informed, and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority of the United States Government in supporting democracy, human rights, and good governance in commemoration of "World Press Freedom Day" on May 3, 2025.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1630. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide more opportunities for mothers to succeed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. BRITT. Mr. President, today I could not be more proud to introduce a piece of legislation that goes to the heart of what I believe the Republican Party stands for. We are the party of life, the party of parents, and the party of hard-working Americans.

This, among many reasons, is why I believe the Republican Party won so resoundingly in November. We ran on a promise to strengthen and grow American families, and this is another promise that we are going to keep. My legislation, the MOMS Act, is further proof of that commitment.

Alongside my friends, Senators ERIC SCHMITT and KEVIN CRAMER, I am honored to introduce this pro-life, pro-woman, and pro-family legislation. I would also like to thank so many of my Republican colleagues for already jumping on and cosponsoring this.

The MOMS Act is straightforward. It stands for More Opportunities for Moms to Succeed.

First, the MOMS Act would establish pregnancy.gov. This new website would feature a wide range of resources available to expecting and postpartum moms as well as moms and families with young children.

We are providing necessary resources and support to women throughout their

pregnancy journey. While being a mom is the most rewarding experience, I think I can speak for most moms when I say that it is a challenging one as well.

When I was pregnant with my first child, I felt like I had no idea what I was doing. I remember actually being in the hospital room, them waiting, you know, to discharge me, and me thinking, You are going to send me home with her? What do I do next?

Fortunately, I had the support of my friends and my family that helped me through this exciting journey of bringing new life into the world and bringing that baby home. However, I know that many moms may not have the incredible support that I did.

That is why the MOMS Act is so important. This would help the most vulnerable, the most isolated women the most. Resources available to moms would include: mentorship opportunities, including pregnancy and parenting health; health and well-being services, including women's medical services like OB/GYN services, primary care, dental care, and mental health services.

Financial assistance, work opportunities, childcare resources, foster care resources, adoption services, and educational opportunities for parents would be included. I could go on and on and on.

It also includes material or legal support. So when you think of what material support would be, it is transportation, food, nutrition, clothing, household goods, baby supplies, housing, shelters, maternity homes, help with tax preparation, and more.

When you think about legal services, what it would include is child support, family leave, breastfeeding protections, and custody issues.

Next, I want to talk about the grant portion of the bill. This part would actually be separated into two different grant programs. The first one would help purchase necessary tools for prenatal and postnatal telehealth appointments, including medical equipment and technologies for those in rural areas and others in medically underserved communities.

And the second program would establish a grant program for nonprofit entities to support, encourage, and to assist women through their pregnancies and to care for their babies after birth. This grant program would be funding many of the resources that I just named for mental health services, other medical care, childcare, housing assistance, education and employment assistance, and nutritional assistance.

Finally, the third part of my bill is Senator KEVIN CRAMER's Unborn Child Support Act. It would require States to apply child support obligations to the time period during pregnancy if requested by the mother. This could be requested retroactively, and State level requirements involving proof of paternity would still apply.

When I think about what this bill means to me, I immediately think of

my own two children. They are why I am here today. They are why I chose to step up and run for the Senate. Their future and the future of the next generation is absolutely what I am fighting for.

As parents, our children are at the heart of every decision we make. We want them to have the greatest opportunity to succeed and to thrive. As a Senator, I want that for children across our Nation, from coast to coast. They are at the heart of this common-sense legislation.

Building a comprehensive culture of life starts with building blocks just like the MOMS Act. To all moms across my great State of Alabama and across our incredible country, I could not be more proud to stand with you. I am committed to growing and strengthening families and ensuring parents have the opportunities and resources needed so that they and their children can thrive and live their American dream.

I am committed to getting the MOMS Act signed into law so that we can ensure that the comprehensive culture of life, that the next generation is ready, is prepared, and that women, as they go through their pregnancy journey, all the phases of it, are supported as they work to bring life into this world.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 205—CONDEMNING RECENT ATTACKS ON THE FREE PRESS BY PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP AND REAFFIRMING THE UNITED STATES COMMITMENT TO PRESERVING AND PROTECTING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AS A CORNERSTONE OF DEMOCRACY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 205

Whereas a free and independent press is fundamental to the preservation of democracy, ensuring government accountability, an informed citizenry, and the protection of fundamental rights;

Whereas President Donald J. Trump has taken direct action to harm and restrict press freedoms and has repeatedly attacked the press through inflammatory rhetoric in his speeches and on social media, including—

(1) accusing, without evidence, media outlets such as The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, MSNBC, CNN, ABC, CBS, and NBC of “illegal” behavior during a speech at the Department of Justice;

(2) claiming CNN and MSNBC networks are “political arms of the Democrat Party” during a speech at the Department of Justice;

(3) excluding the Associated Press from the White House press pool access due to disputes over naming conventions, leading to legal challenges concerning First Amendment violations;

(4) filing a lawsuit against CBS News over a “60 Minutes” interview with Vice President Kamala Harris, alleging biased editing and calling for CBS to lose broadcast licenses;

(5) seeking to defund National Public Radio and Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), including launching a Federal Communications Commission probe and issuing an Executive order instructing the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to cease providing direct and indirect funds to both broadcasters;

(6) refusing to take questions from NBC News reporters, claiming the network is “discredited”;

(7) seeking to impose the Administration's policy preferences on independent news organizations by forcing PBS to eliminate its diversity, equity, and inclusion office using threats of government funding cuts and ignoring reporters who list pronouns in their email signatures; and

(8) rescinding a Department of Justice policy against subpoenaing journalists, exposing journalists' sources to the threat of possible identification and punishment;

Whereas President Trump has used executive action to significantly reduce the United States Agency for Global Media (USAGM), leading to the placement of Voice of America journalists on administrative leave and the attempted termination of grants for Radio Free Asia, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and Middle East Broadcasting Network, which broadcast news to regions lacking free press;

Whereas these actions demonstrate disdain for the fundamental rights of freedom of speech and freedom of the press specifically protected in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution;

Whereas these actions set a dangerous precedent, emboldening authoritarian regimes abroad to suppress free expression and silence dissent, and endangering the lives of journalists working in or broadcasting in authoritarian countries;

Whereas, as of the date of the introduction of this resolution, 11 USAGM reporters are behind bars abroad, and international employees of USAGM in both Washington, D.C. and abroad are on work visas and risk deportation to hostile countries without the support and protection of the United States; and

Whereas the United States has historically been a global leader in championing press freedom and condemning censorship and must reaffirm that commitment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) strongly condemns President Donald J. Trump's attacks on the press, including efforts to delegitimize and restrict journalistic institutions;

(2) reaffirms the essential role of a free press in preserving democracy and ensuring governmental accountability;

(3) urges the executive branch to respect the rights of journalists and allow them to perform their duties without fear of retaliation;

(4) calls for continued efforts to secure the release of the 11 USAGM journalists imprisoned abroad; and

(5) expresses solidarity with journalists who face threats, harassment, or violence as a result of their commitment to truth and public service.

SENATE RESOLUTION 206—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL NURSES WEEK, TO BE OBSERVED FROM MAY 6 THROUGH MAY 12, 2025

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DAINES, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. TILLIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 206

Whereas, beginning in 1991, National Nurses Week has been celebrated annually from May 6, also known as “National Recognition Day for Nurses” through May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing;

Whereas National Nurses Week is a time of year to reflect on the important contributions that nurses make in providing safe, high-quality health care;

Whereas nurses serve on the front lines, risking their lives to treat the injured and sick during wartime, natural disasters, and public health emergencies;

Whereas nurses are known to be patient advocates, acting to protect the lives of individuals under their care;

Whereas nurses represent the largest single component of the health care profession, with an estimated population of more than 4,900,000 registered nurses in the United States;

Whereas nurses are leading in the delivery of quality care in a transformed health care system that improves patient outcomes and safety;

Whereas the Future of Nursing reports of the Institute of Medicine and National Academy of Medicine have highlighted the need for the nursing profession to meet the call for leadership in a team-based delivery model;

Whereas, when nurse staffing levels increase, the risk of patient complications and lengthy hospital stays decrease, resulting in cost savings;

Whereas nurses are experienced researchers, and the work of nurses encompasses a wide scope of scientific inquiry, including clinical research, health systems and outcomes research, and nursing education research;

Whereas nurses provide care to all individuals across the United States;

Whereas nurses are well-positioned to provide leadership, increase access to nursing care throughout the United States, and improve health outcomes for all patients;

Whereas nurses are the cornerstone of the public health infrastructure, promoting healthy lifestyles and educating communities on disease prevention and health promotion;

Whereas nurses help inform, educate, and work closely with legislators to improve—

(1) the education, retention, recruitment, and practice of all nurses; and

(2) the health and safety of the patients for whom the nurses care;

Whereas there is a need to—

(1) strengthen nursing workforce development programs at all levels, including the number of doctorally prepared faculty members; and

(2) provide education to the nurse research scientists who can develop new nursing care models to improve the health status of all populations of the United States;

Whereas nurses impact the lives of the people of the United States through every stage of life; and

Whereas nursing has been voted the most honest and ethical profession in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Nurses Week, as founded by the American Nurses Association;

(2) recognizes the significant contributions of nurses to the health care system of the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Nurses Week with appropriate recognition, ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate the importance of nurses to the everyday lives of patients.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 13—RECOGNIZING THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES COMMUNITY AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SOF WEEK

Ms. ERNST submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. CON. RES. 13

Whereas Special Operations Forces (hereinafter referred to as “SOF”) encompass highly trained, specialized military units within the Department of Defense, including the Army Special Forces, Psychological Operations Units, Civil Affairs Soldiers, 75th Ranger Regiment, the 160th Aviation Regiment (Night Stalkers), Navy SEALs, Special Warfare Combatant-Craft Crewman, Air Force Special Operations Aviators, Special Tactics Teams, Marine Special Operations (Raiders), and other affiliated units, which embody the highest standards of courage, resilience, and professionalism;

Whereas the SOF community plays a vital role in defending the United States national security interests and is responsible for conducting missions that require unique skills, tactics, and equipment, including campaigning, unconventional warfare, counterterrorism, hostage rescue, and direct action;

Whereas SOF personnel operate under the most challenging and dangerous conditions and conduct military operations in some of the harshest and most volatile environments throughout the world;

Whereas SOF receive specialized training in advanced weapons, language, demolitions, combat medicine, military free-fall, and advanced combat tactics to ensure discrete, precise, and scalable operations;

Whereas the United States must continue to invest in the equipment, training, health, well-being, and transition of SOF members to maintain readiness and honor their valiant service;

Whereas the families of SOF members carry a unique burden, providing steadfast support amid frequent deployments, high operational tempo, and inherent risks; and

Whereas SOF Week, an annual conference for the international SOF community, will convene May 5 through May 8, 2025: Now, therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the critical importance of the United States Special Operations Forces community to the defense and security of the United States;

(2) commits to honoring the skill, dedication, bravery, and selfless service of SOF personnel and their families; and

(3) supports the designation of “SOF Week” in appreciation of the courage, commitment, and contributions of the SOF community.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I have seven requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct an open hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 9:45 a.m., to consider nominations.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 11:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed business meeting.

FOREIGN TRAVEL FINANCIAL REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following reports for standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel:

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Senator Lisa Murkowski:					
United States	U.S. Dollar		35.00		35.00
Dana Herndon:					
United States	U.S. Dollar		275.00		275.00
Daniel Mencher:					
United States	U.S. Dollar		275.00		275.00
Brian Daner:					
New Zealand	New Zealand Dollar	569.00			569.00
United States	U.S. Dollar		2,208.21		2,208.21
Delegation Expenses:*					
New Zealand	New Zealand Dollar			620.00	620.00
Abigail Kane:					
Germany	Euro	2,964.00			2,964.00
United States	U.S. Dollar		11,465.51		11,465.51
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			3,999.63	3,999.63
Jessica Berry:					
New Zealand	New Zealand Dollar	569.00			569.00
United States	U.S. Dollar		14,000.00		14,000.00
Blaise Sheridan:					
New Zealand	New Zealand Dollar	569.00			569.00
United States	U.S. Dollar		14,000.00		14,000.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
New Zealand	New Zealand Dollar			1,240.00	1,240.00
Margaret Flynn Sapia:					
Malta	Euro	270.00			270.00
Moldova	Moldovan Leu	91.00			91.00
Romania	Romanian Leu	662.06			662.06
United States	U.S. Dollar		16,736.81		16,736.81
Delegation Expenses:*					
Romania	Romanian Leu			1,145.00	1,145.00
Total		5,694.06	58,995.53	7,004.63	71,694.22

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR SUSAN COLLINS,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Apr. 23, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Senator Richard Blumenthal:					
Germany	US Dollar	1,483.88			1,483.88
Israel	US Dollar	1,286.03			1,286.03
United States	US Dollar		7,125.81		7,125.81
Jason Maroney:					
Germany	US Dollar	1,240.62			1,240.62
Israel	US Dollar	1,008.11			1,008.11
United States	US Dollar		7,125.81		7,125.81
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			10,168.00	10,168.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Israel	New Israeli Sheqel			3,411.95	3,411.95
Delegation Expenses:*					
Jordan	Jordanian Dinar			672.86	672.86
Senator Joni Ernst:					
Germany	US Dollar	606.00			606.00
United States	US Dollar		6,856.21		6,856.21
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			5,084.00	5,084.00
Senator Tim Kaine:					
Finland	US Dollar	337.00			337.00
United States	US Dollar		4,694.62		4,694.62
Kaitlin Kleiber:					
Finland	US Dollar	775.57			775.57
United States	US Dollar		4,694.62		4,694.62
Delegation Expenses:*					
Finland	Euro			2,254.75	2,254.75
Senator Mark Kelly:					
Ukraine	US Dollar	1,124.00			1,124.00
United States	US Dollar		12,264.41		12,264.41
Jen Cox:					
Ukraine	US Dollar	1,124.00			1,124.00
United States	US Dollar		12,264.41		12,264.41
Delegation Expenses:*					
Poland	Zloty			4,330.22	4,330.22
Delegation Expenses:*					
Ukraine	Hryvnia			2,405.17	2,405.17
Senator Gary Peters:					
Bangladesh	US Dollar	695.34			695.34
Bhutan	US Dollar	955.09			955.09
Thailand	US Dollar	236.21			236.21
United States	US Dollar		22,269.11		22,269.11
Sari Cureton:					
Bangladesh	US Dollar	32.28			32.28
Bhutan	US Dollar	105.89			105.89
Thailand	US Dollar	52.21			52.21
United States	US Dollar		20,139.61		20,139.61

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Delegation Expenses:*					
Bangladesh	Taka			1,256.43	1,256.43
Delegation Expenses:*					
Bhutan	Indian Rupee, Ngultrum			3,540.78	3,540.78
Delegation Expenses:*					
South Korea	Won			198.00	198.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Thailand	Baht			122.42	122.42
Delegation Expenses:*					
United Arab Emirates	UAE Dirham			170.00	170.00
Senator Eric Schmitt:					
Germany	US Dollar	938.55			938.55
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			5,084.00	5,084.00
Senator Elissa Slotkin:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,063.65			2,063.65
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			5,084.00	5,084.00
Walter Lohman:					
Germany	US Dollar	201.17			201.17
Israel	US Dollar	277.14			277.14
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			10,168.00	10,168.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Israel	New Israeli Sheqel			3,411.95	3,411.95
Senator Roger Wicker:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,063.65			2,063.65
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			5,084.00	5,084.00
Adam Barker:					
Kenya	US Dollar	1,131.00			1,131.00
Rwanda	US Dollar	329.00			329.00
United States	US Dollar		15,778.80		15,778.80
Mariah Cooper:					
Kenya	US Dollar	1,131.00			1,131.00
Rwanda	US Dollar	329.00			329.00
United States	US Dollar		15,813.80		15,813.80
Delegation Expenses:*					
Kenya	Kenyan Shilling			89.30	89.30
Delegation Expenses:*					
Rwanda	Rwanda Franc			130.00	130.00
Kristina Belcourt:					
Singapore	US Dollar	1,186.70			1,186.70
Taiwan	US Dollar	1,474.00			1,474.00
United States	US Dollar		20,145.00		20,145.00
Jenny Davis:					
Singapore	US Dollar	668.50			668.50
Taiwan	US Dollar	616.00			616.00
United States	US Dollar		10,158.00		10,158.00
Bradley Patout:					
Singapore	US Dollar	889.00			889.00
United States	US Dollar		14,295.00		14,295.00
Mike Tokar:					
Singapore	US Dollar	1,102.09			1,102.09
Taiwan	US Dollar	1,104.25			1,104.25
United States	US Dollar		12,207.68		12,207.68
Michael Urena:					
Singapore	US Dollar	1,104.25			1,104.25
Taiwan	US Dollar	1,102.09			1,102.09
United States	US Dollar		20,145.00		20,145.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Singapore	Singapore Dollar			491.00	491.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar			2,348.14	2,348.14
Jonathan Epstein:					
Marshall Islands	US Dollar	165.20			165.20
United States	US Dollar		14,810.64		14,810.64
Katie Karam:					
Marshall Islands	US Dollar	249.00			249.00
United States	US Dollar		14,810.64		14,810.64
Adam Trull:					
Marshall Islands	US Dollar	249.00			249.00
United States	US Dollar		14,810.64		14,810.64
Delegation Expenses:*					
Marshall Islands	US Dollar			971.00	971.00
Total		29,436.47	250,409.81	66,475.97	346,322.25

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR ROGER WICKER,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Apr. 30, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Senator Lindsey Graham:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,134.00			2,134.00
Israel	US Dollar	1,175.00			1,175.00
United States	US Dollar		6,856.21		6,856.21
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,134.00			2,134.00
Israel	US Dollar	1,175.00			1,175.00
United States	US Dollar		6,856.21		6,856.21
Clark Gascoigne:					
Germany	US Dollar	1,935.72			1,935.72
Israel	US Dollar	1,083.22			1,083.22

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
United States	US Dollar		1,218.91		1,218.91
Ryan Geary:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,105.72			2,105.72
Israel	US Dollar	1,175.00			1,175.00
United States	US Dollar		1,218.91		1,218.91
Delegation Expenses:*					
Belgium	Euro			2,808.66	2,808.66
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			47,961.57	47,961.57
Delegation Expenses:*					
Israel	Sheqel			9,553.47	9,553.47
Taylor Reidy:					
Germany	US Dollar	1,919.72			1,919.72
Israel	US Dollar	1,175.00			1,175.00
United States	US Dollar		1,218.91		1,218.91
Taylor Stephens:					
Germany	US Dollar	4,335.01			4,335.01
Israel	US Dollar	1,175.00			1,175.00
United States	US Dollar		15,751.92		15,751.92
Nick Greene:					
Germany	US Dollar	4,060.67			4,060.67
Israel	US Dollar	1,100.82			1,100.82
United States	US Dollar		7,874.91		7,874.91
Meaghan McCabe:					
Germany	US Dollar	1,948.00			1,948.00
Total		28,631.88	40,995.98	60,323.70	129,951.56

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget, Apr. 30, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE & TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Melissa Porter:					
New Zealand	US Dollar	569.00			569.00
United States	US Dollar		14,149.41		14,149.41
Delegation Expenses:*					
New Zealand	New Zealand Dollar			620.00	620.00
Total		569.00	14,149.41	620.00	15,338.41

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR TED CRUZ,
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation,
Mar. 26, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Kyle Parker:					
United States	Dollar		8,765.51		8,765.51
Austria	Euro	1,770.93		434.74	2,205.67
Total		1,770.93	8,765.51	434.74	10,971.18

*Delegation expenses include official expenses reimbursed to the Department of State, under the authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Sec. 22 of P.L. 95-384, and may include S. Res. 179 funds agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR ROGER F. WICKER,
Chairman, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe,
Apr. 21, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Senator Michael F. Bennet:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,053.03			2,053.03
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			5,084.00	5,084.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			452.79	452.79
Total		2,053.03		5,536.79	7,589.82

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MICHAEL CRAPO,
Chairman, Committee on Finance, Apr. 30, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Senator John Barrasso:					
Jordan	US Dollar	444.92			444.92
United States	US Dollar		8,686.01		8,686.01
Charles Ziegler:					
Jordan	US Dollar	510.21			510.21
United States	US Dollar		4,976.91		4,976.91
Delegation Expenses:*					
Jordan	Jordanian Dollar			388.05	388.05
Amanda Bremig:					
Japan	US Dollar	4,780.21			4,780.21
United States	US Dollar		6,100.41		6,100.41
Delegation Expenses:*					
Japan	Yen			2,699.24	2,699.24
Senator Christopher Coons:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,134.00			2,134.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			5,264.00	5,264.00
Senator Christopher Coons:					
Malta	US Dollar	270.00			270.00
Moldova	US Dollar	248.95			248.95
Romania	US Dollar	549.58			549.58
United States	US Dollar		16,625.21		16,625.21
Elizabeth O'Bagy:					
Malta	US Dollar	791.11			791.11
Moldova	US Dollar	245.00			245.00
Romania	US Dollar	662.05			662.05
United States	US Dollar		16,625.00		16,625.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Malta	Euro			2,379.96	2,379.96
Delegation Expenses:*					
Moldova	Moldovan Leu			384.64	384.64
Delegation Expenses:*					
Romania	Romanian Leu			431.06	431.06
Senator John Cornyn:					
Germany	US Dollar	1,896.00			1,896.00
United States	US Dollar		6,924.49		6,924.49
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			5,264.00	5,264.00
Senator Steve Daines:					
China	US Dollar	1,818.55			1,818.55
United States	US Dollar		14,318.01		14,318.01
Vietnam	US Dollar	268.84			268.84
Darin Thacker:					
China	US Dollar	1,818.55			1,818.55
United States	US Dollar		15,131.61		15,131.61
Vietnam	US Dollar	288.85			288.85
Delegation Expenses:*					
China	Yuan Renminbi			6,521.47	6,521.47
Delegation Expenses:*					
Vietnam	Dong			418.87	418.87
Senator Steve Daines:					
Argentina	US Dollar	865.37			865.37
Brazil	US Dollar	682.89			682.89
United States	US Dollar		18,615.00		18,615.00
Darin Thacker:					
Argentina	US Dollar	825.38			825.38
Brazil	US Dollar	633.17			633.17
United States	US Dollar		18,615.00		18,615.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Argentina	Argentine Peso			5,921.39	5,921.39
Delegation Expenses:*					
Brazil	Brazilian Real			3,424.00	3,424.00
Margaret Dougherty:					
United States	US Dollar		5,185.31		5,185.31
Vietnam	US Dollar	1,537.00			1,537.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Vietnam	Dong			151.25	151.25
Senator James E. Risch:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,084.00			2,084.00
United Kingdom	US Dollar	1,202.66			1,202.66
United States	US Dollar		7,027.41		7,027.41
Joseph Beigun:					
Germany	Euro	1,834.93			1,834.93
United Kingdom	US Dollar	1,202.66			1,202.66
United States	US Dollar		11,173.21		11,173.21
Christopher Socha:					
Germany	Euro	1,964.00			1,964.00
United Kingdom	US Dollar	1,202.66			1,202.66
United States	US Dollar		11,173.21		11,173.21
Suzanne Wrasse:					
Germany	Euro	2,166.00			2,166.00
United Kingdom	US Dollar	1,202.66			1,202.66
United States	US Dollar		16,213.81		16,213.81
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			13,648.52	13,648.52
Delegation Expenses:*					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling			4,851.12	4,851.12
Senator Brian Schatz:					
Germany	US Dollar	1,948.81			1,948.81
United States	US Dollar		7,896.61		7,896.61
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			5,264.00	5,264.00
Senator Jeanne Shaheen:					
Germany	Euro	1,938.00			1,938.00
Poland	Zloty	213.18			213.18
United States	US Dollar		12,639.61		12,639.61
Naz Durakoglu:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,084.00			2,084.00
Poland	US Dollar	315.21			315.21
United States	US Dollar		12,639.61		12,639.61
Rachel Huxley-Cohen:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,298.29			2,298.29
United States	US Dollar		4,041.01		4,041.01
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			13,342.09	13,342.09

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Delegation Expenses:*					
Poland	Zloty			1,671.60	1,671.60
John Tomaszewski:					
Ethiopia	Ethiopian Birr	581.39			581.39
Kenya	US Dollar	876.51			876.51
United States	US Dollar		8,373.91		8,373.91
Delegation Expenses:*					
Ethiopia	Ethiopian Birr			603.90	603.90
Delegation Expenses:*					
Kenya	Kenyan Shilling			68.00	68.00
Senator Chris Van Hollen:					
Germany	US Dollar	2,134.00			2,134.00
United States	US Dollar		13,011.41		13,011.41
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			5,264.00	5,264.00
Total		46,519.59	235,992.77	77,961.16	360,473.52

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, Apr. 25, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Allison Green:					
Bangladesh	US Dollar	468.97			468.97
Bhutan	US Dollar	703.29			703.29
Thailand	US Dollar	313.26			313.26
United States	US Dollar		20,139.61		20,139.61
Delegation Expenses:*					
Bangladesh	Taka			418.81	418.81
Delegation Expenses:*					
Bhutan	Indian Rupee, Ngultrum			1,180.26	1,180.26
Delegation Expenses:*					
South Korea	Won			66.00	66.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Thailand	Baht			20.40	20.40
Delegation Expenses:*					
United Arab Emirates	UAE Dirham			50.77	50.77
Total		1,485.52	20,139.61	1,736.24	23,361.37

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384 and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR RAND PAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs,
Apr. 23, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Senator Michael F. Bennet:					
Country 1		198.16			198.16
Country 2			6,729.71		6,729.71
Delegation Expenses:*					
Country 1				835.81	835.81
Adam Martina:					
Country 1		287.00			287.00
Country 2		1,107.00			1,107.00
Country 3		1,120.32			1,120.32
Country 4			17,019.51		17,019.51
Alex Moree:					
Country 1		287.00			287.00
Country 2		776.36			776.36
Country 3		1,120.32			1,120.32
Country 4			17,763.81		17,763.81
Arjun Ravindra:					
Country 1		287.00			287.00
Country 2		1,107.00			1,107.00
Country 3		1,120.32			1,120.32
Country 4			17,763.81		17,763.81
Valli Sanmugalingam:					
Country 1		287.00			287.00
Country 2		1,107.00			1,107.00
Country 3		1,120.32			1,120.32
Country 4			17,019.51		17,019.51
Delegation Expenses:*					
Country 1				390.94	390.94
Delegation Expenses:*					
Country 2				290.78	290.78
Nathan Heiman:					
Country 1		835.00			835.00
Country 2			2,591.94		2,591.94
Rebecca Lee:					
Country 1		835.00			835.00
Country 2			1,686.94		1,686.94

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Valli Sanmugalingam:					
Country 1		836.00			836.00
Country 2			1,866.94		1,866.94
Stephen Smith:					
Country 1		732.35			732.35
Country 2			3,316.94		3,316.94
Maria Mahler-Haug:					
Country 1		735.00			735.00
Country 2		362.23			362.23
Country 3			14,647.81		14,647.81
Caroline Wadhams:					
Country 1		585.00			585.00
Country 2		350.00			350.00
Country 3			14,647.81		14,647.81
Russell Willig:					
Country 1		735.00			735.00
Country 2		500.00			500.00
Country 3			14,647.81		14,647.81
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 2				373.00	373.00
Maria Mahler-Haug:					
Country 1		433.03			433.03
Country 2		238.23			238.23
Country 3			5,999.41		5,999.41
Michael Pevzner:					
Country 1		423.03			423.03
Country 2		294.00			294.00
Country 3			10,238.71		10,238.71
Andrew Polesovsky:					
Country 1		433.03			433.03
Country 2		294.00			294.00
Country 3			5,999.41		5,999.41
Steve Smith:					
Country 1		433.03			433.03
Country 2		221.94			221.94
Country 3			10,313.01		10,313.01
Russell Willig:					
Country 1		212.03			212.03
Country 2		294.00			294.00
Country 3			4,761.91		4,761.91
Dennis Wischmeier:					
Country 1		423.03			423.03
Country 2		294.00			294.00
Country 3			5,999.41		5,999.41
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 1				1,032.39	1,032.39
Delegation Expenses: *					
Country 2				4,329.02	4,329.02
Total		20,423.73	173,014.40	7,251.94	200,690.07

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR TOM COTTON,
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, Apr. 25, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEP. 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Senator Cory Booker:					
Croatia	U.S. Dollar	748.09			748.09
Cyprus	U.S. Dollar	311.68			311.68
Greece	U.S. Dollar	1,492.00			1,492.00
Italy	U.S. Dollar	1,697.76			1,697.76
Saudi Arabia	U.S. Dollar	1,794.50			1,794.50
United States	U.S. Dollar		22,339.87		22,339.87
Samir Hammoud:					
Croatia	U.S. Dollar	1,063.44			1,063.44
Cyprus	U.S. Dollar	314.76			314.76
Greece	U.S. Dollar	1,492.00			1,492.00
Italy	U.S. Dollar	1,697.76			1,697.76
Saudi Arabia	U.S. Dollar	1,794.50			1,794.50
United States	U.S. Dollar		13,538.74		13,538.74
Delegation Expenses: *					
Croatia	Kuna			2,200.67	2,200.67
Delegation Expenses: *					
Cyprus	Euro			5,145.98	5,145.98
Delegation Expenses: *					
Greece	Euro			1,037.33	1,037.33
Delegation Expenses: *					
Italy	Euro			2,805.52	2,805.52
Delegation Expenses: *					
Saudi Arabia	Saudi Riyal			507.48	507.48
Delegation Expenses: *					
United Arab Emirates	UAE Dirham			76.23	76.23
Katherine Nikas:					
Finland	U.S. Dollar	1,010.87			1,010.87
Netherlands	U.S. Dollar	250.55			250.55
Norway	U.S. Dollar	1,081.00			1,081.00
United States	U.S. Dollar		5,927.00		5,927.00
Delegation Expenses: *					
Finland	Euro			910.84	910.84
Delegation Expenses: *					
Netherlands	Euro			1,049.17	1,049.17
Delegation Expenses: *					
Norway	Norwegian Krone			1,038.33	1,038.33

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEP. 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Total		14,748.91	41,805.61	14,771.55	71,326.07

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES GRASSLEY,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Feb. 21, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUND FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Erum Ibrahim:					
Japan	US Dollar	857.50			857.50
South Korea	US Dollar	1,214.00			1,214.00
United States	US Dollar		7,255.00		7,255.00
Patrick Souders:					
Japan	US Dollar	857.51			857.51
South Korea	US Dollar	1,214.00			1,214.00
United States	US Dollar		7,255.00		7,255.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Japan	Yen			885.78	885.78
South Korea	Won			3,486.50	3,486.50
Corey Becker					
Singapore	US Dollar	975.00			975.00
Taiwan	US Dollar	730.73			730.73
United States	US Dollar		11,857.21		11,857.21
Ryan Giles:					
Singapore	US Dollar	975.00			975.00
Taiwan	US Dollar	730.73			730.73
United States	US Dollar		11,857.21		11,857.21
Katherine Nikas:					
Singapore	US Dollar	975.00			975.00
Taiwan	US Dollar	730.73			730.73
United States	US Dollar		11,857.21		11,857.21
Delegation Expenses:*					
Singapore	Singapore Dollar			503.50	503.50
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar			1,523.33	1,523.33
Total		9,260.20	50,081.63	6,399.11	65,740.94

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES GRASSLEY,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Feb. 21, 2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2025

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency			
Senator Adam Schiff:					
Germany	U.S. Dollar	2,084.00			2,084.00
Israel	U.S. Dollar	1,150.00			1,150.00
Senator Thom Tillis:					
Germany	U.S. Dollar	1,868.84			1,868.84
Delegation Expenses:*					
Belgium	Euro			802.48	802.48
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			11,990.39	11,990.39
Delegation Expenses:*					
Israel	New Israeli Sheqel			1,364.78	1,364.78
Senator Thom Tillis:					
Poland	U.S. Dollar	215.49			215.49
United States	U.S. Dollar		6,749.31		6,749.31
Delegation Expenses:*					
Poland	Zloty			835.80	835.80
Total		5,318.33	6,749.31	14,993.45	27,061.09

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES GRASSLEY,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, May 1, 2025.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 7; that following the

prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate resume Calendar No. 69, S.J. Res. 13; further, that at 5:30 p.m. the joint resolu-

tion be read a third time and the Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 2:30 P.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 6:22 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 2:30 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

CHARLTON ALLEN, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE SPECIAL COUNSEL, OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL, FOR THE TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE HAMPTON Y. DELLINGER.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

PEDRO ALLENDE, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE DIMITRI KUSNEZOV, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

KURT ALME, OF MONTANA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA, FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JESSE A. LASLOVICH.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE
ADMINISTRATION

MATTHEW ANDERSON, OF COLORADO, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION, VICE PAMELA A. MELROY, RESIGNED.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

CHARLES ARRINGTON, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2030, VICE SUSAN TSUI GRUNDMANN, TERM EXPIRING.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DAVID BARKER, OF IOWA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE NASSER H. PAYDAR, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JEFFREY BARTOS, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS FOR U.N. MANAGEMENT AND REFORM, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MICHAEL BORDERS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE, VICE RAVI CHAUDHARY, RESIGNED.

JEFFREY BORNSTEIN, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER), VICE MICHAEL J. MCCORD, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STEPHEN CARMEL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, VICE ANN CLAIRE PHILLIPS, RESIGNED.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

SARA CARTER, OF TEXAS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY, VICE RAHUL GUPTA, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

MARY ANNE CARTER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE CHAIRPERSON OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE MARIA ROSARIO JACKSON, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NICHOLAS CHASE, OF NORTH DAKOTA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE MCLAIN J. SCHNEIDER.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

KIRSTEN DAVIES, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VICE JOHN BRADLEY SHERMAN.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT

IRVING DENNIS, OF OHIO, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE VINAY VIJAY SINGH, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DAVID DENTON, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY, VICE JOHN PATRICK COFFEY, RESIGNED.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL
INTELLIGENCE

JOHN DEVER, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, VICE CHRISTOPHER CHARLES FONZONE, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JASON EVANS, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE (MANAGEMENT), VICE JOHN R. BASS.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL
INTELLIGENCE

CHRISTOPHER FOX, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, VICE THOMAS ANDREW MONHEIM, RESIGNED.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

JEFFREY HALL, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, VICE DAVID M. UHLMANN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN HEEKIN, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE LAWRENCE KEEFE, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT

BENJAMIN HOBBS, OF OHIO, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE ROBERT HUNTER KURTZ.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MACON HUGHES, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE RHEANNE WIRKKALA, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

YEHUDA KAPLON, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR, VICE DEBORAH E. LIPSTADT, RESIGNED.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

WILLIAM KIRK, OF MARYLAND, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, VICE HANIBAL WARE.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT

RONALD KURTZ, OF GEORGIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE NEAL J. RACKLEFF.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

WILLIAM LANE III, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE, VICE PETER J. BESHAR, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JENNIFER LOCETTA, OF FLORIDA, TO BE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR SPECIAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

DAVID MACNEIL, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FOR INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPETITIVENESS.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

CHERYL MASON, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VICE MICHAEL JOSEPH MISSAL.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LESLEY MURPHY, OF NEBRASKA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOSEPH P. KELLY, RESIGNED.

LEIF OLSON, OF IOWA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE PETER E. DEEGAN, JR., RESIGNED.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
BRITTANY PANUCCIO, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2029, VICE KEITH E. SONDERLING, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DANIEL ROSEN, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE ANDREW M. LUGER.

ERIK SIEBERT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JESSICA D. ABER.
ADAM SLEEPER, OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE DELIA L. SMITH.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

PETER THOMSON, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, VICE ROBIN C. ASHTON.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

KURT WALL, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE RONALD C. GATHE, JR.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

JEREMIAH WORKMAN, OF OHIO, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING, VICE JAMES D. RODRIGUEZ, RESIGNED.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY VETERINARY CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant colonel

DANIEL J. BLAND
ALICIA D. CAWLFIELD
JONATHAN M. COFFMAN
TRICIA F. CULBERTSON
CRYSTAL R. DOYLE
NATALIE A. ERKER
DANIEL K. PINNEGAN
AMBRE N. GEJER
AIMEE M. HUNTER
ASHLEY M. HYDRICK
BRIANNA M. MARION
DAVID R. MARQUEZ
ALICIA M. MOREAU
NICOLE L. ROWLEY
ANNA MARIA TRAVIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant colonel

JUSTIN M. ADAMS
BRANDON T. ALLEN
JENNY E. ALLEN
AERIJUVA H. AUMILLER
SHAUNTILL L. BAAH
EILEEN BABON
LATOYA G. BLADE
BRADLEY J. BORGKVIST
ASHLEY Y. BRADLEY
MARJORIE K. BROOKS
LOLA M. BUKHARAN
COLLEEN L. BUE
AMANDA N. CANADA
JESSICA S. CARBALLO
ANGELA M. CARLSON
NICOLE L. CASE
JAMIE K. CEDOLA
JASON C. CELESTINO
KATRINA J. CLARK
DIANA M. COSTA
KRISTAL DABON
ERNEST C. DELACRUZ
DARIEN DIAZ
MARK E. DOHERTY
AMY E. DONALDSON
CHRISTINE R. DORSO
KENNETH C. DUNHAM, JR.
WAYNE L. EALEY
DAPHNE A. ELLIS-GIPSON
BRENDA M. FERNANDEZ
MAGGIE C. FITZPATRICK
KATIE L. FLATT
MERYL J. FONTENOT
AMANDA M. FOX
LATISHA N. FOX
BARBARA S. FRANKS
THOMAS G. FRANZEN
TONYA M. GIBBONS
ELEANOR J. GONZALEZ
BRENT E. HEBER
KENNETH E. HEFFNER
KATIE HELMRICK
DANIEL J. HINES
KATHRYN C. HOUHOUIS
LAMERTIS HENETU
ETHELBYN L. JACKSON
CRYSTAL A. KELLEY
CATHERINE M. KENNER
THOMAS R. KWOLEK
EMILY R. LACEY
JOANN J. LEDOUX
JILL R. LINDEKE
SHERYL E. LIZOTTE
ADAM W. LOWE
LLOYD V. LOZADA
JASON R. MAAN
JERAMY J. MAHONEY
LAURA L. MANZO
MARGARET G. MARTIN
JIANG T. MARTINEZ
JANICE M. MARTINEZ
MALORY A. MCCUIN
MARIO O. MEDINA
REBECCA L. MERCER
MEHANA MOORE
ASHLEY D. MOUNT
EDWARD A. MURRAY, JR.
DEBORAH M. NURSE
OLA N. OBERMULLER
LEO L. PACHECO
ALISON L. FATTON
LAURA K. PAYTON
JASON A. PEREZ
JOAN PERRELOUIS
MATTHEW J. REGGIO
JONABETH T. RIVERA

JESSE Y. RIVERA-ROSARIO
KARI L. RODDEN
HEIDI M. SABELLICO
VICTORIA M. SALAS
ANGELA B. SAMOSORN
JOANNA SAMPSON
JOHN F. SCHUMACHER
ARIEL R. SHAGORY
LEAH R. SHEAFFER
ANNE J. SHEAHAN
STACY L. SHEPPARD
LISA M. SHROPSHIRE
JOSHUA D. SMITH
JADE N. SNADER
GABRIEL L. SOSA
OWEN T. STAILEY
JOHN C. TAGAVILLA
ALEX D. TATONE
JAMES C. UREGEN
JAMES R. WATERS
SARAH L. WEIR
NATALIE I. WHITAKER
THOMAS W. WOODROOF
CHRISTINA N. WORTH
LAURA A. WYATT
LINDSAY N. ZAMARRIPA
0002993837

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant colonel

JOSEPH B. AHLBORN
CRAIG L. AMAN
REUBEN A. ARUNASALEM
VIRGINIA B. BAILEY
SANDRA L. BANNER
STACEY L. BATEMAN
MARCEL D. BATTS
SHAWN L. BOOKWALTER
JOSHUA K. BOSWELL
TIFFANY N. BROWN
JACQUEL L. BURKE
CLINTON J. BURROUGHS
MOLLY C. BYRNES
NATALIA H. CARDONA
JOSHUA M. CARMEN
JAMIE T. CARRENO DAVIDSON
EDWARD A. CASTRO
WILLIAM A. CEBALLOS
MICHEL J. CELESTIN
AMANDA B. CHARLTON
GARY J. CHEATWOOD, JR.
AMBER L. CHILSON
DEAN T. COCOZZA
JOEL F. DALY
CHRISTOPHER M. DIMAIO
EDWARD J. DONNARUMMA
CARRIE J. DONOHO
DARNELL A. DURRAH, JR.
BABAJIDE O. FAGBEMI
JOSHUA R. FANSLER
JENNIFER M. FARLEY
SPENCER L. II FARROW
JASMIN I. FILPO
DOUGLAS A. FOOTE
FRAY C. FOWLER
DEVEN R. GASTON
JESSICA M. GEORGI
NEKKEYA N. GLOVER
IVAN GONZALEZ
LUIS A. GONZALEZ
DANIEL A. GOOD
JONATHAN P. GRAY
TANISHIA V. GREENE
BRIAN J. GUISE
GREGORY J. HABERMANN
BRANDON C. HALLIGAN
KENNETH W. HAMMOND

THOMAS L. HANSEN
HAMILTON H. HARRIS
DANIEL J. HARRISON
JUSTIN R. HELL
ANTONY A. HENSEL
ZURI N. HILDRETH
STEPHEN A. HOLWERDA
PETER N. HOHOULIS
RACHEL N. IBRAHIMOVIC
JENNIFER L. IVELAND
BRANDON J. JACKSON
SHELLIE M. JERVIS
CALVIN R. KING
WILLIAM R. KIRBY
JUDY S. KIRNON
NATHAN A. KISER
JOSEPH M. KOENNECKE
DOUGLAS P. KUHLMAN
ASHLEY N. LABARRE
BRITTANY D. LATIMER
ELIZABETH F. LAZZARI
ZACHARY M. LEFTWICH
EDER LEMUS
PARTSON MARADZIKA
JOHN P. MARTIN
KATHRYN A. MCGUCKIN
KELLY E. MCMANUS
RICH A. MOORE
RYAN D. MURPHY
THOMAS A. MUSICH
FERNANDO NEGRONLOPEZ
CHRISTOPHER B. NETTLES
AYUB M. ODERA
SARAH E. ODONAGHUE
MICHAEL L. OIEN
GLORIA I. OSORIOGIRAUD
MYONG H. PAK
SUZANNAH E. PALMER
BRYAN O. PAMINTUAN
JOSHUAH D. PARNELL
JAMIE M. PECHA
JOSEPH C. PECKO
BETTY K. POOLSMITH
JAIME PORRAS
DAVID J. PRECZEWSKI
LORRAINE J. PUGH
RHEA L. RACAZA
STEVEN J. RAIRDON
HANUMANTH M. RAVINDRANATH
LILESHWARAN REDDY
JEANETTE N. RIVERA
KHALID R. RODRIGUEZ
RICARDO ROMO
AMANDA L. ROTH
GREGORY S. RUETH
ALLYSON M. SCHMIDT
REBECCA L. SHANAHAN
TIMOTHY J. SOH
BRYAN L. SPEAR
JONATHAN R. SPIEGEL
ISAAC A. STEPHEN
MICAH STURGEON
MEAGAN L. SYKES
JON C. THOMPSON
SARAH E. THOMPSON
BRIAN G. THORSON
NICHOLAS S. TUCKER
ALEXANDRA A. VANE
WILLIAM B. VASS
LEIF E. VESTERMARK
ROBERT S. WALKER
TIARA N. WALZ
RHONDA M. WELLS
ANNIE D. WHEELER
WENDESIA A. WHITE
KAITLIN E. WHITMORE
TAYLOR J. WHITTEN
CLIFFORD C. WONG
LASHELLE M. ZELLNER
0002698305

0003010529
0003951188

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL SPECIALIST CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant colonel

TIMOTHY W. ATKINS
DANIEL R. BROWN
BRYAN C. CHRISTIANSEN
GEORGE K. CLEVENER
FRANCIS E. CRISS, JR.
CHRISTINA E. DEEHL
JORDAN O. DEMAY
SHAMEICE K. FISCHER
JEFFERY L. HELLESON
AMANDA D. HENSLEY
JAMES E. HUANG
STEVEN K. HUNTER
BENJAMIN D. INGRAM
ADAM J. KIEFFER
GARRETT S. LATHAM
COURTNEY D. LEGENDRE
SHAY M. LOPEZ
LORI W. MAGGIONI
ANDREA R. MARSHALL
ADHANA J. MCCARTHY
JASON L. NEWMAN
ANDREW P. OTTO
NATHAN A. PARSONS
ALLISON D. SANCHEZ
JASON N. SHARP
CECIL J. SIMMONS
MICHELLE L. STONE
BENJAMIN E. THOMPSON
ERIC M. WAGNER
RICKY L. WARREN, JR.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate May 6, 2025:

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

FRANK BISIGNANO, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 19, 2031.

WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on May 6, 2025 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:

CHERYL MASON, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (OFFICE OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION), VICE MARYANNE T. DONAGHY, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON MARCH 10, 2025.

JENNIFER LOCETTA, OF FLORIDA, TO BE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR SPECIAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON MARCH 24, 2025.

BRENT SADLER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, VICE ANN CLAIRE PHILLIPS, RESIGNED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON MARCH 24, 2025.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT CARMEN ROBERTS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Carmen Roberts of Celina, Texas, and present her with the Congressional Patriot Award. Carmen has dedicated herself to faithfully serving our community.

Carmen was born in Chihuahua, Mexico, and immigrated to the United States at a young age. She attended school in Rosemead, California, and became a naturalized citizen at 18 years old. Carmen began her career as a night attendant for American Airlines and worked as a ticket office manager. She co-founded Steve Roberts Custom Builders, a very successful home design and construction company based in North Texas. Carmen earned her license in real estate and has worked for over two decades as a realtor for Ebby Halliday specializing in luxury homes.

In addition to her real estate portfolio, Carmen has served as the Mayor Pro Tempore of Celina and as a member of the Celina City Council and Celina Economic Development Corporation Board. For her outstanding contributions, Carmen has received the City of Celina's Distinguished Public Service Award, the Governor's Recognition Award, and the State of Texas' Certificate of Appreciation. I am pleased to commend Carmen for her dedication to serving and representing the City of Celina with distinction, and I wish her continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Canner with the Patriot Award for her exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING GLEN YOUNGBLOOD

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Mr. Glen Youngblood 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, he helped coordinate the collection and distribution of emergency supplies, meals and donated services to help those who needed help. A truly selfless leader, Mr. Youngblood was a strong advocate for bringing in government and non-profit resources to aid in the recovery process.

It is clear Glen Youngblood 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 MR. ARTHUR AUSBON "AUDIE" GARDNER

HON. MIKE EZELL

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable American and proud Mississippian, Mr. Arthur Ausbon "Audie" Gardner who will celebrate his 100th birthday on Saturday, June 21st.

Mr. Gardner was born in Wayne County, Mississippi, and served our Nation with distinction in the United States Navy from 1944 to 1946, aboard the USS *California*, a battleship that saw extensive action in the Pacific during World War II.

After the war, Mr. Gardner returned to Wayne County and built a life defined by hard work, faith, and service. He worked as a machinist and fabricator at the Savannah River Plant in South Carolina, then as an ironworker in New Orleans, helping construct the Greater New Orleans Bridge and the iconic Superdome.

Throughout his life, Mr. Gardner has been a faithful and God-fearing man, a living example of the values that built this country—duty, humility, and perseverance. As he reaches this incredible milestone, we honor not just his military service, but a century of dedication to his country, his family, and his faith.

Happy 100th birthday to Mr. Gardner. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I thank him for his service and his example.

HONORING CHANCELLOR KIM WILCOX

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Kim A. Wilcox on his tenure as the ninth chancellor of UC Riverside. Since 2013, he has led the university through a remarkable transformation, turning UCR into a national model for student success and social mobility.

Dr. Wilcox's vision brought bold expansion in research, enrollment, graduation rates, and campus development. He guided the creation of the Schools of Medicine and Public Policy, grew enrollment by over 25 percent, and championed faculty diversity. His efforts resulted in over 2 million square feet of new academic, residential, and dining space.

A passionate advocate for access and equity, Chancellor Wilcox has made UC Riverside a hub of scientific innovation and has brought future innovators to the Inland Empire.

Chancellor Wilcox has been a partner and friend to my office during his tenure, and I am proud to have partnered with him to secure grants to further the reach and impact of UC

Riverside. We have collaborated to bring grant money from the National Science Foundation, funds from the Chips and Science Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act back to UC Riverside. While we will miss his unwavering commitment to academic excellence and thoughtful stewardship, perhaps what many of us will miss most is the sound of his truly infectious laugh echoing throughout the room. It always had a way of brightening even the toughest days.

Happy retirement to Chancellor Wilcox and go Highlanders.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed Roll Call No. 111 on April 30, 2025. Had I been present for Roll Call No. 111, I would have voted NAY.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT ANDY HOPKINS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Andy "Hop" Hopkins of Celina, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Andy has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

Andy was born in Columbus, Ohio, and he attended Plano Senior High School. After graduating in 1983, he joined the United States Army as an infantryman, where he demonstrated discipline, leadership, and duty to serving our nation. After his Army service, Andy built and managed several successful businesses, including a national natural products distribution company and one of the top-performing UPS franchise in North Texas. He was also elected to the Celina City Council in 2015, where his leadership as Mayor Pro Tempore and councilmember has played a critical role in the city's rapid economic growth and development.

In addition to his public service, Andy is very involved in the North Texas community. He is a founding member and the current Commander of American Legion Post 145 in Celina and serves on the Board of Directors for the Celina Chamber of Commerce, Rodeo Celina, and the Celina Local Business Alliance. Andy regularly attends the First United Methodist church in Celina and previously served on the church council. For his remarkable contributions to the City of Celina, Andy has received the 2022 Business of the Year

● 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.

award from the Greater Celina Chamber of Commerce. I am pleased to recognize him today for a lifetime of public service and continued commitment to advancing our community and nation.

It is an honor to bestow Andy with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN WISLER

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to recognize Mr. Brian Wisler on his well-earned retirement after 35 years.

Mr. Wisler was hired by the Central York School District in 1990 as an elementary physical education teacher—where he shortly after, in May of 1991 was the creator of the Central York School District Elementary Track meet—which was later renamed in honor of long-time principal Jefferey Fox (who supported the initiative), to the Jefferey Fox Track Meet. Starting with just five events the track meet has grown to now include myriad events including dozens of runs, javelin throws, high jump, long jump, tug of war, softball and foxtail throws and others—that sometimes feature entire classrooms on the field.

The incredible day of sportsmanship directed by Mr. Wisler has positively impacted thousands of students over the years—proving his dedication to the students of North Hills and Sinking Springs elementary schools. After 35 years of teaching and engaging students, and 33 track meets, Mr. Wisler's service sets the standard by which we should all be judged.

Mr. Speaker, I'm privileged and honored to recognize Mr. Brian Wisler on his retirement. I wish him and all his students Godspeed on their future adventures.

TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the challenges and burdens placed on Black Americans during the first 100 days of the Trump Administration. Donald Trump is undoing the progress African Americans have fought for, threatening justice, equality, and our democracy. His administration has cut jobs, programs, and services that help Black professionals, students, and business owners thrive. Mississippi's public universities invested over \$23 million in DEI programs that supported Black students, and now those programs are at risk. Donald Trump has also removed protections for minority-owned businesses, weakened civil rights enforcement, and cut funding for public health research, all while costs rise. More than 664,000 Mississippians are at risk of losing Medicaid. Black families, already facing chronic illness and poor healthcare access, will bear the full burden. Head Start, which serves nearly

20,000 children in Mississippi, is also in danger. Black children, who already face significant barriers to education, will be hit the hardest. These cuts cause actual harm and send the message that Black lives and futures don't matter. We deserve leadership that sees, hears, and fights for us. And we won't stop demanding it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ABRAHAM J. HAMADEH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, due to unavoidable scheduling conflicts related to critical constituent matters, I was unable to cast my vote on Monday, May 5, 2025. The well-being of our veterans and the security of our Nation against foreign adversaries remain top priorities of mine. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 115 (H.R. 530—ACES Act); and YEA on Roll Call No. 116 (H.R. 36—MEGOBARI Act).

HONORING THE LIFE OF JEROME
PRESTON OWENS, JR.

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jerome Preston Owens, Jr., who passed away on Monday, April 21, 2025, at the age of 85.

Jerome was born on June 28, 1939, in Jasper, Texas to Reverend Jerome Preston, Sr. and Louise Nichols Owens. He graduated as Valedictorian of his class in Jena, Louisiana, where his father was the pastor of the First Baptist Church. Upon graduating, he received a football scholarship to play for Louisiana College. Jerome then patriotically served our country in the United States Marine Corps from 1960 to 1963.

His father served as pastor for the First Baptist Church in Nederland, Texas, which is where Jerome met Marilyn Fraser, the love of his life. In 1965, Jerome's father officiated their marriage and they began their lives together. Jerome and Marilyn were married for almost 60 years and were blessed with two daughters named Stacey and Sharla.

He earned his Juris Doctor degree in 1969 from Baylor School of Law. While studying at Baylor, he was actively involved in the collegiate community, serving as a member of Alpha Chi and Senior Class President. Jerome practiced as an attorney specializing in corporate law for Coastal Corporation in Corpus Christi and Houston, Texas, where he traveled extensively. Jerome's primary devotion throughout life was for his family. His young daughter's drawing of him holding his suitcase inspired him to relocate to a smaller community to have more time with his family. He chose to move to Woodville, Texas where he established his own law practice and raised cattle with his father.

Truly a man with a commitment to serve others and seeking to make a difference in the community, Jerome served as County Judge

of Tyler County for 17 years. He then served as a Texas State District Judge and a Texas Senior Judge. Jerome continued to faithfully serve his community by being a deacon and trustee of the First Baptist Church of Woodville. After moving to Houston, he became a deacon at Second Baptist Church in Kingwood, Texas.

He received many awards recognizing his dedication to public service. Jerome was named the "Ralph W. Steen Memorial East Texan of the Year," and "Tyler County Citizen of the Year." For his leadership and skills, he received the "Award for Excellence in Community Service," and the "American Hometown Leadership Award." Jerome was appointed by Governor Rick Perry to chair the Texas State Community Development Review Committee. Additionally, he served on the board of trustees for East Texas Baptist University, board of directors for the Tyler County Hospital, served as president for Deep East Texas Council of Governments, president for Deep East Texas County Commissioners and Judges Association, the Tyler County Bar Association, and fellow at the Texas Bar Association. He was also a member of the American Legion.

Jerome is remembered as "one who loved his family and friends, for his deep commitment to God, his unwavering integrity, his eloquent speeches, deep wisdom, quick wit, humor and bellowing infectious laugh." Jerome was highly esteemed and adored by his family and community. His family has said, "He was an all-around kind of man, one that loved sports, southern food, current events and a good joke. He was well versed in politics and had an answer for any question asked of him." He served diligently, was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. Jerome was a lifetime friend and inspiration.

Jerome was preceded in death by his parents, Reverend Jerome Preston, Sr., and Louise Owens, and sister, Jane Owens Griffin. He is survived by his wife Marilyn Fraser Owens; daughter Stacy Owens Ekstein, son-in-law Chris Ekstein, daughter Dr. Sharla Owens Sundberg, son-in-law Dr. Eric Sundberg; grandchildren, Bella Frances Ekstein, Sophia Marilyn Ekstein, Savea Kenny Sundberg, Soren Jon Jerome Sundberg and Anders Owens Sundberg, sister, Diann Owens Dotson, brother-in-law Ray Dotson; brothers-in-law, Tom Fraser, III, and Ed Fraser, sister-in-law Jean Fraser; and many nephews and nieces.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor my dear friend, Jerome Owens, for his many years of faithful service to his community. My most sincere prayers remain with his family and friends during this difficult time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, on May 5, 2025, I was unable to cast my vote on H.R. 530—ACES Act. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call Vote No. 115.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT WALTER HUNTER

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Walter Eugene Hunter of Celina, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Walter has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community and country.

As a young man, Walter was a decorated Boy Scout and Cub Scout leader and worked as a messenger boy for Western Union. During the Second World War, he heeded the call to defend our nation after witnessing the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, and he proudly enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. Walter served in combat as a Field Communications Specialist during the grueling battles of Guadalcanal, Bougainville, and Green Island, in which he was awarded a Unit Citation for his meritorious actions. He later worked in aviation electronics in North Carolina before being honorably discharged in 1945. During the conflict in Korea, Walter was also briefly called back to duty from the Reserves.

After his service, Walter has continued to be an upstanding American citizen, patriot, and family man. He met his late wife Irene, a US Army cadet nurse, and they were happily married for a remarkable 77 years. Together, they had three daughters and many more grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Walter earned his doctorate degree from the University of Colorado and guided the doctoral research of 65 graduate students at the University of Missouri. For his excellent teaching abilities and his students' achievements, Walter received cash awards from the American Chemical Society, which he used to purchase science books for the school library. He also raised thousands of dollars to install an FM radio station for students interested in learning radio communications. At the young age of 103, Walter frequently travels across the country to spend time with his family and remains passionate about learning. In his free time, Walter studies science and Chaos theory. I am grateful for Walter's extensive contributions to our community and country, and I wish him good health for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Walter with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING SUE ABDERHOLDEN FOR HER WORK ON BEHALF OF THOSE WITH DISABILITIES AND MENTAL ILLNESSES

HON. KELLY MORRISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Ms. MORRISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Sue Abderholden for her decades of tireless service and steadfast commitment to Minnesotans living with disabilities and mental illnesses.

For the past 24 years, Ms. Abderholden has served as Executive Director of the Minnesota

chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Under her leadership, our state has become more compassionate, more informed, and more responsive to the needs of those facing mental health challenges.

She played a central role in passing over two dozen laws that expanded access to care and improved how we support people with mental illnesses.

Ms. Abderholden's advocacy brought mental health training into our schools, ensured screenings for individuals entering the justice system, and reformed civil commitment laws to emphasize voluntary treatment.

She expanded crisis and early intervention services, championed a more diverse mental health workforce, and worked to strengthen housing and community-based support services.

Her compassion extended to her home where Ms. Abderholden and her family fostered children with disabilities and youth aging out of foster care, offering stability and care when it was most needed.

On behalf of myself and countless Minnesotans, I offer my gratitude to Ms. Abderholden for her decades of hard work and service.

CELEBRATING TRINIDAD GÓMEZ'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. PETE AGUILAR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 100th birthday of Ms. Trinidad "Trini" Gómez, a constituent and friend who has led an incredible life and made our community better and brighter for everyone who crossed her path.

Born in Gallup, New Mexico, in 1925 as the eldest of 12 children, Trini was no stranger to hard work. From learning English so she could attend school, to joining the railroad industry alongside other women during World War II, to becoming the sole breadwinner for her household following her husband's passing, Trini Gómez never met a challenge she could not overcome.

As a San Bernardino resident, Trini has had a profound impact on the Inland Empire's culture and history. In 1986, Trini and her late husband, Graciano Gómez, founded the Inland Empire Hispanic News, a newspaper that aimed to advocate for the greater Hispanic community in the region. The publication quickly became the largest-circulated English-language community newspaper in the Inland Empire and had a lasting impact on the community. The Inland Empire Hispanic News provided a platform for Hispanic voices, shed light on important political and activist issues and recognized the achievements and contributions of the Hispanic community. After 23 years of service, the archive of the publication became an indispensable record of Mexican American history in the Inland Empire.

Today, I wish Trini Gómez a happy birthday and thank her for her dedication to and love for the Inland Empire and the people who call it home. I hope all of us can pay tribute to her achievements and the profound impact she has had on countless people. May the coming year bring Trini good health, happiness and time spent with loved ones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, due to illness, I was unable to vote on May 1, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 113, and YEA on Roll Call No. 114.

RECOGNIZING COAST GUARD AUXILIARY CLEARWATER FLOTILLA 11-1'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Coast Guard Auxiliary Clearwater Flotilla 11-1's 75th Anniversary. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary was established by Congress to support the Coast Guard with its boat safety mission. Clearwater Flotilla 11-1's service to the Clearwater area predates the Coast Guard's presence in the city. Today, though, the Auxiliary provides direct and continuing support to Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater and to Coast Guard Station Sand Key. This June, the Clearwater Flotilla 11-1, celebrates its 75th anniversary of service to the boating public throughout the Tampa Bay area. The Coast Guard Auxiliary and Flotilla 11-1 provide invaluable support to the active-duty Coast Guard through a variety of non-law enforcement programs. These include search and rescue missions, marine environmental patrols, youth programs, public education and safety patrols. Additionally, their missions include search and rescue "call outs", back up marine radio coverage and near short patrols as part of the America's Waterway Watch Program. As the Coast Guard's homeland and national security responsibilities continue to expand, the men and women of the Auxiliary have stepped up to increase their port security patrols to provide for the defense of our Nation's and in our case Florida's coastline and waterways.

Last year, the Flotilla 11-1 members volunteered more than 9,100 hours in support of the Coast Guard. The group conducted ten boating safety education classes with more than 200 graduates, including over 100 children ranging from kindergarten to fifth grade. The group also performed almost 150 Vessel Safety Checks to ensure recreational boaters have all the safety gear they need to be legal and safe and conducted more than 175 Recreational Boating Safety Program Visits to boat equipment stores, marinas, and harbors to improve public safety. Flotilla 11-1 Clearwater operates under the leadership of Karen Miller, Commander, and Betsy Scott, Vice-Commander. The Flotilla 11-1's officers include: Jeff Otto—Communication Services, Debbie Mallory—Finance, Steve Bushnell-Fowler—Human Resources, Karen Miller—Information Services, Public Affairs, and Public Education, Joe Garisto—Materials, Mavrick Putnam—Marine Safety and Environmental Protection, Lisa Repetto—Publications and Recreational Boating Safety Program Visits, Gerard Gaudry—Navigation Systems,

Tim Dolan—Operations and Rescue and Survival Systems, Mark Kolupa—Secretary/Records, and Andre Skoinezny—Vessel Examinations. It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in thanking the men and women of Clearwater Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 11-1 for their 75 years of service to our community and for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT PUNK CARTER

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Punk Carter of Celina, Texas,

and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Punk has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

Originally from Sherman, Texas, Punk moved with his family to Celina and graduated from high school there in 1965. From a young age, he worked on a ranch to train cutting horses and participated in numerous cutting horse competitions. Punk is currently a director at large for the National Cutting Horse Association, where he previously served as an executive board member and president. For his outstanding contributions to the cutting horse industry, Punk was inducted into the National Cutting Horse Members Hall of Fame and the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame. He was also voted as Celina's Citizen of the Year in 2010 and given the Key to the City in 2022.

In addition, Punk is passionate about helping individuals of all ages from around the

world learn about equines, as they are incredible companions. He serves as a 4A judge at cutting competitions and has earned numerous trophies and awards over the years for his expertise and skill in the cutting horse profession. Punk has also won a state cutting horse event alongside his daughter on Father's Day, making them the first father and daughter champion duo on that special occasion. I am pleased to recognize Punk for his dedication to serving our community and being an upstanding leader to those around him.

It is an honor to bestow Punk with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2763–S2787

Measures Introduced: Twenty-nine bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1603–1631, S. Res. 205–206, and S. Con. Res. 13.

Pages S2774–75

Measures Reported:

S. 97, to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production. (S. Rept. No. 119–18)

S. 260, to amend the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act to require hygienic handling of breast milk and baby formula by security screening personnel of the Transportation Security Administration and personnel of private security companies providing security screening. (S. Rept. No. 119–19)

Page S2774

Measures Passed:

National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: By 55 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 232), Senate passed H.J. Res. 61, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Rubber Tire Manufacturing”.

Pages S2763–68

Measures Considered:

Bank Merger Act Applications—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S.J. Res. 13, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency of the Department of the Treasury relating to the review of applications under the Bank Merger Act, after agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Pages S2769–70

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 53 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 233), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution.

Page S2769

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the joint resolution at approximately 2:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 7, 2025; and that at 5:30 p.m., Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution.

Page S2785

FCC E-Rate Program: Senate began consideration of S.J. Res. 7, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to “Addressing the Homework Gap Through the E-Rate Program”, after agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Pages S2770–72

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 53 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 235), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution.

Pages S2770–72

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Senate began 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”, after agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Page S2772

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 53 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 236), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution.

Page S2772

Genius Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins.

Page S2772

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, May 8, 2025.

Page S2772

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 53 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 234), Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031.

Page S2770

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Charlton Allen, of North Carolina, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, for the term of five years.

Pedro Allende, of Florida, to be Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security.

Kurt Alme, of Montana, to be United States Attorney for the District of Montana, for the term of four years.

Matthew Anderson, of Colorado, to be Deputy Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Charles Arrington, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for a term expiring July 1, 2030.

David Barker, of Iowa, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

Jeffrey Bartos, of Pennsylvania, to be Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the Rank of Ambassador, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Michael Borders, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

Jeffrey Bornstein, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).

Stephen Carmel, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration.

Sara Carter, of Texas, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy.

Mary Anne Carter, of Tennessee, to be Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts for a term of four years.

Nicholas Chase, of North Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota for the term of four years.

Kirsten Davies, of Tennessee, to be Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense.

Irving Dennis, of Ohio, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

David Denton, Jr., of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Navy.

John Dever, of Illinois, to be General Counsel of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

Jason Evans, of Texas, to be an Under Secretary of State (Management).

Christopher Fox, of Virginia, to be Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

Jeffrey Hall, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

John Heekin, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Florida for the term of four years.

Benjamin Hobbs, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Macon Hughes, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Yehuda Kaploun, of North Carolina, to be Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, with the rank of Ambassador.

William Kirk, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Small Business Administration.

Ronald Kurtz, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

William Lane III, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force.

Jennifer Locetta, of Florida, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

David MacNeil, of Florida, to be Ambassador at Large for Industrial and Manufacturing Competitiveness.

Cheryl Mason, of North Carolina, to be Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs.

Lesley Murphy, of Nebraska, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska for the term of four years.

Leif Olson, of Iowa, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa for the term of four years.

Brittany Panuccio, of Florida, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2029.

Daniel Rosen, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota for the term of four years.

Erik Siebert, of Virginia, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia for the term of four years.

Adam Sleeper, of the Virgin Islands, to be United States Attorney for the District of the Virgin Islands for the term of four years.

Peter Thomson, of Louisiana, to be Inspector General, Central Intelligence Agency.

Kurt Wall, of Louisiana, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Louisiana for the term of four years.

Jeremiah Workman, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.

Routine lists in the Army. **Pages S2786–87**

Nominations Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

Cheryl Mason, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection), which was sent to the Senate on March 10, 2025.

Jennifer Locetta, of Florida, to be Alternate Representative of the United States of America for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, which was sent to the Senate on March 24, 2025.

Brent Sadler, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration, which was sent to the Senate on March 24, 2025. **Page S2787**

Messages from the House: **Page S2773**

Measures Referred: **Pages S2773–74**

Measures Discharged: **Page S2774**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S2774**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2774**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2775–76**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2772–73**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2778**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—236) **Pages S2768–70, S2772**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:22 p.m., until 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 7, 2025. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2785.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FIX OUR FORESTS ACT

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1462, to improve forest management activities on National Forest System land, public land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and Tribal land to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested land, after receiving testimony from Chris French, Acting Associate Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS: LOC AND AOC

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for Library of Congress and the Architect of the Capitol, after receiving testimony from Thomas E. Austin, Architect of the Capitol; and Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for the Department of Agriculture, after receiving testimony from Brooke L. Rollins, Secretary of Agriculture.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Anthony Tata, of Florida, to be Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, who was introduced by Senators Tillis and Sullivan, and Katherine Sutton, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary, who was introduced by Senator Rounds, both of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Andrew Hughes, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary, and David Woll, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, both of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Michelle Bowman, of Kansas, to be Vice Chairman for Supervision of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years, John Hurley, of California, to be Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes, Department of the Treasury, and David Fogel, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, and Landon Heid, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Commerce.

SPORTS STREAMING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine field of streams, focusing on the new channel guide for sports fans, after receiving testimony from Kenny Gersh, Major League Baseball, William Koenig, National Basketball Association, and David M. Proper, National Hockey League, all of New York, New

York; and John Bergmayer, Public Knowledge, Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of James O'Neill, of California, to be Deputy Secretary, and Gary Andres, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

THE FUTURE AT VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine veterans at the forefront, focusing

on the future at VA, after receiving testimony from Douglas A. Collins, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 19 public bills, H.R. 3206–3224; and 11 resolutions, H.J. Res. 95; H. Con. Res. 30; and H. Res. 386–394, were introduced. **Pages H1879–80**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H1881**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 478, to require the appropriate Federal banking agencies to establish a 3-year phase-in period for de nova financial institutions to comply with Federal capital standards, to provide relief for de nova rural community banks, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–90);

H.R. 976, to repeal the small business loan data collection requirements under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–91);

H.R. 1919, to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit the Federal reserve banks from offering certain products or services directly to an individual, to prohibit the use of central bank digital currency for monetary policy, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–92);

H.R. 2384, to establish an Independent Financial Technology Working Group to Combat Terrorism and Illicit Financing, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–93); and

H.R. 2392, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–94). **Page H1879**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Strong to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1857**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:46 p.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H1863**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:45 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. **Page H1868**

Gulf of America Act and DHS Restrictions on Confucius Institutes and Chinese Entities of Concern Act—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 377, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 276) to rename the Gulf of Mexico as the “Gulf of America”, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 881) to establish Department of Homeland Security funding restrictions on institutions of higher education that have a relationship with Confucius Institutes, by a recorded vote of 213 ayes to 209 noes, Roll No. 118, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 206 yeas to 200 nays, Roll No. 117. **Pages H1864–69**

Discharge Petition: Representative Boyle presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 278) entitled, a resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 185) to advance responsible policies (Discharge Petition No. 3).

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1868–69 and H1869.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held an oversight hearing on the Department of the Treasury. Testimony was heard from Scott Bessent, Secretary, Department of the Treasury.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held an oversight hearing on the Department of Homeland Security. Testimony was heard from Kristi Noem, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

U.S. AIR FORCE; U.S. SPACE FORCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held an oversight hearing on the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force. Testimony was heard from Gary A. Ashworth, Acting Secretary, Department of the Air Force; General David W. Allvin, Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force; and General B. Chance Saltzman, Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force.

MILITARY READINESS FOR FY26

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing entitled “Military Readiness for FY26”. Testimony was heard from General James J. Mingus, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, Department of the Army; Admiral James W. Kilby, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Department of the Navy; General Christopher J. Mahoney, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, U.S. Marine Corps; Lieutenant General Adrian L. Spain, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (A3), Department of the Air Force; and General Michael A. Guetlein, Vice Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION POSTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Cyber, Information Technologies, and Innovation held a hearing entitled “Science, Technology, and Innovation Posture”. Testimony was heard from James Mazol, Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and Chief Technology Officer, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES’ COMPENSATION ACT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT: PRIORITIZING WORKERS, PROTECTING TAXPAYER DOLLARS

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “FECA Reform and Oversight: Prioritizing Workers,

Protecting Taxpayer Dollars”. Testimony was heard from Scott Szymendera, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Luiz Santos, Acting Inspector General, Department of Labor; Tammy Hull, Inspector General, U.S. Postal Service; and a public witness.

MAXIMUM IMPACT: ASSESSING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT’S BUREAU OF COUNTERTERRORISM AND CHARTING THE PATH FORWARD

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Middle East and North Africa Subcommittee held a hearing entitled “Maximum Impact: Assessing the Effectiveness of the State Department’s Bureau of Counterterrorism and Charting the Path Forward”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BEIJING’S AIR, SPACE, AND MARITIME SURVEILLANCE FROM CUBA: A GROWING THREAT TO THE HOMELAND

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled “Beijing’s Air, Space, and Maritime Surveillance from Cuba: A Growing Threat to the Homeland”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Operations of the Library of Congress”. Testimony was heard from Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress, Library of Congress.

FEDERAL CORRECTIONS IN FOCUS: OVERSIGHT OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance; and Subcommittee on Oversight held a joint hearing entitled “Federal Corrections in Focus: Oversight of the Bureau of Prisons”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee began a markup on Committee Print 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.

MEMBER DAY

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Member Day”. Testimony was heard from Representatives McIver, Wied, Jack, Kelly of Pennsylvania, Moylan, Bilirakis, and Cline.

AMERICA BUILDS: IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF FEDERAL RAIL ASSISTANCE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled “America Builds: Improving the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Federal Rail Assistance”. Testimony was heard from Matthew Dietrich, Executive Director, Ohio Rail Development Commission, Ohio Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 217, the “CHIP IN for Veterans Act”; H.R. 647, the “Ensuring Veterans' Final Resting Place Act of 2025”; H.R. 658, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish qualifications for the appointment of a person as a marriage and family therapist, qualified to provide clinical supervision, in the Veterans Health Administration; H.R. 980, the “Modernizing the Veterans On-Campus Experience Act of 2025”; H.R. 1041, the “Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act”; H.R. 1107, the “Protecting Veteran Access to Telemedicine Services Act of 2025”; H.R. 1286, the “Simplifying Forms for Veterans Claims Act”; H.R. 1364, the “Automotive Support Services to Improve Safe Transportation Act of 2025”; H.R. 1458, the “Veterans Education and Technical Skills Opportunity Act of 2025”; H.R. 1578, the “Veterans Claims Education Act of 2025”; H.R. 1815, the “VA Home Loan Program Reform Act”; H.R. 1823, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Comptroller General of the United States to report on certain funding shortfalls in the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 1860, the “Women Veterans Cancer Care Coordination Act”; H.R. 2201, the “Improving VA Training for Military Sexual Trauma Claims Act”; H.R. 3132, the “CHOICE for Veterans Act of 2025”; H.R. 1336, the “Veterans National Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Act”; H.R. 1969, the “No Wrong Door for Veterans Act”; and H.R. 2625, the “VERY Act of 2025”.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Agriculture, 10 a.m., 2362–A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, oversight hearing on the U.S. Army, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Energy, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, oversight hearing on the Federal Emergency Management Agency, 2 p.m., 2008 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled “Nuclear Forces and Atomic Energy Defense Activities Programmatic Updates”, 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled “Update on Air Force Projection Forces Aviation Programs and Capabilities”, 3:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Fiscal State of the Nation”, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Beyond the Ivy League: Stopping the Spread of Antisemitism on American Campuses”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Annual Testimony of the Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the International Financial System”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, Artificial Intelligence, and the Internet, hearing entitled “Protecting Our Edge: Trade Secrets and the Global AI Arms Race”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance, hearing entitled “Criminalizing America: The Growth of Federal Offenses and Regulatory Overreach”, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services, hearing entitled “Examining the Growth of the Welfare State, Part II”, 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Delivering on Government Efficiency, hearing entitled “Unfair Play: Keeping Men Out of Women's Sports”, 2 p.m., HVC-210.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled “From Policy to Progress: How the National Quantum Initiative Shapes U.S. Quantum Technology Leadership”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “Cleaning Up the Past, Building the Future: The Brownfields Program”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 7

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, May 7

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of S.J. Res. 13, Bank Merger Act Applications, with a vote on passage of the joint resolution, at approximately 5:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 881—DHS Restrictions on Confucius Institutes and Chinese Entities of Concern Act.

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