



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 171

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2025

No. 93

## House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
June 2, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ADRIAN SMITH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

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

This is the day that You, O Lord, have made. This second day of June, the first day of the workweek, yet another day in the life You have given us. You, O Lord, are the author of this day.

May that simple fact not be lost on us in the living of today. As we relish the beginnings of summer, may we stop to appreciate that it is You, our creator, who established the Sun and the Moon to mark the seasons, and revealed in each one the magnificent handiwork of Your creation.

As the week begins, with much work anticipated, events to prepare for, appointments to be made, and goals to be set, may we realize that not just this day, but this week belong to You. May all that we do reflect our desire to abide faithfully in Your perfect plan.

As we consider the lives we lead, may this day serve to remind us that You have set us here in such a time as this to live with intention, guided by Your wisdom, assured of Your divine purpose for us and for Your people.

Yes, this is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

In Your majestic name, O Lord, we pray.  
Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 13 of rule I, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER 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.

### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 13 of rule I, the House stands adjourned until noon tomorrow for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 11 o'clock and 2 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned.

### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-1006. A letter from the Administrator, Cotton and Tobacco Program, Agricultural Marketing Services, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tobacco Grading and Inspections Services-Rescission of Designated Tobacco Markets [Docket No.: AMS-CN-25-0025] (RIN: 0581-AE43) received May 23, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-1007. A letter from the Administrator, Cotton and Tobacco Program, Agricultural

Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tobacco Grading and Inspections Services-Rescission of Obsolete Import Grading and Pesticide Testing Provisions [Doc. No.: AMS-CN-25-0024] (RIN: 0581-AE42) received May 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 Agriculture.

EC-1008. A letter from the Attorney for Regulatory Affairs, Office of General Counsel, Regulatory Affairs Division, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Commission's direct final rule — Safety Standard for Stationary Activity Centers [Docket No.: CPSC-2018-0015] received May 26, 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-1009. A letter from the Regulation Coordinator, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program: Expanded Eligibility for Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania Responders [Docket No.: CDC-2024-0067; NIOSH-353] (RIN: 0920-AA86) received May 27, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1010. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Alabama: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R04-RCRA-2025-0146; FRL-12697-02-R4] received May 26, 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-1011. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Mississippi: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R04-RCRA-2024-0289; FRL-12213-02-R4] received May 26, 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-1012. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Florylpicoxamid; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0449; FRL-12713-01-OCSPF] received May 28, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law

□ 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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104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1013. A letter from the Supervisory, Program Analyst, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Lowe 37 GHz Band [WT Docket No.: 24-243]; Use of Spectrum Bands Above 24 GHz for Mobile Radio Services [GN Docket No.: 14-177] received May 26, 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-1014. A letter from the Assistant Division Chief, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Improving the Effectiveness of the Robocall Mitigation Database [WC Docket No.: 24-213]; Amendment of Part I of the Commission's Rules, Concerning Practice and Procedure, Amendment of CORES Registration System [MD Docket No.: 10-234] received May 26, 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-1015. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 25-021, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1016. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 25-011 pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1017. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 24-077 pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1018. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 25-032 pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1019. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 24-113 pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1020. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 23-031 pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1021. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 25-016 pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1022. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 24-082 pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1023. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 24-115 pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1024. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 24-116 pursuant

to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1025. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 25-023 pursuant to Sections 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1026. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's small entity compliance guide — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2025-04; Small Entity Compliance Guide [Docket No.: FAR-2025-0051, Sequence No. 1] received May 26, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-1027. A letter from the Congressional and Public Affairs Specialist, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Adoption and Procedures of the Section 232 Steel and Aluminum Tariff Inclusions Process [Docket No.: 250428-0073] (RIN: 0694-AK13) received May 26, 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.

## 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. DONALDS:

H.R. 3667. A bill to codify certain Executive orders relating to nuclear energy; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, Armed Services, Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, and Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HUDSON (for himself and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 3668. A bill to promote interagency coordination for reviewing certain authorizations under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself and Mr. FROST):

H.R. 3669. A bill to amend the REAL ID Act of 2005 to allow States to determine whether to require licenses and other identification to list a gender or sex, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. STANSBURY (for herself and Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ):

H.R. 3670. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to establish within the Indian Health Service an Office of Graduate Medical Education Programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. STANTON (for himself, Mr. GOSAR, Ms. ANSARI, and Mr. CISCOMANI):

H.R. 3671. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 300 West Congress Street in Tucson, Arizona, as the "Raul M. Grijalva Federal Building"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself and Mr. FIELDS):

H.R. 3672. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to expand the research report exception to include reports about any issuer that undertakes a proposed offering of public securities; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. MIN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. BELL, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. FROST, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. TRAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CARSON, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. TLAI, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. AMO, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. MENG, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. ANSARI, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. DEXTER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. SCHNEIDER):

H. Res. 457. A resolution expressing support for the designation of June 6, 2025, as "National Gun Violence Awareness Day" and June 2025 as "National Gun Violence Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## 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. DONALDS:

H.R. 3667.

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

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. HUDSON:

H.R. 3668.

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

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 3669.

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

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

By Ms. STANSBURY:

H.R. 3670.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. STANTON:

H.R. 3671.

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

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 3672.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 45: Mr. NEHLS and Mr. MOORE of Utah.  
H.R. 51: Ms. PELOSI.  
H.R. 154: Mr. THANEDAR.  
H.R. 247: Ms. PELOSI.  
H.R. 309: Ms. BYNUM and Mr. SWALWELL.  
H.R. 330: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 516: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. BARRETT, Ms. McDONALD RIVET, and Mr. TAYLOR.  
H.R. 542: Mr. VAN DREW.  
H.R. 583: Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. DUNN of Florida.  
H.R. 764: Ms. SEWELL.  
H.R. 861: Ms. JAYAPAL.  
H.R. 1046: Ms. CRAIG, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Ms. BYNUM, Mr. FINSTAD, and Mr. NEHLS.  
H.R. 1061: Ms. NORTON and Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania.  
H.R. 1109: Mr. DOWNING and Mr. BARRETT.  
H.R. 1114: Mr. FROST.  
H.R. 1151: Mr. LANGWORTHY and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.  
H.R. 1171: Mr. HARDER of California.  
H.R. 1229: Mr. FINE and Mr. RULLI.  
H.R. 1236: Mr. NEHLS and Ms. LEE of Nevada.  
H.R. 1382: Ms. PELOSI.  
H.R. 1385: Mr. BELL.  
H.R. 1517: Mr. BACON and Mrs. KIM.

H.R. 1529: Mr. HARDER of California.  
H.R. 1735: Mr. HARDER of California.  
H.R. 1753: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.  
H.R. 1851: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina.  
H.R. 1947: Mr. MURPHY.  
H.R. 1958: Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 2036: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina and Ms. DELBENE.  
H.R. 2048: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Mr. HARDER of California, and Ms. SALAZAR.  
H.R. 2120: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 2165: Mr. BARRETT.  
H.R. 2175: Ms. PELOSI and Mr. GARCIA of California.  
H.R. 2189: Mr. CUELLAR, Mrs. HINSON, and Ms. MALOY.  
H.R. 2195: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
H.R. 2203: Ms. DELBENE.  
H.R. 2212: Mr. PFLUGER.  
H.R. 2234: Mr. BERGMAN.  
H.R. 2314: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.  
H.R. 2349: Ms. SHERRILL and Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 2369: Mr. MOORE of Utah and Mr. JACK.  
H.R. 2385: Mr. LICCARDO.  
H.R. 2477: Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY.  
H.R. 2538: Mr. VASQUEZ.  
H.R. 2548: Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. GUEST, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. HINSON, and Ms. TITUS.  
H.R. 2591: Mrs. HINSON and Mr. CARBAJAL.  
H.R. 2662: Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.  
H.R. 2673: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.  
H.R. 2701: Mr. BELL and Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona.  
H.R. 2757: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida and Mr. VAN DREW.  
H.R. 2767: Mr. DESJARLAIS.  
H.R. 2854: Ms. BUDZINSKI and Mr. PETERS.  
H.R. 2892: Mr. BACON.  
H.R. 2930: Mrs. HINSON.  
H.R. 2954: Ms. STEFANIK, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, and Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.  
H.R. 2964: Mr. VINDMAN.  
H.R. 3067: Mr. CLEAVER.  
H.R. 3111: Mr. VINDMAN.

H.R. 3112: Mr. CAREY.  
H.R. 3113: Mr. FINE.  
H.R. 3132: Mr. LALOTA.  
H.R. 3196: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.  
H.R. 3205: Mr. STEUBE.  
H.R. 3246: Mr. STEUBE and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.  
H.R. 3255: Mrs. MCCLAIN.  
H.R. 3294: Mr. MEUSER.  
H.R. 3299: Ms. TLAIB.  
H.R. 3392: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.  
H.R. 3417: Mr. SOTO.  
H.R. 3453: Ms. McDONALD RIVET and Mr. JAMES.  
H.R. 3476: Mr. HARDER of California.  
H.R. 3512: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mrs. HINSON, and Ms. TENNEY.  
H.R. 3514: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. MANNION, and Mr. CARBAJAL.  
H.R. 3538: Mr. COSTA and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
H.R. 3551: Mr. CARSON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. TLAIB, and Mrs. TORRES of California.  
H.R. 3569: Ms. NORTON, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. BALINT, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. DEXTER, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. AMO, Ms. FRIEDMAN, and Ms. DELBENE.  
H.R. 3607: Mr. RILEY of New York.  
H.R. 3608: Mr. BAIRD.  
H.R. 3624: Mr. SCHNEIDER.  
H.R. 3633: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
H.J. Res. 12: Mr. HUNT.  
H. Con. Res. 12: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.  
H. Res. 69: Mr. MIN.  
H. Res. 100: Mr. SMITH of Washington.  
H. Res. 433: Mr. STEUBE.  
H. Res. 447: Mr. MANN and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.



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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 171

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2025

No. 93

## Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God of our lives, we confess that we have often been too distracted by busyness to hear Your words of truth. Lord, shield us from being pressed by the insignificant. As the tender tug of time reminds us of our beginning and our end, teach us to embrace Your truth, which transcends life and death.

On this first day returning from recess, give our Senators strength for all they will encounter. May they feel Your power saving them from stumbling and slipping. Lord, remind them that You are the final judge of their leadership and the only one they ultimately must please.

We pray in Your matchless Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUDD). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Iowa.

### BOULDER, COLORADO ATTACK

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, yet again, I am here to draw attention and to condemn another outrageous attack that was aimed at the Jewish community here in the United States—specifically, Boulder, CO.

Yesterday, a deranged individual took a homemade flamethrower and Molotov cocktails to attack individuals marching for the release of Israeli hostages held by the terrorist group Hamas. This deranged individual allegedly yelled the words “free Palestine.” He yelled this during the attack.

Reporting suggests that the individual may have overstayed his visa that the Biden administration gave him and was then in the country illegally.

This is the third high-profile attack on the Jewish community in the last 2 months. This sort of hate is completely unacceptable in our society, and, of course, we all know it needs to stop.

I commend FBI Director Patel for quickly responding and launching a full investigation into this targeted attack. I trust that the FBI and law enforcement will do their job and swiftly find justice for these victims.

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. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Colorado.

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### GUIDING AND ESTABLISHING NATIONAL INNOVATION FOR U.S. STABLECOINS ACT

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I call for the regular order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The regular order is the pending business.

The clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1582) to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Thune (for Ricketts/Lummis) amendment No. 2228, to provide for expedited certification of existing regulatory regimes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2278 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2228

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Colorado [Mr. BENNET] proposes an amendment numbered 2278 to amendment No. 2228.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide a definition)

Add at the end the following:

( ) DEFINITION.—In this Act, the term “senior executive branch official” includes the President and the Vice President.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I offer my amendment to prevent the President and the Vice President from using their public office for personal enrichment.

Donald Trump has already benefited enormously from his ability to issue stablecoins, as everybody in the world knows. His World Liberty Financial, in which he and his family have an overwhelming stake, issued a stablecoin just the other month.

This stablecoin was chosen by companies throughout the Middle East to facilitate a \$2 billion investment in Binance. The President’s company will now reap interest in trading fees on billions of dollars while also raising concerns about undue influence and our national security. We shouldn’t have to wonder if the President of the United States is favoring the interests of a foreign nation or a private crypto exchange like Binance because he stands to personally profit.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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While this amendment specifically addresses the issuance and endorsement of stablecoins, I believe this prohibition should extend to all digital assets, including the President's meme coin. In other words, I believe the President and the Vice President and everybody who is a Member of this body and in the House of Representatives should not be in the business of speculating and issuing cryptocurrency—stablecoins, meme coins, any of them.

The Senate should not continue with the GENIUS Act unless the opportunities for corruption and conflict of interest on the part of executives are fully addressed.

#### Boulder, Colorado Attack

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague from Iowa very much, Mr. Chairman, for your acknowledging the horrific terrorist attack in Boulder yesterday. I will be out here later with my colleague Senator HICKENLOOPER to talk about it at greater length.

People were there week after week after week to mark the horrendous hostage taking that has occurred in Gaza and that Hamas has refused to address—hostages only Hamas can release. This war could end tomorrow if Hamas released the hostages.

People all over this country and all over the world have marched in solidarity for our hostages. Yesterday, the people in Boulder, CO, were savagely attacked by a terrorist while they were expressing their First Amendment rights. That should never happen in this country.

Again, I thank the chairman, my colleague, and my friend from Iowa for coming to the floor to discuss that today.

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.

#### Boulder, Colorado Attack

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, before I begin, I want to mention Sunday's attack in Boulder, CO. A man armed with incendiary devices and shouting anti-Israel slogans attacked a peaceful event held to draw attention to the plight of Israeli hostages in Gaza. Eight individuals were injured, at least two so severely that they had to be airlifted to a burn unit.

This attack would be horrifying in and of itself, but it is particularly disturbing given that it comes on the heels of the murder of two Israeli Embassy staffers here in DC just 2 weeks ago.

It goes without saying that there is no place for this kind of violence in our

society, and we must forcefully condemn anti-Semitism and do everything we can to stand with and protect our Jewish neighbors.

My prayers are with all those injured, with their families, and with the Jewish community in Boulder and across the country.

#### BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. President, we are kicking off the June work period today. It is going to be a busy month. We have a lot to get done.

First, we will continue to focus on confirming the President's nominees. The President needs to have his team in place so that he can do the job he was elected to do, and we are going to continue to deliver.

It is disappointing that the Democrats have chosen to slow down this process by gumming up the works on even noncontroversial nominations. But despite Democrats, we are still managing to confirm civilian nominees at a faster pace so far than either of the previous two administrations. We will continue to move expeditiously and build out the President's administration.

On the legislative side, our first order of business this week will be completing work on the GENIUS Act. This bipartisan legislation will finally create a clear regulatory framework for stablecoins—a framework that will protect consumers and our national security while helping to keep the United States at the forefront of financial innovation. I am hoping we can finish up this legislation in the very near future.

Another item high on our list to begin work on in June is a rescissions package the White House intends to send Congress this week. The administration has identified a number of wasteful uses of taxpayer dollars, and we will be taking up this package and eliminating this waste. We will make that a priority.

We also stand ready to provide President Trump with any tools he needs to get Russia to finally come to the table in a real way. President Trump has invested considerable time in working to end the bloodshed in Ukraine, but Vladimir Putin appears more interested in prolonging the war than pursuing peace.

Finally, of course, this work period, we will focus on taking up legislation to permanently extend tax relief for hard-working Americans and strengthen our border, energy, and national security.

The tax relief the Republicans passed in 2017—tax relief that put more money in the pockets of working Americans—is set to expire at the end of this year. If Congress doesn't act, Americans making less than \$400,000 a year will see a \$2.6 trillion tax hike in 2026. We are not going to let that happen. Our biggest focus this month will be completing this tax relief legislation, with the goal of getting the final bill to the President before the Fourth of July.

It is going to be a very busy month, Mr. President, and I am looking forward to the work ahead.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I just want to thank the leader on behalf of the people of Colorado and the people of Boulder for his remarks of concern. I share his commitment to making sure these sorts of terrorist attacks don't happen in our country when people are expressing their free speech rights.

It is not surprising to me that the leader would be one of the very first people to the floor to raise the voices of the people of Colorado in this moment and the people of his State.

Thank you, Leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

(The remarks of Mr. GRASSLEY pertaining to the introduction of S. Res. 259 are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. GRASSLEY. 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. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### Boulder, Colorado Attack

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, let me join in the bipartisan comments that have been made on the Senate floor this afternoon relative to the tragedy in Boulder, CO. The point is obvious: The use of force and violence is never—underline "never"—appropriate in a political context in an exchange of ideas.

As I understand it, there were people who were peacefully demonstrating on behalf of the hostages being held by the Hamas terrorists in the Middle East, and they were brutally attacked by a person who was shouting slogans about his political views.

Who that person is, where they are from, is really important at this moment in the investigation but not critical to the observation I am about to make. That sort of conduct—physically attacking other individuals over a political issue—is never—never—appropriate nor consistent with the guarantees given to us in the Constitution.

#### UKRAINE

Mr. President, on a separate topic, there recently were efforts in Istanbul to advance peace talks between Ukraine and Russia. After 3 years of this bloody war in Ukraine, it is clear that we should move as quickly as possible to a peaceful resolution and the end of hostilities.

I wish I could say I was surprised that Russian President Vladimir Putin refused to attend, but I wasn't. Anyone following this war can clearly see that Vladimir Putin isn't serious about ending this bloody conflict which he started.

There was some confusion in the early days of the Trump administration, and they were blaming the Ukrainians for invading themselves, which made no sense whatsoever. It was Putin's idea, and he executed it.

Let's not forget that 11 years ago, he militarily seized Crimea and other parts of eastern Ukraine. More than 3 years ago, Putin tried to take over Ukraine itself and install a puppet regime beholden to him.

With advanced warning and weapons from the United States, the brave Ukrainians defied the experts. They said the Ukrainians couldn't last 2 weeks defending their country against the second largest military in the world. The experts were wrong. Those Ukrainians have protected their independence from brutality but at great cost in lives, destruction, and territory.

The costs have been staggering: Thousands of individuals have lost their lives because of this Russian invasion; countless children were abducted from their schools and homes by the Russians and sent for indoctrination in Russia itself; desperate use of North Korea and Iranian assistance; Russian sabotage, mayhem, and threats to our NATO allies across the world, all inspired by one man: Vladimir Putin, the leader of Russia.

Why do I revisit the obvious? Because it has been obvious for more than a decade that Vladimir Putin isn't interested in ending the war, obvious to everyone except perhaps our own President.

President Trump promised that he would end this war on his first day in office. Instead, Trump and his Vice President publicly humiliated Ukrainian President Zelenskyy when he visited the White House and made embarrassing overtures to Putin. Putin's response has been to thumb his nose at the United States and peace efforts.

In fact, already this year, civilian Ukrainian deaths from Russian attacks are higher than they were last year, and assaults on civilian targets in the last 2 weeks alone have been relentless. Innocent people are dying because of these drones and bombs and artillery.

I want this war to end, but it should not be a blatant giveaway to Vladimir Putin or driven by any illusion about Putin's long-term intentions to control Ukraine and weaken the NATO alliance, nor can it be done at the security expense of Baltic and Polish allies who are also in Putin's crosshairs.

That is why Leader THUNE, here in the Senate, needs to immediately put Senator GRAHAM's Russia sanctions bill—which I and 80 other Senators have cosponsored—on the floor for a vote.

Let me tell you about this bill. Senator GRAHAM's Russian sanction bill, on which I was an early cosponsor, now has 80 total cosponsors—maybe more now—80 cosponsors, Democrats and Republicans. This bill would impose primary sanctions on Russia and sec-

ondary sanctions on those supporting Russia's war in Ukraine if Putin refuses to engage in good-faith peace negotiations or initiates another effort, including a military invasion, that undermines the sovereignty of Ukraine after any such peace is negotiated.

This bipartisan legislation imposes a 500-percent tariff on imported goods from countries that buy Russian oil, gas, uranium, and other products.

Fortunately, many European countries have already eased their dependence on Russian gas and oil.

Behind the scenes and amid brazen indifference by Putin to negotiate, Senator GRAHAM, a Republican, and other Republicans, such as Senator GRASSLEY of Iowa, have wanted to move the bill forward in the Senate but keep getting asked by the White House to wait.

We cannot wait any longer. Innocent people are dying because of Putin's aggression. Russian assaults on Ukraine have continued, with attacks during the first quarter of this year even worse than last year, and Trump seems unwilling to do what is necessary to force Putin to the table.

My colleague the ranking Member of the Armed Services Committee recently argued: It is also time for us to prepare another Ukraine supplemental. Ukraine needs the equipment and the ammunition to defend this nation against Putin's invasion. We cannot give up on them. We should not give up on them.

Ukraine's delegation is back in Istanbul today and will again reiterate its support for an immediate cease-fire and call for the further release of prisoners and the return of thousands of children kidnapped by Russia and snatched away from their families in Ukraine.

Putin has yet to even formally offer his demands, and a breakthrough today is not really expected.

President Trump, the whole world is watching the United States to see if you will stand firm against Putin, especially those other adversaries. Putin is not our friend and is not a friend of the United States. Mr. President, you do not want our legacy to be appeasement and surrender to Russia and a weakening of our Transatlantic security.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

BOULDER, COLORADO ATTACK

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today, Jewish Americans and all Americans grieve in the aftermath of another

anti-Semitic attack that took place yesterday in Boulder, CO.

This time, it was an elderly group of people peacefully calling for the release of hostages held by Hamas, brutally attacked on the Jewish holiday of Shavuot, which celebrates God giving the Torah to the Jewish people.

This morning, I spoke with senior officials at the FBI and urged them to use the full extent of their power to investigate this heinous attack. These victims did nothing wrong. They aren't involved with the tragic conflict in the Middle East. It is reported that one of the victims was even a Holocaust survivor. All they were doing was expressing a simple plea: Bring the hostages home. And because of their Jewish identity, they were targeted by hate.

When anti-Semitism is allowed to fester in more quarters of society, it historically leads to more terrorism and violence. What happened in Washington and in Boulder is exactly that. Assigning collective or hereditary blame to Jews for what is happening right now in the Middle East is blatantly anti-Semitic, and it is happening in too many corners of America today.

Our prayers are with the victims of the attack and their families; and we thank the first responders who apprehended the suspect before things got even worse.

IRAN

On Iran and the recent news there, White House Envoy Steve Witkoff and Secretary of State Marco Rubio have said publicly that the United States will not allow Iran to enrich uranium and will demand full dismantlement of Iran's nuclear facilities.

But earlier today, Axios reported that there is a proposed side deal in the works between the Trump administration and Iran that will give them far more flexibility of their nuclear ambitions. This report, if true, is terribly troubling. What is in this so-called side deal? The administration needs to come clean immediately and make it public or risk squandering crucial leverage against Iran.

Any negotiation with Iran should openly and transparently use all of our leverage and address nonnuclear issues like their support for terrorism and regional proxies. The administration must clarify what they might be hiding from the American people.

Some of my colleagues on the other side said in 2015, with regards to earlier negotiations on the last Iran nuclear deal, that the administration, essentially, asked Congress to trust but not verify. That is what they said back then. It is disturbing that the Trump administration is preparing to do just that: cutting a secret side deal that avoids congressional oversight and asks Congress to trust, but not verify. Any deal between the United States and Iran must be one Congress and the public can fully and transparently evaluate.

## UKRAINE

Yesterday, Ukrainian forces carried out one of the most significant attacks against military targets of the entire Ukrainian war.

The single best thing President Trump can do to strengthen Ukraine's hand right now is to show that the United States stands firmly behind them and squarely against Russia. But so far, Trump has not done that.

Putin is a clear villain and a bully. So where is Donald Trump's backbone? Where is his conviction? Where is that toughness he likes to project? Frankly, Senators from both sides of the aisle are getting tired of Donald Trump's wishy-washy approach to Putin. If Donald Trump won't stand up to him, the Senate must.

I support legislation by Senators BLUMENTHAL and GRAHAM that would land a hammerblow of sanctions in a tougher way than we ever have done before against Russia. And 80 Senators from both sides of the aisle, including Leader THUNE and myself, cosponsor this bill. Both sides should quickly finish negotiating any necessary changes to the bill, and then we should put this sanctions bill on the floor for a vote as soon as possible. It is very much needed, and it is needed now.

But then we must do more. The administration should turn over every stone to identify more air defense systems that we or our allies can send Ukraine, including ammunition for its Patriot systems. This will save civilian lives.

And the United States should keep going and give more drone and counterdrone support and greater intel sharing. These are things the administration could start doing right now.

## BUDGET RECONCILIATION

On reconciliation, what Senate Republicans will try to do this month is a travesty. They are picking up right where House Republicans left off—trying to ram through this Chamber Donald Trump's so-called Big Beautiful Bill.

As the Senate returns to session, we do not yet have a text for the Republicans' megabill. But make no mistake—the fight against this bill is ramping up today. It starts with Senate Democrats showing the American people what the bill actually is: "One Ugly Bill"—one of the most reckless, odious, and self-serving pieces of legislation we have seen in a long time.

Today, I want to share broadly how Senate Democrats will fight this bill with every fiber of our being. It is going to be a long and drawn-out fight. But the American people deserve to see precisely how cruel, how vindictive, how ugly this big bill truly is.

Case in point: House Republicans tucked into their bill a nasty provision that will restrict the power of judges to hold government officials in contempt. It is very clear what is going on here. Republicans want to codify into law Donald Trump's attack against our judicial system. They want to make our

courts toothless by nullifying their contempt powers and make it easier for the Trump administration to ignore the courts. This is nothing less than a naked attack against the separation of powers.

If Senate Republicans include this authoritarian provision in their bill, Democrats will fight it tooth and nail. We will not stand by while Republicans try to sabotage our courts. I fervently believe their effort will not win the day.

Yesterday, I also spoke with Leader JEFFRIES about how both Chambers can work together to fight back against this bill. This Wednesday, Senator KLOBUCHAR and I have also invited House Democratic ranking members to meet with our caucus and share firsthand insight from their fight in the House, including key Republican faultlines.

In all likelihood, this bill will continue to undergo changes and get sent back to the House. For that reason, Democratic unity will be our strongest weapon as we defend the American people from harms contained in the bill.

Our fight in the coming weeks, of course, is not just procedural. It is going to happen on every front—in committees and public hearings, in the Byrd bath, online, in public, and here on this floor.

The Republican plan is very simple: sell out working and middle-class Americans to line the pockets of the ultra, ultrawealthy and well-connected.

Let's talk about the deficit. For years, Republicans screamed about fiscal responsibility. But now Republicans are backing a bill that could add over \$50 trillion to the national debt over 30 years. Even Elon Musk said this bill is a bad idea. That should tell you something.

And most cravenly of all, Republicans are cooking the books so they can pretend their tax breaks won't impact the debt. Republicans are planning to use the Budget chair's section 312 authority under the Congressional Budget Act in an unprecedented and illegitimate manner to run roughshod over the Byrd rule.

The bottom line is this: Republicans' "One Ugly Bill" is a farce. It is betraying our values; it is a threat to working families; and it is a giveaway to the very few at the expense of the many.

Senate Democrats will fight this bill in committee, on the floor, and in the court of public opinion every step, every day, and every possible way.

I believe to my core that the American people, when they truly know what this bill is all about—if they see how shamelessly it enriches the wealthy and everyone else—the American people will reject it outright.

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. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BRITT). Without objection, it is so ordered.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 119.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of 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.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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 bill clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 119, 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 Thune, Dan Sullivan, John Barasso, Mike Rounds, Todd Young, Cynthia M. Lummis, Tom Cotton, James Lankford, Bernie Moreno, John R. Curtis, Ted Budd, Mike Crapo, Katie Boyd Britt, Jim Banks, Markwayne Mullin, Jon Husted, Steve Daines.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 129.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Edward Walsh, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Ireland.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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 bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 129, Edward Walsh, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Ireland.

John Thune, Pete Ricketts, John Barasso, Tim Sheehy, Bernie Moreno, Steve Daines, Eric Schmitt, Roger Marshall, Tommy Tuberville, John Hoeven, Marsha Blackburn, Bill Cassidy, John R. Curtis, Jim Justice, James E. Risch, Thom Tillis, Markwayne Mullin.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 144.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of James O'Neill, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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 bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Calendar No. 144, James O'Neill, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

John Thune, Mike Crapo, Thom Tillis, Todd Young, Ron Johnson, Marsha Blackburn, Katie Boyd Britt, Cynthia M. Lummis, James Lankford, Markwayne Mullin, John Barasso, Tommy Tuberville, Ted Budd, Chuck Grassley, Bill Cassidy, David McCormick.

#### WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Duffey nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

(The remarks of Ms. KLOBUCHAR pertaining to the submission of S. Res. 259 are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BRITT). The Senator from Texas.

#### BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, before we left last week for the recess, of course, the House did what it was supposed to do by passing President Trump's Big Beautiful Bill. This, of course, is the way we are going to prevent a multitrillion-dollar tax increase on the American people, something they can least afford on top of 4 years of Bidenomics that resulted in a 20-percent increase in the cost of everything because of runaway inflation.

But this is the vehicle that we will use not only to extend the President's tax provisions but to prevent the largest tax increase in American history and to do some other very important things that I am going to talk about momentarily.

Those who follow Senate procedure, which have to be a very small number of people in the United States, know that our job now is to work with the Parliamentarian on what is known as the Byrd bath because the rules that apply in the House are different than those that apply here in the Senate. So the parties will be making their arguments to the Parliamentarian on what survives the so-called Byrd bath, named after Robert C. Byrd, the famous West Virginia Senator and parliamentary expert. But that is a unique rule here in the Senate. So that is really the next step for people who are watching at home, wondering what in the world is happening up here in Washington, DC.

Reconciliation, which is the process we are going through, of course, is a unique vehicle—maybe not unique. It is a special vehicle, though, because it doesn't require 60 votes in the Senate to get legislation passed. But the Byrd rule is in place to make sure that we don't use this special vehicle to do things that otherwise would require 60 votes and broader bipartisan support. So that is why it exists, and that is why we will be going through that process.

But the budget resolution, of course, has instructed both the House and the Senate committees to spend money in some instances—for example, the Judiciary Committee in the House, Homeland Security, and the Armed Services Committee—to actually spend money to bolster our defense and border security—something that, if we did not do, we would be in a world of hurt, even though, frankly, with President Trump now in office, the border crossings have dropped precipitously, about 95 percent.

But still, both ICE, Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, and the Department of Homeland Security need additional resources for detention facilities

and personnel, or else they will run out of money.

But one of the most important things that we need to do in this budget reconciliation process is to finally—finally—come to grips with our national debt. We are approaching \$37 trillion in debt, which is more money than any human being can actually imagine. But here is something that I have always recalled that sort of brings it home to me: We are now spending more money on interest on the national debt than we are to defend our Nation, which is the No. 1 job of the Federal Government.

Of course, as I have said many times from the floor and as any Senator knows, the world is the most dangerous it has been at any time since World War II. You look at what is happening in North Korea, with North Korea providing troops to the Russians to defeat the Ukrainians. You see, obviously, Iran enriching uranium and providing drones to Russia for the battle in Ukraine. You see President Xi in the Indo-Pacific, threatening to take Taiwan by 2027. And then you see what is happening in the Middle East, with Hamas and Israel and the Iranian proxies, whether it is the Houthis in Yemen or Hezbollah in Lebanon or Hamas in Gaza.

The world is a very, very dangerous place, and the fact of the matter is, we are on an unsustainable course. We cannot protect the Nation, and we cannot establish deterrents so that our young men and women never have to fight in wars without making the appropriate investments in our national security. And we simply cannot do that on the current trajectory we are on and with the debt now approaching \$37 trillion. The fact of the matter is, we really haven't tried very hard in the past.

And as the Presiding Officer knows, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, the Appropriations Committee, which handles the amount of money that we spend on an annual basis, only deals with about 28 percent of what the Federal Government spends. The rest of that money—the 72 percent—comes from mandatory spending programs and things like the Tax Code because the Tax Code has actually become a means whereby we actually spend money, as well through tax credits and the like.

The Federal Government spends roughly \$6.7 trillion a year, and we are never going to balance the budget just looking at 28 percent of Federal spending, which is what we do through discretionary spending. And, now, that means this is our opportunity—maybe, a once-in-a-generation opportunity—to begin to chip away at that national debt.

If anything should get our attention, the recent credit ratings from Moody's underscores the importance of including these reforms in this particular legislation. Moody's recently downgraded its rating of U.S. credit from Aaa to Aa1, and they pointed to our national



debt, especially our growing entitlement spending, as a reason to lower our credit rating.

Now, this is the United States of America, and we are seeing our credit rating downgraded because Congress has not had the courage to deal with this impending potential debt crisis. If we want the United States to maintain its standing in the world, if we want to be able to have the resources to defend the Nation and deter our adversaries, we have to at least begin to get our fiscal house in order. And this bill—the Big Beautiful Bill from the House—we are going to make it even more beautiful here in the Senate, but it is going take 51 Senators having the courage to step up and do some hard things, like deal with this debt trajectory. But the good news is that this is our opportunity right now.

One avenue to achieving some of these savings that I want to talk about today is implementing work requirements for able-bodied adults in our means-tested programs. There are a number of them, including Medicaid, food stamps—now known as SNAP—and nutrition programs in the farm bill that have means testing. In other words, only if you are within a certain level, otherwise known as poverty levels, you will get the benefit of these taxpayer-supported programs. But if you make more than that, then you will not qualify.

Unfortunately, now we have lapsed into the situation where many able-bodied adults are simply living off the taxpayers and not providing either for their families or their communities but, rather, are a drain on the Tax Code and are helping to drive this national debt.

Now, this is something that I have been advocating for a number of years, but I have to confess it is nothing new. Now, our Democratic colleagues are accusing Republicans of slashing these programs, which, of course, is not true because we haven't actually finished our work yet.

But, first of all, implementing work requirements for means-tested programs, as I said, is nothing new. Back during the era of President Clinton's Presidency, Democrats agreed with Republicans that able-bodied adults who received government benefits should be required to work or, in this case, they need to be looking for work or they need to provide some community service. They can't just sit on the couch at home and play video games.

They shared—Democrats did, back then—our goal of incentivizing individual responsibility, rather than encouraging people to fall into the trap of long-term government dependency. Inspired by this goal, President Clinton and then-Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich came together to lead the effort to pass what is now known as the Welfare Reform Act of 1996.

This legislation implemented work requirements to TANF, otherwise known as Temporary Assistance to

Needy Families, and had remarkable success in declining welfare caseloads, while increasing employment and earnings among low-income individuals.

So why would we not resurrect this tried-and-true playbook from the bipartisan era of 1996?

The U.S. Federal Government spends about a trillion dollars a year on means-tested programs, and work requirements are one commonsense step toward reforming this trajectory—again, which is adding to our national debt.

Recent research from the Foundation for Government Accountability found that more than 62 percent of able-bodied adults who received Medicaid benefits do not work at all—62 percent, two out of three. As a Nation, labor force participation—the number of people actually looking for work and participating in work—has been on the decline among working-age men, especially, for decades.

Between 1960 and 2023, the fraction of working-age men who were out of the labor force increased from about 3 percent to 11 percent—3 percent to 11 percent. By 2024, that had increased to 22 percent. That is a nearly 700-percent increase over the last six and a half decades.

A society with that large a number of prime-age workers sitting at home, receiving government benefits, is not the sign of a healthy and flourishing society. And the truth is, we simply can't afford it, even if we wanted to, which, I daresay, we do not.

With our national debt now in excess of \$36 trillion, there is no better time to encourage these large numbers of disengaged adults to jump back into the labor force. So I was happy to see that the House bill included work requirements that go into effect in 2026, and I hope the Senate will include this policy in our bill as well.

Suffice it to say that our standing in the world, our ability to lead the world, and our ability, as I mentioned at the outset, to defend our Nation, depends on our ability to get our fiscal house in order.

We have kicked the can down the road so long that we simply have run out of road. While the reality of the situation means we will not, in one fell swoop, actually balance the budget, this Big Beautiful Bill is an opportunity, at the very least, to bend the curve of our debt trajectory to begin that process.

At the end of the day, while we all have priorities we would like to see in this bill, Republicans have to be united because we need 51 votes in a 53-vote Senate to get this bill done, and we all share, on this side of the aisle, the same goal of implementing President Trump's agenda. And he is certainly going to be encouraging us to get this done. So failure is not an option.

If the President's tax cuts are not extended, the American people will face the largest tax increase in American history. And 62 percent of Americans

will see a tax increase in 2026, and working parents will see the child tax credit cut in half.

That means the average family of four in Texas or Alabama or anywhere else in the country that earns \$80,000 will face a \$1,700 tax increase.

As I said at the outset, this would be on top of about a 20-percent increase in just about everything as a result of the inflationary policies of the Biden-Harris administration. So our constituents, the American taxpayer, working families, simply cannot afford that sort of tax increase on top of this 40-year-high inflation.

Back home in Texas, my constituents have seen their taxes increase on average \$3,000 next year. As I have traveled my State as I did during the course of this most recent recess, my constituents have emphasized to me time and time again how much they are depending on these tax cuts being renewed, especially our small businesses that depended on the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to hire more staff, to purchase equipment that they could then expense, and to provide additional benefits to their employees.

And so all of these small businesses, which are the primary job-creating engine in America would be hurt and would suffer increased costs and have to cut somewhere in their business. So let's not let the naysayers distract us from our goal.

The American people are depending on us to pass the President's agenda through this One Big Beautiful Bill.

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. REED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### NOMINATION OF MICHAEL DUFFEY

Mr. REED. Madam President, I rise today to urge my colleagues to carefully consider their vote for the nomination of Mr. Michael Duffey to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.

This position is unique in the Department of Defense. The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment has a wide range of duties, including delivering on a timely basis cost-effective capabilities for the Armed Forces; supervising all elements of the defense acquisition enterprise and the defense industrial base; overseeing the modernization of our nuclear forces; and serving as a principal adviser to the Secretary on acquisition, sustainment, and core logistics. It requires a leader of the highest quality of judgment, expertise, and character.

There is no question that President Trump has a right to choose who he wants in critical roles, but the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment should be someone

who is capable, without question, to meet the demands of the job and the expectations of those he will lead. They should have the experience and temperament to manage one of the most complex offices in the Department of Defense.

Unfortunately, my view is that Mr. Duffey lacks experience leading any organization remotely as large and complex as the Department of Defense acquisition enterprise.

For better or worse, the industry and the workforce that supports the Pentagon is enormous, complicated, and is a huge factor in our Nation's economy. Mismanaging it could harm taxpayers' investments, the American economy, and workers' lives. Do we want to risk hundreds of billions of dollars in acquisition programs to such a nominee?

I have serious doubts about Mr. Duffey's ability to run this critical function of our government.

Furthermore, in 2019, Mr. Duffey played a key role in the scandal that led to President Trump's first impeachment: withholding military aid from Ukraine to extort information on Mr. Trump's political opponents. While serving as a top official in the Office of Management and Budget, Mr. Duffey directed the Pentagon to withhold \$250 million from the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative while Mr. Trump simultaneously demanded that President Zelenskyy hand over any information he had about Mr. Biden's family. Mr. Duffey's role in this outrageous event was brought to light during the impeachment proceedings. In my view, abusing the privilege of public office to exact political revenge is disqualifying.

If confirmed, there are legitimate questions about Mr. Duffey's willingness to disregard the statutory directions of Congress.

And, finally, Mr. Duffey coauthored a chapter for the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025 that suggested Federal procurement policy should be used to attack so-called woke policies in corporate America. It is not hard to imagine how Mr. Duffey could use his position as the head of the largest acquisition organization in the world to weaponize Federal funding against private corporations that he and President Trump disagree with politically.

We have seen this played out in the context of universities. We have seen this played out in the context of going after funding that NIH provides to many universities, but, particularly, this all-out assault on people that the President perceives as being unfit or unsupportive of him, that directly translates to Mr. Duffey to not just esteemed universities throughout the country but our national defense—corporations that, in fact, have embraced the idea of bringing us all together, getting the best possible person, moving them up. That would be an incredible disaster and failure for the Nation.

And Mr. Duffey failed to alleviate any of these concerns during his Senate Armed Services Committee testimony.

As I hope my colleagues know, my top priority has always been national security, and partisanship has no place in that mission. And I will always pick up the phone for whomever holds leadership positions in the Department of Defense, and I will seek opportunities to work with them to strengthen and support our military.

Whomever they may be, I hope that they comport themselves with the wisdom, composure, and character—underlining “character”—that this awesome responsibility demands. Our men and women in uniform and, indeed, the American people deserve nothing less.

And the question I have is this: Is Mr. Duffey the best we have to offer?

I do not believe so, and I urge my colleagues to vote against this nominee.

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.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 73, Michael Duffey, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.

John Thune, Pete Ricketts, John Barrasso, Tim Sheehy, Bernie Moreno, Steve Daines, Eric Schmitt, Roger Marshall, Tommy Tuberville, John Hoeven, Marsha Blackburn, Bill Cassidy, John R. Curtis, Jim Justice, Thom Tillis, Katie Boyd Britt, Markwayne Mullin.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Michael Duffey, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 282 Ex.]

#### YEAS—51

Banks	Fischer	Moran
Barrasso	Grassley	Moreno
Blackburn	Hagerty	Mullin
Boozman	Hawley	Murkowski
Britt	Hoeven	Paul
Budd	Husted	Ricketts
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Cassidy	Johnson	Rounds
Collins	Justice	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lee	Sheehy
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young

#### NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Coons	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Smith
Duckworth	Markey	Van Hollen
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Fetterman	Murphy	Warnock
Gallago	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Padilla	Welch
Hassan	Peters	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Reed	Wyden

#### NOT VOTING—4

Booker	Ossoff
Graham	Sullivan

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 45.

The motion is agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Michael Duffey, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.

#### APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 85-874, as amended, appoints the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: the Honorable MARK WARNER of Virginia (reappointment).

The Chair announces, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to Public Law 70-770, the appointment of the following individual to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: the Honorable MARTIN HEINRICH of New Mexico (reappointment).

The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the Public Law 118-144, announces the appointment of the following individuals to be members of the Commission to Study the Potential Transfer of the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History to the Smithsonian Institution Act: Louise Mirrer of New York and Amy Gutmann of Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each for debate only.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, the Committee on Foreign Relations has adopted rules governing its procedures for the 119th Congress. Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, on behalf of myself and Senator SHAHEEN, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the Committee rules be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

## RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

(Adopted May 13, 2025)

## RULE 1—JURISDICTION

(a) *Substantive*.—In accordance with Senate Rule XXV.1(j)(1), the jurisdiction of the committee shall extend to all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Acquisition of land and buildings for embassies and legations in foreign countries.
2. Boundaries of the United States.
3. Diplomatic service.
4. Foreign economic, military, technical, and humanitarian assistance.
5. Foreign loans.
6. International activities of the American National Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross.
7. International aspects of nuclear energy, including nuclear transfer policy.
8. International conferences and congresses.
9. International law as it relates to foreign policy.
10. International Monetary Fund and other international organizations established primarily for international monetary purposes (except that, at the request of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, any proposed legislation relating to such subjects reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations shall be referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs).
11. Intervention abroad and declarations of war.
12. Measures to foster commercial intercourse with foreign nations and to safeguard American business interests abroad.
13. National security and international aspects of trusteeships of the United States.
14. Ocean and international environmental and scientific affairs as they relate to foreign policy.
15. Protection of United States citizens abroad and expatriation.
16. Relations of the United States with foreign nations generally.
17. Treaties and executive agreements, except reciprocal trade agreements.
18. United Nations and its affiliated organizations.

19. World Bank group, the regional development banks, and other international organizations established primarily for development assistance purposes.

The committee is also mandated by Senate Rule XXV.1(j)(2) to study and review, on a comprehensive basis, matters relating to the national security policy, foreign policy, and international economic policy as it relates to foreign policy of the United States, and matters relating to food, hunger, and nutrition in foreign countries, and report thereon from time to time.

(b) *Oversight*.—The committee also has a responsibility under Senate Rule XXVI.8(a)(2), which provides that “. . . each standing committee . . . shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, and execution of those laws or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of the committee.”

(c) *“Advice and Consent” Clauses*.—The committee has a special responsibility to assist the Senate in its constitutional function of providing “advice and consent” to all treaties entered into by the United States and all nominations to the principal executive branch positions in the field of foreign policy and diplomacy.

## RULE 2—SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) *Creation*.—Unless otherwise authorized by law or Senate resolution, subcommittees shall be created by majority vote of the committee and shall deal with such legislation and oversight of programs and policies as the committee directs. Legislative measures or other matters may be referred to a subcommittee for consideration in the discretion of the chairman or by vote of a majority of the committee. If the principal subject matter of a measure or matter to be referred falls within the jurisdiction of more than one subcommittee, the chairman or the committee may refer the matter to two or more subcommittees for joint consideration.

(b) *Assignments*.—Assignments of members to subcommittees shall be made in an equitable fashion. No member of the committee may receive assignment to a second subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members of the committee have chosen assignments to one subcommittee, and no member shall receive assignments to a third subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members have chosen assignments to two subcommittees.

No member of the committee may serve on more than four subcommittees at any one time.

The chairman and ranking member of the committee shall be *ex officio* members, without vote, of each subcommittee.

(c) *Hearings*.—Except when funds have been specifically made available by the Senate for a subcommittee purpose, no subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations shall hold hearings involving expenses without prior approval of the chairman of the full committee or by decision of the full committee. Hearings of subcommittees shall be scheduled after consultation with the chairman of the committee with a view toward avoiding conflicts with hearings of other subcommittees insofar as possible. Hearings of subcommittees shall not be scheduled to conflict with meetings or hearings of the full committee.

The proceedings of each subcommittee shall be governed by the rules of the full committee, subject to such authorizations or limitations as the committee may from time to time prescribe.

## RULE 3—MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

(a) *Regular Meeting Day*.—The regular meeting day of the Committee on Foreign Relations for the transaction of committee

business shall be on Wednesday of each week, unless otherwise directed by the chairman.

(b) *Additional Meetings and Hearings*.—Additional meetings and hearings of the committee may be called by the chairman as he may deem necessary. If at least three members of the committee desire that a special meeting of the committee be called by the chairman, those members may file in the offices of the committee their written request to the chairman for that special meeting. Immediately upon filing of the request, the chief clerk of the committee shall notify the chairman of the filing of the request. If, within three calendar days after the filing of the request, the chairman does not call the requested special meeting, to be held within seven calendar days after the filing of the request, a majority of the members of the committee may file in the offices of the committee their written notice that a special meeting of the committee will be held, specifying the date and hour of that special meeting. The committee shall meet on that date and hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the clerk shall notify all members of the committee that such special meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour.

(c) *Hearings, Selection of Witnesses*.—To ensure that the issue which is the subject of the hearing is presented as fully and fairly as possible, whenever a hearing is conducted by the committee or a subcommittee upon any measure or matter, the ranking member of the committee or subcommittee may select and call an equal number of non-governmental witnesses to testify at that hearing.

(d) *Public Announcement*.—The committee, or any subcommittee thereof, shall make public announcement of the date, place, time, and subject matter of any meeting or hearing to be conducted on any measure or matter at least seven calendar days in advance of such meetings or hearings, unless the chairman of the committee, or subcommittee, in consultation with the ranking member, determines that there is good cause to begin such meeting or hearing at an earlier date.

(e) *Procedure*.—Insofar as possible, proceedings of the committee will be conducted without resort to the formalities of parliamentary procedure and with due regard for the views of all members. Issues of procedure which may arise from time to time shall be resolved by decision of the chairman, in consultation with the ranking member. The chairman, in consultation with the ranking member, may also propose special procedures to govern the consideration of particular matters by the committee.

(f) *Closed Sessions*.—Each meeting and hearing of the Committee on Foreign Relations, or any subcommittee thereof shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or hearing or series of meetings or hearings by the committee or a subcommittee on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in paragraphs (1) through (6) would require the meeting or hearing to be closed followed immediately by a record vote in open session by a majority of the members of the committee or subcommittee when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or hearing or series of meetings or hearings—

(1) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(2) will relate solely to matters of committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(3) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct; to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(4) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(5) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets or financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if—

(A) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by government officers and employees; or

(B) the information has been obtained by the government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person) or

(6) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or government regulations.

A closed meeting or hearing may be opened by a majority vote of the committee.

(g) *Staff Attendance*.—A member of the committee may have one member of his or her personal staff, for whom that member assumes personal responsibility, accompany and be seated nearby at committee meetings and hearings. The chairman or ranking member may authorize the attendance and seating of such a staff member at committee meetings and hearings where the member of the committee is not present.

Each member if the committee may designate members of his or her personal staff for whom that member assumes personal responsibility, who holds, at a minimum, a top secret security clearance, for the purpose of their eligibility to attend closed sessions of the committee, subject to the same conditions set forth for committee staff under Rules 12, 13, and 14.

In addition, the majority leader and the minority leader of the Senate, if they are not otherwise members of the committee, may designate one member of their staff for whom that leader assumes personal responsibility and who holds, at a minimum, a top secret security clearance, to attend closed sessions of the committee, subject to the same conditions set forth for committee staff under Rules 12, 13, and 14.

Staff of other Senators who are not members of the committee may not attend closed sessions of the committee.

Attendance of committee staff at meetings and hearings shall be limited to those designated by the staff director or the minority staff director.

The committee, by majority vote, or the chairman, with the concurrence of the ranking member, may limit staff attendance at specified meetings or hearings.

#### RULE 4—QUORUMS

(a) *Testimony*.—For the purpose of taking sworn or unsworn testimony at any duly scheduled meeting a quorum of the committee and each subcommittee thereof shall consist of one member of such committee or subcommittee.

(b) *Business*.—A quorum for the transaction of committee or subcommittee business, other than for reporting a measure or recommendation to the Senate or the taking of testimony, shall consist of one-third of the members of the committee or subcommittee, including at least one member from each party.

(c) *Reporting*.—A majority of the membership of the committee, including at least one member from each party, shall constitute a quorum for reporting any measure or recommendation to the Senate. No measure or recommendation shall be ordered reported from the committee unless a majority of the committee members is physically present, including at least one member from each party, and a majority of those present concurs.

#### RULE 5—PROXIES

Proxies must be in writing with the signature of the absent member. Subject to the requirements of Rule 4 for the physical presence of a quorum to report a matter, proxy voting shall be allowed on all measures and matters before the committee. However, proxies shall not be voted on a measure or matter except when the absent member has been informed of the matter on which he is being recorded and has affirmatively requested that he or she be so recorded.

#### RULE 6—WITNESSES

(a) *General*.—The Committee on Foreign Relations will consider requests to testify on any matter or measure pending before the committee.

(b) *Presentation*.—If the chairman so determines, the oral presentation of witnesses shall be limited to 10 minutes. However, written statements of reasonable length may be submitted by witnesses and other interested persons who are unable to testify in person.

(c) *Filing of Statements*.—A witness appearing before the committee, or any subcommittee thereof, shall submit an electronic copy of the written statement of his proposed testimony at least 24 hours prior to his appearance, unless this requirement is waived by the chairman and the ranking member following their determination that there is good cause for failure to file such a statement.

(d) *Expenses*.—Only the chairman may authorize expenditures of funds for the expenses of witnesses appearing before the committee or its subcommittees.

(e) *Requests*.—Any witness called for a hearing may submit a written request to the chairman no later than 24 hours in advance for his testimony to be in closed or open session, or for any other unusual procedure. The chairman shall determine whether to grant any such request and shall notify the committee members of the request and of his decision.

#### RULE 7—SUBPOENAS

(a) *Authorization*.—The chairman or any other member of the committee, when authorized by a majority vote of the committee at a meeting or by proxies, shall have authority to subpoena the attendance of witnesses or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or any other materials. At the request of any member of the committee, the committee shall authorize the issuance of a subpoena only at a meeting of the committee. When the committee authorizes a subpoena, it may be issued upon the signature of the chairman or any other member designated by the committee.

(b) *Return*.—A subpoena, or a request to an agency, for documents may be issued whose return shall occur at a time and place other than that of a scheduled committee meeting. A return on such a subpoena or request which is incomplete or accompanied by an objection constitutes good cause for a hearing on shortened notice. Upon such a return, the chairman or any other member designated by him may convene a hearing by giving 4 hours notice by telephone or electronic mail to all other members. One member shall constitute a quorum for such a

hearing. The sole purpose of such a hearing shall be to elucidate further information about the return and to rule on the objection.

(c) *Depositions*.—At the direction of the committee, staff is authorized to take depositions from witnesses.

#### RULE 8—REPORTS

(a) *Filing*.—When the committee has ordered a measure or recommendation reported, the report thereon shall be filed in the Senate at the earliest practicable time.

(b) *Supplemental, Minority and Additional Views*.—A member of the committee who gives notice of his intentions to file supplemental, minority, or additional views at the time of final committee approval of a measure or matter, shall be entitled to not less than 3 calendar days in which to file such views, in writing (including by electronic mail), with the chief clerk of the committee, with the 3 days to begin at 11:00 p.m. on the same day that the committee has ordered a measure or matter reported. Such views shall then be included in the committee report and printed in the same volume, as a part thereof, and their inclusion shall be noted on the cover of the report. In the absence of timely notice, the committee report may be filed and printed immediately without such views.

(c) *Roll Call Votes*.—The results of all roll call votes taken in any meeting of the committee on any measure, or amendment thereto, shall be announced in the committee report. The announcement shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor and votes cast in opposition to each such measure and amendment by each member of the committee.

#### RULE 9—TREATIES

(a) *General*.—The committee is the only committee of the Senate with jurisdiction to review and report to the Senate on treaties submitted by the President for Senate advice and consent to ratification. Because the House of Representatives has no role in the approval of treaties, the committee is therefore the only congressional committee with responsibility for treaties.

(b) *Committee Proceedings*.—Once submitted by the President for advice and consent, each treaty is referred to the committee and remains on its calendar from Congress to Congress until the committee takes action to report it to the Senate or recommend its return to the President, or until the committee is discharged of the treaty by the Senate.

(c) *Floor Proceedings*.—In accordance with Senate Rule XXX.2, treaties which have been reported to the Senate but not acted on before the end of a Congress “shall be resumed at the commencement of the next Congress as if no proceedings had previously been had thereon.”

(d) *Hearings*.—Insofar as possible, the committee should conduct a public hearing on each treaty as soon as possible after its submission by the President. Except in extraordinary circumstances, treaties reported to the Senate shall be accompanied by a written report.

#### RULE 10—NOMINATIONS

(a) *Waiting Requirement*.—Unless otherwise directed by the chairman and the ranking member, the Committee on Foreign Relations shall not consider any nomination until 5 business days after it has been formally submitted to the Senate.

(b) *Public Consideration*.—Nominees for any post who are invited to appear before the committee shall be heard in public session, unless a majority of the committee decrees otherwise, consistent with Rule 3(f).

(c) *Required Data*.—No nomination shall be reported to the Senate unless (1) the nominee has been accorded a security clearance

on the basis of a thorough investigation by executive branch agencies; (2) the nominee has filed a financial disclosure report and a related ethics undertaking with the committee; (3) the committee has been assured that the nominee does not have any interests which could conflict with the interests of the government in the exercise of the nominee's proposed responsibilities; (4) for persons nominated to be chief of mission, ambassador-at-large, or minister, the committee has received a complete list of any contributions made by the nominee or members of his immediate family to any Federal election campaign during the year of his or her nomination and for the 4 preceding years; (5) for persons nominated to be chiefs of mission, the report required by Section 304(a)(4) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 on the demonstrated competence of that nominee to perform the duties of the position to which he or she has been nominated; and (6) the nominee has provided the committee with a signed and notarized copy of the committee questionnaire for executive branch nominees.

#### RULE 11—TRAVEL

(a) *Foreign Travel.*—No member of the Committee on Foreign Relations or its staff shall travel abroad on committee business unless specifically authorized by the chairman, who is required by law to approve vouchers and report expenditures of foreign currencies, and the ranking member. Requests for authorization of such travel shall state the purpose and, when completed, a full substantive and financial report shall be filed with the committee within 30 days. This report shall be furnished to all members of the committee and shall not be otherwise disseminated without authorization of the chairman and the ranking member. Except in extraordinary circumstances, staff travel shall not be approved unless the reporting requirements have been fulfilled for all prior trips. Except for travel that is strictly personal, travel funded by non-U.S. Government sources is subject to the same approval and substantive reporting requirements as U.S. Government-funded travel. In addition, members and staff are reminded to consult the Senate Code of Conduct, and, as appropriate, the Senate Select Committee on Ethics, in the case of travel sponsored by non-U.S. Government sources.

Any proposed travel by committee staff for a subcommittee purpose must be approved by the subcommittee chairman and ranking member prior to submission of the request to the chairman and ranking member of the full committee.

(b) *Domestic Travel.*—All official travel in the United States by the committee staff shall be approved in advance by the staff director, or in the case of minority staff, by the minority staff director.

(c) *Personal Staff Travel.*—As a general rule, no more than one member of the personal staff of a member of the committee may travel with that member with the approval of the chairman and the ranking member of the committee. During such travel, the personal staff member shall be considered to be an employee of the committee.

(d) *PRM Travel.*—For the purposes of this rule regarding staff foreign travel, the officially-designated personal representative of the member pursuant to rule 14(b), shall be deemed to have the same rights, duties, and responsibilities as members of the staff of the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### RULE 12—TRANSCRIPTS AND MATERIALS PROVIDED TO THE COMMITTEE

(a) *General.*—The Committee on Foreign Relations shall keep verbatim transcripts of all committee and subcommittee meetings and hearings and such transcripts shall re-

main in the custody of the committee, unless a majority of the committee decides otherwise. Transcripts of public hearings by the committee shall be published unless the chairman, with the concurrence of the ranking member, determines otherwise.

The committee, through the chief clerk, shall also maintain at least one copy of all materials provided to the committee by the Executive Branch; such copy shall remain in the custody of the committee and be subject to the committee's rules and procedures, including those rules and procedures applicable to the handling of classified materials.

Such transcripts and materials shall be made available to all members of the committee, committee staff, and designated personal representatives of members of the committee, except as otherwise provided in these rules.

(b) *Classified or Restricted Transcripts or Materials.*—

(1) The chief clerk of the committee shall have responsibility for the maintenance and security of classified or restricted transcripts or materials, and shall ensure that such transcripts or materials are handled in a manner consistent with the requirements of the United States Senate Security Manual.

(2) A record shall be maintained of each use of classified or restricted transcripts or materials as required by the Senate Security Manual.

(3) Classified transcripts or materials may not leave the committee offices, or SVC-217 of the Capitol Visitors Center, except for the purpose of declassification or archiving, consistent with these rules.

(4) Extreme care shall be exercised to avoid taking notes or quotes from classified transcripts or materials. Their contents may not be divulged to any unauthorized person.

(5) Subject to any additional restrictions imposed by the chairman with the concurrence of the ranking member, only the following persons are authorized to have access to classified or restricted transcripts or materials:

(A) Members and staff of the committee in the committee offices or in SVC-217 of the Capitol Visitors Center;

(B) Designated personal representatives of members of the committee, and of the majority and minority leaders, with appropriate security clearances, in the committee offices or in SVC-217 of the Capitol Visitors Center;

(C) Senators not members of the committee, by permission of the chairman, in the committee offices or in SVC 217 of the Capitol Visitors Center; and

(D) Officials of the executive departments involved in the meeting, hearing, or matter, with authorization of the chairman, in the committee offices or SVC-217 of the Capitol Visitors Center.

(6) Any restrictions imposed by the committee upon access to a meeting or hearing of the committee shall also apply to the transcript of such meeting, except by special permission of the chairman and ranking member.

(7) In addition to restrictions resulting from the inclusion of any classified information in the transcript of a committee meeting or hearing, members and staff shall not discuss with anyone the proceedings of the committee in closed session or reveal information conveyed or discussed in such a session unless that person would have been permitted to attend the session itself or is a member or staff of a relevant committee or executive branch agency and possess an appropriate security clearance, or unless such communication is specifically authorized by the chairman, the ranking member, or in the case of staff, by the staff director or minority staff director. A record shall be kept of all such authorizations.

(c) *Declassification.*—

(1) All noncurrent records of the committee are governed by Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate and by S. Res. 474 (96th Congress). Any classified transcripts or materials transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration under Rule XI may not be made available for public use unless they have been subject to declassification review in accordance with applicable laws or Executive orders.

(2) Any transcript or classified committee report, or any portion thereof, may be declassified, in accordance with applicable laws or Executive orders, sooner than the time period provided for under S. Res. 474 if:

(A) the chairman originates such action, with the concurrence of the ranking member;

(B) the other current members of the committee who participated in such meeting or report have been notified of the proposed declassification, and have not objected thereto, except that the committee by majority vote may overrule any objections thereby raised to early declassification; and

(C) the executive departments that participated in the meeting or originated the classified information have been consulted regarding the declassification.

#### RULE 13—CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

(a) *General.*—The handling of classified information in the Senate is governed by S. Res. 243 (100th Congress), which established the Office of Senate Security. All handling of classified information by the committee shall be consistent with the procedures set forth in the United States Senate Security Manual issued by the Office of Senate Security.

(b) *Security Manager.*—The chief clerk is the security manager for the committee. The chief clerk shall be responsible for implementing the provisions of the Senate Security Manual and for serving as the committee liaison to the Office of Senate Security. The staff director, in consultation with the minority staff director, may appoint an alternate security manager as circumstances warrant.

(c) *Transportation of Classified Material.*—Classified material may only be transported between Senate offices by appropriately cleared staff members who have been specifically authorized to do so by the security manager.

(d) *Access to Classified Material.*—In general, Senators and staff undertake to confine their access to classified information on the basis of a "need to know" such information related to their committee responsibilities.

(e) *Staff Clearances.*—The chairman, or, in the case of minority staff, the ranking member, shall designate the members of the committee staff whose assignments require access to classified and compartmented information and shall seek to obtain the requisite security clearances pursuant to Office of Senate Security procedures.

(f) *PRM Clearances.*—For the purposes of this rule regarding security clearances and access to compartmented information, the officially-designated personal representative of the member (PRM) pursuant to rule 14(b), shall be deemed to have the same rights, duties, and responsibilities as members of the staff of the committee on Foreign Relations.

(g) *Regulations.*—The staff director is authorized to make such administrative regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this rule.

#### RULE 14—STAFF

(a) *Responsibilities.*—

(1) The staff works for the committee as a whole, under the general supervision of the chairman of the committee, and the immediate direction of the staff director, except

that such part of the staff as is designated minority staff shall be under the general supervision of the ranking member and under the immediate direction of the minority staff director.

(2) Any member of the committee should feel free to call upon the staff at any time for assistance in connection with committee business. Members of the Senate not members of the committee who call upon the staff for assistance from time to time should be given assistance subject to the overriding responsibility of the staff to the committee.

(3) The staffs primary responsibility is with respect to bills, resolutions, treaties, and nominations and other matters within the jurisdiction of the committee. In addition to carrying out assignments from the committee and its individual members, the staff has a responsibility to originate suggestions for committee or subcommittee consideration. The staff also has a responsibility to make suggestions to individual members regarding matters of special interest to such members.

(4) It is part of the staff's duty to keep itself as well informed as possible in regard to developments affecting foreign relations and national security and in regard to the administration of foreign programs of the United States. Significant trends or developments which might otherwise escape notice should be called to the attention of the committee, or of individual Senators with particular interests.

(5) The staff shall pay due regard to the constitutional separation of powers between the Senate and the executive branch. It therefore has a responsibility to help the committee bring to bear an independent, objective judgment of proposals by the executive branch and when appropriate to originate sound proposals of its own. At the same time, the staff shall avoid impinging upon the day-to-day conduct of foreign affairs.

(6) In those instances when committee action requires the expression of minority views, the staff shall assist the minority as fully as the majority to the end that all points of view may be fully considered by members of the committee and of the Senate. The staff shall bear in mind that under our constitutional system it is the responsibility of the elected members of the Senate to determine legislative issues in the light of as full and fair a presentation of the facts as the staff may be able to obtain.

(b) *Personal Representatives of the Member (PRM).*—Each Senator on the committee shall be authorized to designate one personal staff member as the member's personal representative of the member and designee to the committee (PRM) that shall be deemed to have the same rights, duties, and responsibilities as members of the staff of the Committee on Foreign Relations where specifically provided for in these rules.

(c) *Restrictions.*—

(1) The staff shall regard its relationship to the committee as a privileged one, in the nature of the relationship of a lawyer to a client. In order to protect this relationship and the mutual confidence which must prevail if the committee-staff relationship is to be a satisfactory and fruitful one, the following criteria shall apply, unless staff has consulted with and obtained, as appropriate, the approval of the Senate Ethics Committee and advance permission from the staff director (or the minority staff director in the case of minority staff):

(A) members of the staff shall not be identified with any special interest group in the field of foreign relations or allow their names to be used by any such group; and

(B) members of the staff shall not accept public speaking engagements or write for publication in the field of foreign relations.

(2) The staff shall not discuss their private conversations with members of the committee without specific advance permission from the Senator or Senators concerned.

(3) The staff shall not discuss with anyone the proceedings of the committee in closed session or reveal information conveyed or discussed in such a session unless that person would have been permitted to attend the session itself or is a member or staff of a relevant committee or executive branch agency and possesses an appropriate security clearance, or unless such communication is specifically authorized by the staff director or minority staff director. Unauthorized disclosure of information from a closed session or of classified information shall be cause for immediate dismissal and may, in certain cases, be grounds for criminal prosecution.

RULE 15—STATUS AND AMENDMENT OF RULES

(a) *Status.*—In addition to the foregoing, the Committee on Foreign Relations is governed by the Standing Rules of the Senate, which shall take precedence in the event of a clear inconsistency. In addition, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the committee with respect to certain matters, as well as the timing and procedure for their consideration in committee, may be governed by statute.

(b) *Amendment.*—These rules may be modified, amended, or repealed by a majority of the committee, provided that a notice in writing (including by electronic mail) of the proposed change has been given to each member at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at which action thereon is to be taken. However, rules of the committee which are based upon Senate rules may not be superseded by committee vote alone.

RECOGNIZING THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE INAUGURATION

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, on January 20, 2025, the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies—JCCIC—hosted the inauguration of President Donald Trump.

This year, I chaired the joint committee with Senator FISCHER, my counterpart on the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration. I thank her and the rest of the committee members—Leader SCHUMER, Speaker JOHNSON, Leader SCALISE, and Leader JEFFRIES—for their partnership.

In the first 20 days of January, the Capitol Complex was the focus of three large-scale events—the January 6 Election Certification, the lying in state of former President Jimmy Carter, and the 60th inaugural ceremonies. And after the President-elect requested the ceremonies be held indoors, our staff and partners worked around the clock to prepare the U.S. Capitol Rotunda for the ceremonies and the Capitol Visitor Center Emancipation Hall for additional guests to watch the proceedings.

Today, I want to thank those who worked tirelessly to plan and execute the 60th inaugural ceremonies. The JCCIC staff, partners, and volunteers were all crucial in countless ways.

I want to especially thank the staff director of the Rules Committee Elizabeth Farrar, who also served as staff director for JCCIC.

Our committee's U.S. Capitol Police Liaison Captain Sean Patton worked

tirelessly to synchronize the work of the JCCIC and the department's inaugural task force, commanded by Inspector Mike Spochart. I want to thank Captain Patton, the inaugural task force, the National Guard, and the entire law enforcement and security partnership which makes up the Washington Metropolitan Area's National Special Security Event Executive Steering Committee.

I also want to acknowledge JCCIC's important partnership with Mayor Bowser's District of Columbia Presidential Inaugural Committee under the leadership of Lindsey Parker. Together, we were able to focus on the end-to-end guest experience of constituents visiting our Nation's Capital for the inauguration.

The JCCIC ticketing and Member services team, led by Davita Jones and including Anthony Davis, both detailed from the House Sergeant at Arms Office, and Navy CAPT Judy Malana, counted, organized, and distributed more than 200,000 tickets for the ceremonies and coordinated the attendance with all JCCIC's traditional guests. They were aided in the counting by over 200 volunteers. Sarah Wheeling and the congressional publishing team at the Government Publishing Office oversaw the design, printing, and inspection of all tickets and program materials, working efficiently on tight deadlines to deliver products worthy of the occasion.

The operations team, led by Lauren McBride, who was on loan from the House Sergeant at Arms Office and is a veteran JCCIC staffer, kept track of every detail, planning rehearsals and walkthroughs, and executing the day. The operations team supporting JCCIC included Abby Stahl, Randall Bethea, Elizabeth Khader, Jordan Prince, Destiny Davis, Martha McPhee, Zachary Hassay, and Chris Brantley.

Abby, a JCCIC veteran from Senator FISCHER's office, effectively led multiple timeline meetings, ensuring both the production timeline and the Inauguration Day "run of show" reflected the synchronized best information from JCCIC, the Architect of the Capitol, the Capitol Police, and the military.

Randall taught radio protocols and, by leading Capitol Compass walkthroughs each week, ensured staff knew their way around the Capitol. Randall also led inclement weather planning and coordinated JCCIC participation in the Department of Defense dress rehearsal on January 12.

Elizabeth, on loan from the Senate Sergeant at Arms office, coordinated all the rooms JCCIC needed to hold guests and other Inauguration Day assets, accommodating special requests, furniture, and catering. Elizabeth was additionally responsible for the signing ceremony in the President's Room.

As platform director, Jordan ensured the platform was ready to hold more than 1,300 guests, each with a specific seat based on inaugural protocol and



precedent. When plans shifted indoors, Jordan's focus pivoted to accommodating Congress, the President-elect's guests, and traditional guests in the Rotunda. Destiny provided critical administrative and logistical support to Jordan.

Martha, another veteran JCCIC staffer, and Zachary had the task of working with our U.S. Capitol Police partners, including Captain Patton and the inaugural task force, to manage the credentialing process for more than 8,000 personnel. They also provided critical liaison with our Joint Task Force-National Capital Region military partners on all the military resources needed on Inauguration Day.

Chris Brantley, from visitor services in the Capitol Visitor Center, recruited, tracked, trained, and managed employment of more than 350 volunteer "JCCIC Ambassadors" in tasks ranging from ticket counting to wayfinding to escorting participants and guests. Though not all served on Inauguration Day, their contributions were essential to our overall success, and I would like to thank the following Volunteer JCCIC Ambassadors:

Althea Abbott, Sara Adams, Harley Adsit, Joey Aguilo, Nolan Ahern, Joshua Anderson, Michael Appelbaum, Claudette Archambault, Rebekah Armstrong, Benjamin Arquit, Abigail Ashcraft, Alexander Attebery, Grant Auman, Sky Avants, Zehra Bakirdan, Shawn Baldy, Andrew Bambrick, Zachary Bannon, Jennifer Bastin, Audrey Beck, Sara Bell, Lyssa Bell, Caroline Bender, Ashlynn Beninga, Craig Berning, Jacqueline Bisille, Thomas Blanford, Jackson Blodgett, Anthony Bocchino, Micah Bock, Jody Bogoslavski, Savannah Bolender, Claire Bossong, Scott Boswell, Taylor Bradley, Lindsay Brand, Matt Brennan, Alyssa Bretan, Caroline Broom, Joseph Brown, Sarah Brown, Alex Brunner, Britney Butler, John Byers, Larry Calhoun, Jillian Cantrell, Molly Carpenter, Luke Catanzaro, Paloma Chacon, Christy Charbonnet, Daniela Chirinos Vasquez, Peter Chong, William Christian, Madelon Clark, Patricia Clarke, Matthew Clemence, Adam Cloch, Sarah Coffman, Rachel Coll, Katherine Covington, Caleb Crosswhite, Peter Crumpler, Candace Cunningham, Jacob Custer, David D'Antonio, Miranda Dabney, Marjorie Daily, Noelle Dana, Owen Dankworth, Graydon Daubert, Isabel David, Jasper Davis, Bryer Davis, Alexandra Davis, Alexis Davis, Sean Decker, Catalina Delgado, Arianna Delgado, Margaret Deneen, Nora Derrick, Luke Diel, Madeleine Dierksheide, Nathan Dinh, Logan Dobbins, Connor Domingue, Caroline Donlon, Kelsie Donovan, Jonathan Downing, Sarah Drake, John Draxler, Benjamin Driscoll, Samanta Dunford, Elizabeth Dunlap, Darin Durand, James Durham, Anne Earthman, Benjamin Easter, Flannery Egner, Manik Elahi, Margaret Elliott, Ross Elston, William Emerson, Alyssa Erdel, Benjamin Esposito, Carley Esser, Samantha Ewing, Jeanne Fahey, Adam Fairchild, Lila Farris, Charlotte Featherston, Sarah Fernandes, Sarah Ferrell, Alex Fink, John Fossum, Emma Fullerton, Mary Galey, John Ganter, Sara Garcia, Brianna Garcia, Thomas Garloch, Chongyang Ge, Eric Gebhart, Kristen Gentile, Madelyn Gerken, Sarah Gilbert, Andrea Gilsdorf, Andrew Gleaton, Celestine Gold, Ernest Gomez, Kaily Grabemann, Patrick Green, Nicholas Greene, Mariah Greenlee, Haley Griffiths, Maddisen Grimm, Khenadi Grubb, Andrew Guernsey,

Ella Gunn, Caroline Hamilton, Hannah Hancock, Wesley Harkins, Laurie Harris, Austin Harrison, Grace Harrison, Michael Hart, Daniel Hartl, John Hatfield, Wesley Helms, Holly Hendrix, Bridget Henne, Bryson Henriott, Nicole Herman, Rosanna Hernandez, Sofia Herring Jones, Allison Hibben, Elliot Higgins, Grace Higgins, Emma Hoffschneider, Ryan Hofmann, Elizabeth Hood, Randall Hopkins, David Horsley, Kelsie Hovenden, Preston Howey, Charles Huang, Calvin Huggins, Margaret Hughes, Cecilia Hutton, John Isaacs, Madeline Jackson, Janquil Jackson, Noah Jackson, Hannah Jahreis, Danielle Janowski, Matthew Jansen, Andrea Jenkins, Alexandra Jenkins, Conrad Johnson, Jamie Johnson, Demarion Johnson, Joseph Johnston, Dylan Jones, Tekia Jones, Hiroya Jordan, Charles Judson, Samuel Kaardal, Haig Kadian, Charles Kaiman, Benjamin Kelley, Macie Kelly, Megan Kenney, Lauren Ketchum, Chelsie Keys, Edward Kim, Hunter Kirkland, Jake Kirshen, Steven Klausner, Arden Koenecke, Christine Kortokrax, Alexandra Kotsovos, Sidney Kucera, Erin Kuil, Brayden Lacefield, Matthew Lamb, John Laseter, Robyn Lea, Hannah Levins, Luke Lilly, Jack Lincoln, William Lissau, Amelia Litynski, Alana Lomis, Parker Loy, Kate Lundberg, April Lyman, Connor Lynch, Joseph Madel, Mary-Eileen Manning, Andrew Mansell, Skyler Mansell, Joseph Martin, Sarah Martin, Victor Martins, Kimberly Mash, Justin Mastrangelo, Donald Mathis, Reagan Mays, Georgette Mbengue, Shekyla McBroom, Max McClendon, Meghan McCully, Scott McElhaney, Tara McGee, William McKenna, Brenda McKinney, Jacob McMeekin, Leah McPhearson, Ian McPhearson, Bryce McWilliams, Walton Mears, Lauren Meininger, Davis Michols, William Miles, Matthew Mondello, Morgan Money, Nathanael Monroe, Meredith Moore, Emma Morris, Ruby Moukadam, Jackson Mountain, Prisila Muñoz, Braden Murphy, William Murphy, Margaret Murphy, Amy Nabozny, Antonia Nascimento, Bradley Nathan, Casey Nelson, Benjamin Newhart, Madison Newsom, Luke Nickless, Katherine Nikas, Malaika Njikerber, Blake Nolan, Amy Nycz, Susan Occhipinti, Elizabeth Oien, Anderson Okoniewski, Brooke Oliver, Haley Parker, Adam Parkinson, Drew Parks, John Pecaro, Angelika Pellegrino, Colm Pelletier, Madeline Peltzer, Meghan Perez-Acosta, Carolyn Perlmutter, Matthew Perricone, Mark Peterson, Jana Pierce, Riley Pingree, Chad Pit-Og, Tyler Platt, Mary Popadiuk, Gigi Powers, Gavin Proffitt, Ryan Prosperie, Harrison Ransley, Thomas Reckling, Paula Restrepo, Lauren Reuss, Kyle Rimando, Katherine Robbins, Elizabeth Robbins, Ann Robinson, Joseph Rosenwinkel, Elizabeth Rowland, Jackson Rudden, Joseph Russo, Rebecca Rybczyk, Eduardo Sacasa, Samantha Salonen, Coby Sammis, Jessica Santos, Robert Sar, Robby Saunders, Bethan Saunders, Karen Schmitt, Ansley Schoen, Athena Schritz, Emma Schultheis, Lisa Schultz, Hannah Schwartz, John Seibels, Sara Severens, Mitchell Shea, Michael Shinholster, Alexia Sikora, Sophia Slacik, Alexandria Smith, Elliot Smith, Stephen Spaulding, Adam Stewart, Kennedy Stowater, Caroline Strock, Kirby Struhar, Robert Sucher, Kate Sweeney, John Szymanski, Ruby Tavernier, Brooke Taylor, Grey Taylor, Jon Tester, Christopher Thomas, Katherine Thomas, Kaitlyn Tomko, Ann Topp, Dominic Travis, Courtney Trigg, Ajai Tripathi, Shay Turman, Kimberly Vander Meulen, Trysten Villarreal, Ashlee Vinyard, Jesse von Stein, Landy Wade, Rachel Walker, Thomas Walker, Carolanne Walls, James Walsh, Lindsay Walton, Christina Ware, Emily Welch, Laura Wengloski, Nicholas West, Grayson Westmoreland, Garrett

Wilbanks, Clifford Williams, Jordan Wilson, Luke Wilt, Kaitlyn Wolfe, Zoe Wong, Noah Yantis, Elizabeth Yoder, Connor Young, Amira Zaidi, and Kristina Zuccarelli.

The Capitol venues team was led by Grant Scherling from the Office of the House Chief Administrative Officer, whose acquisition and use of detailed Capitol complex maps, schematics, and diagrams were essential to the planning effort. The east front team of Michael Delaune and Brian Hublar coordinated with partners from the inaugural task force, U.S. Secret Service, and the Presidential Inaugural Committee on all motorcade arrivals, movements, and departures on the east front of the Capitol, to include the landing and take-off of the HMX-1 helicopter for the farewell of President Biden.

Inside the halls of the Capitol Building, the Capitol core team of veteran JCCIC staffers Molly Stevens and Abby Stahl was joined by Noreen Kassam and became the backbone of JCCIC execution on Inauguration Day. They led multiple walkthroughs with principals and senior staff and pivoted seamlessly when the ceremonies moved indoors. Not only did they rehearse every step for every guest, but they also made sure to document it in "PILLARS"—the Presidential Inauguration Line-by-Line and Relevant Seating application developed by the expert software development team at the Senate Sergeant at Arms—so staff and volunteers would have real-time access to the most up-to-date plan.

Maggie Tyler, detailed from the National Park Service, worked tirelessly with the Capitol Police, Tyler Pumphrey and Liz Aduso from the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services, and other Capitol Hill and DC partners to plan all aspects of the guest experience on the west front of the Capitol. With the help of Michelle Reinshuttle, on loan from the Capitol Police Board staff, Maggie's team maximized on-site viewing of the inaugural ceremonies and allowed the first-ever indoor rendering of First Honors for the President by the military.

I want to thank Abbie Platt, another former JCCIC staffer, and McKinley Scholtz for their artistic eye, attention to detail, and perseverance in the face of change, which made this year's inaugural luncheon a success. We are grateful for the support of Korbel, Lenox, the Wine Institute, Brown-Forman, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the Smithsonian Chamber Players.

The communications team was led by Eliza Duckworth. Eliza, working closely with my personal office staff, focused on response to and engagement with national media, while Reilly McBride focused on the livestream production which reached over 5 million people with the help of Paul Winston of Razor Management and Ronn Jackson and Emily Boisvert from Capitol Visitor Services, who served as emcees throughout the day. Meanwhile, Chase Baran managed our online presence for internal and external audiences.



Wendy Dawson, our director of press logistics, brought to the team extensive industry experience covering numerous political conventions, State of the Union Addresses, and six Presidential inaugurations. The strong relationships she developed across the Capitol campus, especially with the Media Galleries and Senate Photographic Services, enabled the highest standard of press coverage.

The efforts of the administration team of Elisa Mendez, Nick Stella, and Teddy Kohlhaas, all under the leadership of Christi Mayer, helped to keep everyone on track and to feel supported, and Thomas Weber ensured our IT resources never let us down. Toni Covert, from the Office of the Clerk of the House, led the gifts and commemoratives section of the administrative team, spearheading selection and acquisition of the luncheon gifts and distribution of thousands of program kits and hundreds of other commemorative items.

I also want to thank my staff, including my chief of staff Tamara Fucile, Heidi Kraus Kaplan, Jane Meyer, Lizzie Haskell, Jack Hostager, Madeline Coles, and Maixee Lee, as well as my Rules Committee staff, especially Ben Driscoll and Stephen Spaulding, who—in addition to their normal duties—provided expert advice and counsel to the JCCIC. Thank you also to the JCCIC staff representatives of our committee members.

Cami Morrison, a veteran of six JCCICs, concurrently served as both chief clerk of the Senate Rules Committee and senior adviser to JCCIC. She provided administrative oversight to the JCCIC but, more importantly, served as a valued mentor to every member of the staff from the staff assistants to the executive director. When the ceremonies moved indoors, Cami's in-depth knowledge of inaugural-specific protocol and precedence was critical to the event.

Julia Daniel, our chief of staff, retired from Active-Duty Marine Corps service halfway through her time with JCCIC and came back onto the team as a civilian without missing a beat. A veteran of six inaugurations, her meticulous attention to detail improved all our plans, and her calm professionalism and decisive leadership preserved essential elements of the ceremonies while still ensuring the President-elect was sworn in on time. Stefanie Muchow from Leader THUNE's office provided invaluable support to Julia backstage as she expertly addressed challenges.

For Mike Wagner, our executive director, participation in inaugural ceremonies began when he was a high school tuba player at President Nixon's second inauguration in 1973 and includes a 44-year Army career culminating as the military lead for the 57th, 58th, and 59th Presidential inaugurations. His organizational skills, calm demeanor, and quiet confidence served JCCIC well in this, his 13th Presidential inauguration.

I want to thank Secretaries of the Senate Ann Berry and Jackie Barber and from the Office of the Secretary, Sydney Butler, Senate Historian Kate Scott, Senate Curator Melinda Smith; and from the Curator's staff, Lacey Baradel, Theresa Malanum, and Jennifer Krafchik.

I also want to thank the Architect of the Capitol Thomas Austin, who built the outdoor platform and media risers, then seamlessly pivoted to design, build, and install a beautiful new stage in the Capitol Rotunda. From Thomas's staff, I thank Mark Reed, Raynell Bennett, Matthew Aye, Jason McIntyre, and Dwayne Thomas.

I thank House Sergeant at Arms Bill McFarland and his staff, especially Ted Daniel, Seton Gardner, and Becky Fontaine.

I thank Senate Sergeant at Arms Jennifer Hemingway and her staff, including Carly Flick and Hannah Pfaltzgraff; Mike Mastrian, Jeff Kent, Laura Reed, and Justin Wilson from the Media Galleries; Myles Cullen and the Photographic Services team; Yvonne Bennett, Scott Mead, Chris Wilde, Blair Cooper, and Diego Torres from the Senate Recording Studio; Sam Jacobs from Capitol Facilities; Ray Woeller and Jim Green, who managed the credentialing contract; and the entire PILLARS development team of Casey Bishop, Jason Blum, Roger Masse, Atul Patel, Silvino Da Sul, Mehmet Yuksel, Brad Nathan, Claudette Archambault, and Jason Tongarm.

On January 20, 2025, the world witnessed the 60th inaugural ceremonies, as they have every 4 years since 1789, and I offer my sincere thanks to everyone who worked on these ceremonies.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DRAM DAY

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, today, I rise to celebrate National DRAM Day and recognize the historic invention of dynamic random access memory, DRAM. Patented by Dr. Robert Dennard on June 4, 1968, DRAM revolutionized computing and shaped the digital age.

Today, DRAM is an essential component of cutting-edge technologies, such as artificial intelligence, and in everyday devices—from personal computers to cell phones. This groundbreaking American invention spurred innovation across industries, including defense and manufacturing, strengthening our Nation's global leadership in advanced technology. Furthermore, DRAM has led to the development of critical devices that have improved Americans' access to technology, enhanced our quality of life, and created millions of high-paying jobs, including many in my home State of Idaho.

In the 57 years since this remarkable achievement, DRAM has become a cornerstone of the U.S. economy. The semiconductor industry contributes \$246.4 billion to the Nation's GDP and

employs over 300,000 people across various roles, like chip design, electronic automation, and manufacturing. DRAM is also a vital asset to America's national security. Every fighter jet, missile defense system, and intelligence operation depends upon the reliable, secure, domestically produced memory technology inspired by Dr. Dennard's original invention.

As we celebrate National DRAM Day, we recognize the work of Dr. Dennard as well as the engineers, manufacturers, and researchers who continue to advance this critical technology. Their efforts have enhanced our technology, fueled our economy, and bolstered national security. I applaud their successes and commitment to advancing America's leadership in technology.

#### TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER PACE

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor an accomplished and highly regarded leader CDR Christopher Pace chief of the U.S. Coast Guard's Great Lakes Oil Spill Center of Expertise. Commander Pace has made an immeasurable impact on the Great Lakes region and the many residents and visitors who rely on its waters, and it is a privilege to recognize him here today and celebrate his impact in light of his upcoming departure from the center and new posting in the Philippines.

Commander Pace's time with the U.S. Coast Guard began in 2009, where he was first stationed in Honolulu, HI, as the vessel boarding and security team leader for U.S. Coast Guard Sector Honolulu. From there, he was stationed in Chesapeake, VA, eventually becoming the command center chief for the U.S. Coast Guard District 5 Command Center. Most recently, Commander Pace served as the chief of response for U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Savannah, where he directed all ports, waterways, and coastal security response missions for two economic and military strategic ports. The capsizing of the *GOLDEN RAY*, the largest maritime salvage incident in U.S. history, was a notable response overseen by Commander Pace while in Savannah.

Commander Pace came to the Great Lakes Oil Spill Center of Expertise when it was established in 2022, serving as the center's first commanding officer. The center was established by Congress to fill a gap in oil spill research, specifically in fresh and icy water as it pertains to the Great Lakes. Under his leadership, the center launched the service's first open call for research proposals, establishing a process that provided \$7.5 million in funding to over 50 projects during his 3-year command. To date, the projects funded through this mechanism have addressed frontline operational needs, including submerged oil detection, unconventional oil behavior under ice, and standardized response guides and training. His

efforts also ensured regional responders were provided critical tools, including the fielding of 18 uncrewed systems, 19,000 feet of containment boom, and three oil recovery systems, strengthening Coast Guard response infrastructure across 6,700 miles of Great Lakes shoreline. I am eternally grateful for all the hard work that he has contributed to the Great Lakes Oil Spill Center of Expertise.

Commander I cannot understate the impact that CDR Christopher Pace has had on the health and safety of the Great Lakes region. As the first U.S. Coast Guard chief for the Great Lakes Oil Spill Center of Expertise, Commander Pace's strategic vision and dedication to excellence have defined the center's identity and established its place as a leader in freshwater oil spill research, development, and training. Though his leadership at the Great Lakes Oil Spill Center of Expertise will be sorely missed, his legacy will most certainly endure and continue to inspire. I know he will continue to serve our country in the highest regard as he embarks on his next adventure in the Philippines.

#### TRIBUTE TO CRAIG CARBONE

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the incredible service to our State and Nation by Craig Carbone. Craig has served on my team in multiple capacities for over a decade. As my deputy chief of staff when I was Governor of Florida, Craig was an integral part of our success and spearheaded efforts to pass legislation that made our State safer and more prosperous. He also oversaw the appointments process for thousands of boards and commissions in Florida which has had a direct impact on every Floridian. He worked tirelessly to help me get elected to the U.S. Senate, and he has been a vital member of my Senate office since day one. As my chief of staff, he has overseen the passage of critical legislation, led our award-winning constituent services team, and helped countless Americans who needed assistance with the Federal Government. I am so grateful for Craig's hard work and commitment to making Florida and our Nation a better place.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO JOHN FOSTER

• Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I want to congratulate John Foster, a Louisiana native and fellow LSU Tiger, on an impressive run on American Idol.

John was the runner-up on this season of American Idol. And while it was not the outcome everyone in Louisiana was hoping for, he represented himself and Louisiana well on a national stage.

John's performances were excellent and inspiring. He was also practicing and performing as he is pursuing premed.

John, well done on pursuing both your dream and your education. From all of us back home, keep singing. You are first place in Louisiana.●

##### TRIBUTE TO CATHERINE REED

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Catherine Reed of Hanover as May's Granite Stater of the Month. Catherine started a food pantry, called the Food-is-Medicine Pantry, at the Dartmouth Cancer Center when she saw how many of her cancer patients needed food assistance.

Three years ago, Catherine was working at the Dartmouth Cancer Center as a social worker when she discovered that there was a significant gap in resources for her patients. She was helping a patient get assistance with paying for rent, car payments, and fuel oil, but learned that the patient was also struggling to afford their groceries. Catherine realized that there were very few options for food assistance for her patients, and the stigma surrounding food insecurity stopped many of her patients from asking for help. Catherine decided to take action, and with the help of a coworker Chelsey Canavan, Catherine secured funding for a food pantry at the Dartmouth Cancer Center, with fresh and healthy donations provided by a local nonprofit organization.

Catherine knew that in order for the food pantry to improve the lives of her patients, she needed to make sure that anyone who needed help was comfortable asking for it. She explained to her patients that proper nutrition is a part of the treatment for their cancer because the stronger that someone goes into treatment, the stronger they can come out of it. Catherine took grocery orders from her patients daily and delivered the groceries to people's cars before they left in order to make things as easy as possible for them.

Catherine saw firsthand the difference that food assistance makes for cancer patients. She began working to expand the food pantry program, including collecting data, presenting a poster at an oncology conference, contacting a hospital in Tennessee to learn about their food pantry so that she could model best practices, and creating a referral system to bring more patients into the program. The program's eligibility has grown to include all patients at the center, and for each patient who chooses to participate, their entire family is provided with fresh and healthy food harvested and delivered by local organizations.

Catherine's attentiveness to her patients is a great example of the Granite State spirit of going above and beyond for your community. She saw a problem and did not look around for someone else to solve it. She got to work. Her determination and her compassion is why I am proud to name her May's Granite Stater of the Month.●

TRIBUTE TO FRED J. LOGAN, JR.

• Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today, I would like to recognize a fellow Kansan and friend Fred J. Logan, Jr., for dedicating his professional and personal life to representing and serving the people of Kansas and congratulate him on his retirement.

Fred spent most of his childhood in Indianapolis and earned both his bachelor's degree and juris doctorate from the University of Indiana. During his time in law school, Fred served as a law clerk to Lawrence County, Indiana Circuit Court Judge H. Wayne Baker.

Through this experience, Fred developed his passion for public service through practicing law. After receiving his law degree, he later moved to Overland Park, KS, and remained a resident of Johnson County for over 50 years.

For the past 39 years, Fred has represented clients, advised regional businesses, and served as council for various local government entities as a partner of Logan, Logan & Watson, a firm that he originally founded with his brother Scott.

Fred's longest client was the Johnson County Library, for which he oversaw the negotiations of the library's governance structure and contributed to the successful growth of the library system across the Johnson County area. In addition to his time practicing law, Fred has dedicated much of his personal life giving back to his local and State community, serving on numerous boards across a variety of disciplines.

One issue Fred is keenly passionate about is advancing educational success in his community. Fred has served as vice chair of the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the Johnson County Community College Board of Trustees, and vice president of the Johnson County Community College Foundation. He also served as the chair of the Kansas Board of Regents alongside my wife Robba. Fred has been a member of the University of Kansas Dole Institute of Politics Advisory Board and the Shawnee Mission School District Committee for Excellence, just to name a few.

Fred has not only been a champion for education, he also has dedicated much of his time to community service, serving as the president of the United Community Services and Friends of Johnson County Library and a board member and youth coach of the Great American Basketball League.

Throughout his career, Fred has earned a reputation as a mentor and a problem solver who has strived and succeeded in bettering his community and leaving a positive impact on everyone he meets.

I have also had the pleasure of getting to know Fred's son Andy who, like his father, has dedicated much of his life in service to Kansans. Andy was one of the first members of my team when I entered the Senate back in 2011, assisting and advising me on healthcare and education issues. Andy

has continued to follow in his father's footsteps, practicing law and working as a partner for Logan, Logan & Watson.

While he may not originally be from Kansas, we are proud to claim Frank as one of our own. After an impressive career and decades of service, I want to congratulate Frank on his retirement and thank him for his service to Kansans.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CYNTHIA J. BUTTS

● Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary North Carolinian. Since the early 1970s, Cynthia J. Butts, a resident of Murphy, NC, has served as a caregiver for her own family and the families of our Nation's Armed Forces. She has consistently offered care, compassion, and support to those around her.

As a military spouse, Mrs. Butts understood firsthand the challenges of having a loved one deployed. Guided by her natural inclination to care for others, she provided invaluable support for families facing those same challenges. Her caregiving extended to several senior family members, and she is now the primary caregiver for her husband.

As Mrs. Butts' community faced the challenges of COVID-19 and later Hurricane Helene, she once again rose to the occasion. Even as her husband's health declined and she battled cancer herself, she continued to offer love and support to all those around her.

I am humbled to recognize Mrs. Butts for her lifelong dedication to caring for those around her. Our great State and Nation are grateful for her compassion and lifetime of service.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Hanley, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator MARIA CANTWELL, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Gregory Autry, of Florida, to be Chief Financial Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments:

S. 244. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, to conduct a study of the national security risks posed by consumer routers, modems, and devices that combine a modem and router, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-25).

S. 258. A bill to improve forecasting and understanding of tornadoes and other hazardous weather, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-26).

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment:

S. 433. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the National Manufacturing Advisory Council within the Department of Commerce, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-27).

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 1922. A bill to provide firearm licensees an opportunity to correct statutory and regulatory violations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 1923. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to set the rate of pay for employees of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection in accordance with the General Schedule; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1924. A bill to add suicide prevention resources to school identification cards; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1925. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to diabetes outpatient self-management training services, to require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test the provision of virtual diabetes outpatient self-management training services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1926. A bill to encourage reduction of disposable plastic products in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. SCHMITT):

S. Res. 258. A resolution honoring the lives and service of Natalie and Davy Lloyd and expressing condolence to the family of Natalie and Davy Lloyd; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 259. A resolution recognizing June 2, 2025, as the 39th anniversary of C-SPAN chronicling democracy in the Senate; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. GALLEGGO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 260. A resolution expressing support for the designation of June 6, 2025, as "National Gun Violence Awareness Day" and June 2025 as "National Gun Violence Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 237

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 237, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide public safety officer benefits for exposure-related cancers, and for other purposes.

S. 364

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 364, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove silencers from the definition of firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 393

At the request of Mr. FETTERMAN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGGO) were added as cosponsors of S. 393, a bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prohibit the export or sale of petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to certain entities, and for other purposes.

S. 482

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGGO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 482, a bill to include Czechia in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E-1 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of Czechia.

S. 557

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 557, a bill to repeal the small business loan data collection requirements under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act.

S. 567

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 567, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Rhode Island Regiment, in recognition of their dedicated service during the Revolutionary War.

S. 577

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota

(Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 577, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to expand access to capital for rural-area small businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 599

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 599, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the mileage rate offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs through their Beneficiary Travel program for health related travel, and for other purposes.

S. 752

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 752, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines.

S. 847

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 847, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the employer-provided child care credit and the dependent care assistance exclusion.

S. 1032

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1032, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with combat-related disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1144

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1144, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care.

S. 1162

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 1162, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove short-barreled rifles, short-barreled shotguns, and certain other weapons from the definition of firearms for purposes of the National Firearms Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1296

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1296, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to strengthen disclosure requirements relating to foreign gifts and contracts, to prohibit contracts between institutions of higher education and certain foreign entities

and countries of concern, and for other purposes.

S. 1316

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) 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. 1375

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1375, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate the exception for de minimis payments by third party settlement organizations with respect to returns relating to payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, as in effect prior to the enactment of the American Rescue Plan Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1404

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1404, a bill to combat organized crime involving the illegal acquisition of retail goods and cargo for the purpose of selling those illegally obtained goods through physical and online retail marketplaces.

S. 1441

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1441, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to non-profit entities to assist such entities in carrying out programs to provide service dogs to eligible veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1454

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1454, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide for greater protection of roosters, and for other purposes.

S. 1459

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) were added as cosponsors 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. 1620

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1620, a bill to

amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, with respect to prohibited financial transactions, and for other purposes.

S. 1643

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1643, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect patient access to ground ambulance services under the Medicare program.

S. 1715

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1715, a bill to prohibit payment card networks and covered entities from requiring the use of or assigning merchant category codes that distinguish a firearms retailer from a general merchandise retailer or sporting goods retailer, and for other purposes.

S. 1749

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1749, a bill to prohibit United States Government recognition of the Russian Federation's claim of sovereignty over Crimea, and for other purposes.

S. 1779

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1779, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit State standards relating to the control of emissions from existing locomotives and engines used in locomotives, and for other purposes.

S. 1782

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1782, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of mental or physical disability in cases of organ transplants.

S. 1809

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1809, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking or transmitting video of defense information, and for other purposes.

S. 1827

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) were added as cosponsors of S. 1827, a bill to authorize the expedited removal of aliens who are criminal gang members, members of foreign terrorist organizations, or have been convicted of certain specified crimes.

S. 1829

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 1829, a bill to combat the sexual exploitation of children by supporting victims and promoting accountability and transparency by the tech industry.

S. 1851

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1851, a bill to enhance the cybersecurity of the Healthcare and Public Health Sector.

S. 1881

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1881, a bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to expand coverage under such Act to public employees.

S. 1885

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1885, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Health and Human Services acting through the Surgeon General, to implement a mental health warning label on covered platforms, and for other purposes.

S. 1899

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1899, a bill to require Federal contractors to implement a vulnerability disclosure policy consistent with NIST guidelines, and for other purposes.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 258—HONORING THE LIVES AND SERVICE OF NATALIE AND DAVY LLOYD AND EXPRESSING CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF NATALIE AND DAVY LLOYD

Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. SCHMITT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 258

Whereas Natalie Elizabeth Lloyd—

(1) was born on March 2, 2003, in Joplin, Missouri;

(2) graduated from Ozark Christian Academy and Ozark Bible Institute and College; and

(3) was known for her exceptionally kind heart, her love for everyone she encountered, and her dedication to caring for children;

Whereas David (“Davy”) Joseph Lloyd, III—

(1) was born on July 3, 2000, in Tulsa, Oklahoma;

(2) grew up in Haiti, developing a heart for the Haitian community; and

(3) graduated from Ozark Bible Institute and College in Neosho in April 2022 and went on to become an effective preacher;

Whereas Natalie and Davy Lloyd were married on June 18, 2022, at the Bible Holiness Assembly of God in Neosho, Missouri;

Whereas Natalie and Davy Lloyd began their married life together in Neosho, Missouri;

Whereas Natalie and Davy Lloyd became full-time missionaries in Haiti in January 2023 with Missions in Haiti, serving the Haitian community and, in particular, Haitian children through a local orphanage; and

Whereas Natalie and Davy Lloyd were tragically killed by lawless Haitian gangs on May 23, 2024: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) extends heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Natalie and David (“Davy”) Lloyd;

(2) recognizes and honors Natalie and Davy Lloyd as extraordinarily faithful missionaries who selflessly dedicated their entire lives to God and serving others; and

(3) commemorates the amazing work Natalie and Davy Lloyd completed as missionaries in Haiti and the powerful legacy that the young couple leaves.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 259—RECOGNIZING JUNE 2, 2025, AS THE 39TH ANNIVERSARY OF C-SPAN CHRONICLING DEMOCRACY IN THE SENATE

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 259

Whereas, for nearly 4 decades, Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network (C-SPAN) has served as an essential conduit between the United States Senate and the American public;

Whereas, since its launch on June 2, 1986, the channel C-SPAN2 has offered uninterrupted, unfiltered access to the debates, votes, and deliberations of the Senate;

Whereas, over the course of 39 years, C-SPAN2 has recorded more than 43,830 hours of Senate sessions, capturing more than 169,000 speeches that span the spectrum of political thoughts, policy debates, and personal testimony;

Whereas these recordings preserve the voices of 359 different Senators, including 185 Republicans, 167 Democrats, and 7 Independents, across nearly 4 decades of service;

Whereas C-SPAN2 has documented more than 23,493 roll call votes, each a building block of American law and policy, a living ledger of Senate decision-making;

Whereas C-SPAN operates without public funding or government oversight;

Whereas the continued availability and success of C-SPAN is due to the funding provided by cable and satellite television operators in the United States; and

Whereas all television providers, including streaming services, should make delivery of C-SPAN a priority so Americans can watch Congress in action, in real time: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate recognizes—

(1) June 2, 2025, as the 39th anniversary of C-SPAN chronicling democracy in the Senate; and

(2) the importance of continuous Senate coverage for all Americans and the need for live coverage to be accessible on all platforms.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today is the 39th-year celebration of the U.S. Senate being covered by C-SPAN2.

I have come to the floor countless times since my first term in the U.S. Senate, beginning in 1981. It is a privilege to represent Iowans and my home State here in the greatest deliberative body in the world.

For more than four decades and counting, I have joined my colleagues here in this Chamber to debate public policy, shed light on wrongdoing, and celebrate historic milestones. I have cast votes on behalf of Iowans, given my assent or dissent to nominations and legislation on matters both foreign and domestic on issues from A to Z.

For a period of time spanning more than 27 years, I held the longest voting streak in Senate history. My 8,927 consecutive rollcall votes ended in November of 2020, when I was quarantined for exposure to COVID-19.

My good friend from Maine Senator SUSAN COLLINS now holds the baton, as she continues her unbroken voting streak since she was sworn into office in 1997.

During the 116th Congress and now the 119th Congress, I am honored to serve as Senate President pro tempore. From this leadership position, I open the Senate daily, lead the Pledge of Allegiance, and often take the opportunity to deliver brief remarks during what we call morning business.

Since 1986, every minute of the people's business conducted here in the Senate Chamber has been made available live to the public, from memorable moments—including televising 16 Supreme Court nomination debates and 3 Presidential impeachment trials—to subjects that are often very mundane.

Thanks to C-SPAN2, this public service allows our constituents to see the swearing-in of newly elected Members, watch all-night sessions during votearamas, and tune in to history being made.

Speaking of the historic moments, it was 39 years ago today, June 2, when C-SPAN2 started its gavel-to-gavel coverage of the U.S. Senate. That was 7 years after C-SPAN started broadcasting live coverage of the U.S. House of Representatives in 1979. At that time, I was a Member of the House and appreciated C-SPAN's mission to foster civic engagement and let the sun shine in on the people's business.

So, today, I wish C-SPAN2 a happy birthday and thank those who are dedicated to its mission to bring the people's business to the people of our country.

C-SPAN does not receive one penny of taxpayer dollars. It is funded primarily from satellite and cable providers.

Senator KLOBUCHAR of Minnesota and I have introduced a bipartisan resolution to recognize C-SPAN2 and the public service it provides the American people through its live, nonpartisan coverage. Our resolution calls for television providers, including streaming services, to make C-SPAN public affairs programming available to all Americans in realtime on all platforms.

For tens of millions of Americans who have cut the cord and get their content from streaming services, they should not be cut off from the civic content made available by C-SPAN. C-

SPAN gives our constituents a front-row seat to the legislative branch, providing unfiltered access to debates and deliberations that impact their lives and their livelihoods.

C-SPAN2 has recorded more than 43,830 hours of Senate sessions that span the spectrum of political views, policy debates, and personal testimony, including more than 169,000 speeches. It has documented more than 23,439 rollcall votes, providing a live testimonial of Senate decision making. Its coverage helps hold elected officials accountable to our constituents, who are able to see every rollcall vote as it actually happens.

And it just so happens, on C-SPAN2's inaugural day, on June 2, 1986, I took my turn as Presiding Officer during the Senate session. I also delivered remarks to introduce a bill on human rights and free speech, issues that involved protesters outside of the then-Soviet Embassy, here in Washington, DC.

Thanks to C-SPAN, Americans can watch history unfold before their very eyes. As an advocate for civic engagement and transparency, I applaud C-SPAN's commitment to chronicling democracy in action here in the Congress.

In fact, for more than 20 years, I have pushed to allow cameras into the Federal courthouses, including the Supreme Court, to foster a better understanding of the Federal judiciary and its role in our system of checks and balances and in resolving legal disputes.

Keeping C-SPAN's cameras rolling here in Congress keeps lawmakers accountable to our constituents by providing a valuable conduit for civic engagement and civic education.

As James Madison wrote in 1822, after he had been President 10 years before—no, I better say 6 years before—some 35 years after he helped write the Constitution, he had this to say:

A popular Government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a Farce or Tragedy; or perhaps both. Knowledge will for ever govern ignorance: and a people who mean to be their own Governours, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.

C-SPAN helps arm Americans with knowledge in realtime and in a refreshing, nonpartisan lens. In this era of civil discord and polarization, C-SPAN serves the public interest, not a partisan agenda.

I encourage my colleagues to support our bipartisan resolution that Senator KLOBUCHAR and I have introduced.

And I will finish with another James Madison remark. As he noted, an engaged and educated citizenry is necessary to advance the public good and secure the longevity of our Republic.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today in the middle of a whole lot going on, concerned about the reconciliation bill that will be considered in the Senate and what it means to the people of my State and in the country.

But one of the ways that people find out what is going on here, whether they agree with us or not, is by watching us and listening to speeches. And one of the ways they do that is where? On C-SPAN.

That is what I am here to talk about today because Senator GRASSLEY and I have joined together on a resolution to celebrate the years that C-SPAN has been around in this Chamber. But it is also forward-looking in that we believe that we don't rest on our laurels in the Senate. We don't rest on our laurels with the work we do. C-SPAN doesn't rest on their laurels. And when I get to the end here, I will have a recommendation so that more people will have access to C-SPAN.

So we are celebrating 39 years of C-SPAN's coverage of the Senate. And it is worth looking back at what was going on in 1986 when it all began. Prince had recently—a Minnesotan—released his eighth album; Ronald Reagan was President; and my colleague on this resolution, CHUCK GRASSLEY, was already in the Senate.

While C-SPAN had begun airing floor activities over on the House side back in 1979, the Senate had been a tougher sell. It wasn't until someone introduced then-Senate Minority Leader Byrd as the "Speaker of the House" on a trip back home in West Virginia but gave him the wrong title—"Speaker of the House" because people were watching C-SPAN in the House, and they had no access in the Senate—that then-Senator Byrd started to think, Hmm, maybe we should have TV coverage in the Senate as well to make sure that the Senate wasn't outshined by the House. The Senate voted, and C-SPAN2 was born 39 years ago today.

According to Senator Leahy, Senators initially struggled with the lighting because they would see themselves on C-SPAN—especially one in particular that had, in Senator Leahy's words, a "terrible toupee." He never let us know who that Senator was, but I guess that person had complained to him about the C-SPAN lighting.

But Senators eventually came around to see this asset to our democracy for what it is: a way to shine sunlight on our work here in the Senate and to showcase the hard work of democracy to our constituents back at home.

While much has changed with our technology since then, C-SPAN's commitment to offering uninterrupted, unfiltered access to our debates, votes, and deliberations in the Senate has not. C-SPAN2 has recorded more than 43,000 hours of Senate sessions, capturing more than 169,000 speeches. These recordings preserve the voices of 359 different Senators, including 185 Republicans, 167 Democrats, and 7 Independents across nearly four decades of service.

These hours include memorable moments like Senator Ted Kennedy's speech in July 1987; then-Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and then-Senate

Minority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL's fireside chat about baseball in 2010; the first time Senator DUCKWORTH brought her baby to the floor after Senator Blunt and I worked to change the rules to allow parents to bring brandnew infants to the floor; Senator BOOKER's recent 24-hour recordbreaking floor speech; and debates on key legislation.

C-SPAN brought this work directly into our constituents' living rooms, as it has done for every monumental development in the Senate for the past 39 years. C-SPAN2 has also documented nearly 24,000 rollcall votes, providing the transparency and accountability our democracy needs to thrive.

That is why, on its 39th birthday, Senator GRASSLEY and I wanted to highlight how important it is for all television providers, including major streaming services like YouTube TV, owned by Google, and Hulu + Live TV, owned by Disney, to provide the American public with C-SPAN and the opportunity to see their government work on the Senate floor.

If you look at these packages with these channels, you will see so many channels, as all of us know, so many offered, but somehow omitted from those channels of YouTube, Google, and Hulu + Live TV is C-SPAN, which would allow the people of this country, for no cost, to be able to see the deliberations that go on in the House and the Senate.

Access to this live coverage on all platforms, being able to see hearings, congressional hearings, being able to see what we say is so important for the American people.

So we got used to this 39 years ago when only the House had it and the Senate thought it was too cool to do. No, no, this is our Chamber. We are not going to let any TV cameras in.

We let those TV cameras in. Well, now we are at a different stage in our history, and a lot of people are seeing their news this way. So we need to expand it and make sure we are on all of those platforms, as well as the ones we already are on.

Thank you again to Senator GRASSLEY for working with me to highlight C-SPAN's critical role, and thanks to everyone who has had a hand in C-SPAN's success. Happy birthday.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 260—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 6, 2025, AS "NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY" AND JUNE 2025 AS "NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH"**

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 260

Whereas, each year in the United States—



(1) nearly 46,000 individuals are killed and nearly 97,000 individuals are wounded by gunfire;

(2) more than 19,000 individuals are killed in homicides involving guns;

(3) nearly 26,000 individuals die by suicide using a gun; and

(4) more than 500 individuals are killed in unintentional shootings;

Whereas, since 1968, more individuals have died from guns in the United States than have died on the battlefields of all the wars in the history of the United States;

Whereas 2024 was a deadly year for the United States, with an estimated 16,700 people killed in gun homicides or nonsuicide-related shootings;

Whereas, in 2024, more than 360 people were unintentionally shot by a child under 18;

Whereas, by 1 count, in 2024, there were 503 mass shooting incidents in the United States in which at least 4 people were killed or wounded by gunfire;

Whereas nationwide, more than 87,000 military veterans died by gun suicide from 2003 to 2022;

Whereas, every year in the United States, more than 4,300 children and teens are killed by gun violence and more than 17,000 children and teens are shot and wounded;

Whereas more than 15,000 people in the United States under the age of 30 die because of gun violence annually, including Hadiya Pendleton, who, in 2013, was killed at 15 years of age in Chicago, Illinois, while standing in a park;

Whereas, on June 6, 2025, to recognize the 28th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton (born June 2, 1997), people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to—

(1) Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and

(2) the loved ones of those victims; and

Whereas June 2025 is an appropriate month to designate as “National Gun Violence Awareness Month”: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports—

(A) the designation of “National Gun Violence Awareness Month” and the goals and ideals of that month; and

(B) the designation of “National Gun Violence Awareness Day” in remembrance of the victims of gun violence; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States—

(A) to promote greater awareness of gun violence and gun safety;

(B) to wear orange, the color that hunters wear to show that they are not targets, on National Gun Violence Awareness Day;

(C) to concentrate heightened attention on gun violence during the summer months, when gun violence typically increases; and

(D) to bring community members and leaders together to discuss ways to make communities safer.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2278. Mr. BENNET proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2228 proposed by Mr. RICKETTS (for himself and Ms. LUMMIS) to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

SA 2279. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2280. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2281. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WYDEN) sub-

mitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2282. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2283. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2284. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2285. Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2286. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2287. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2288. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2289. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2290. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2291. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2292. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2278. Mr. BENNET proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2228 proposed by Mr. RICKETTS (for himself and Ms. LUMMIS) to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; as follows:

Add at the end the following:

( ) DEFINITION.—In this Act, the term “senior executive branch official” includes the President and the Vice President.

SA 2279. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. **RATE OF PAY FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1013(a)(2) of the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5493(a)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) COMPENSATION.—The rates of basic pay for all employees of the Bureau shall be set and adjusted by the Director in accordance with the General Schedule set forth in section 5332 of title 5, United States Code.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on

the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 2280. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. **REPEAL OF THE SMALL BUSINESS LOAN DATA COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 704B of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (15 U.S.C. 1691c-2) is repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) DODD-FRANK WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT.—The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (12 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) is amended—

(A) in the table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act, by striking the item relating to section 1071; and

(B) by striking section 1071 (Public Law 111-203; 124 Stat. 1056).

(2) EQUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITY ACT.—The Equal Credit Opportunity Act (15 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.) is amended—

(A) in the table of contents for such Act, by striking the item relating to section 704B; and

(B) in section 701(b) (15 U.S.C. 1691(b))—

(i) in paragraph (3), by adding “or” at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (4), by striking “; or” and inserting a period; and

(iii) by striking paragraph (5).

SA 2281. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. **EXCLUSION OF AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE DUTIES AND TARIFF-RATE QUOTAS FROM INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY ECONOMIC POWERS ACT.**

Section 203 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

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

“(c)(1) The authority granted to the President by this section does not include the authority to impose or increase a duty, or to impose a tariff-rate quota, on an article entering the United States.

“(2) The limitation under paragraph (1) does not prohibit the President from excluding all articles, or all of a certain type of article, imported from a country from entering the United States.”.

SA 2282. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. **MODIFICATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY ACT OF 2017.**

Section 1210E of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization



Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (10 U.S.C. 113 note) is amended—

- (1) in subsection (a)—
- (A) in paragraph (3)—
- (i) by striking “sufficient” and inserting “not fewer than 30”; and
- (ii) by striking “as necessary” and all that follows through “personnel;” and inserting “of whom—
- “(I) not fewer than two shall be assigned to each of—
- “(aa) the Office of the Secretary of Defense;
- “(bb) the Joint Staff;
- “(cc) the Defense Security Cooperation Agency;
- “(dd) the Department of the Army;
- “(ee) the headquarters of the Marine Corps; and
- “(ff) the United States Africa Command;
- “(gg) the United States Central Command;
- “(hh) the United States European Command;
- “(ii) the United States Indo-Pacific Command;
- “(jj) the United States Northern Command; and
- “(kk) the United States Southern Command; and
- “(II) not fewer than one shall be assigned to each of—
- “(aa) the Department of the Navy;
- “(bb) the Chief of Naval Operations;
- “(cc) the Department of the Air Force;
- “(dd) the United States Cyber Command;
- “(ee) the United States Space Command;
- “(ff) the United States Special Operations Command;

“(gg) the United States Strategic Command; and

“(hh) the United States Transportation Command.”; and

- (B) in paragraph (4)—
- (i) by striking “as appropriate;” and
- (ii) by striking “; and” and inserting “, including not fewer than 500 individual training focal points with members of the Armed Forces, Department of Defense civilian employees, and Department of Defense-contracted personnel who, in a part-time capacity, provide functional advice on implementation of that Act in the planning and conduct of directorate or division-level activities to which such members, employees, and personnel are assigned; and”; and

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

“(d) **FUNDING.**—Subject to appropriations, of the funds authorized to be appropriated in each fiscal year for operation and maintenance, Defense-wide, and available for the Defense Security Cooperation Agency for the International Security Program, the Secretary of Defense shall use not less than \$5,000,000 each fiscal year to implement the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–68; 131 Stat. 1202).”.

**SA 2283.** Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

## **TITLE II—WESTERN BALKANS**

### **SEC. 21. SHORT TITLE.—**

This title may be cited as the “Western Balkans Democracy and Prosperity Act”.

### **SEC. 22. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Western Balkans countries (the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Kosovo, Montenegro, the Republic of North Macedonia and the Republic of Serbia) form

a pluralistic, multi-ethnic region in the heart of Europe that is critical to the peace, stability, and prosperity of that continent.

(2) Continued peace, stability, and prosperity in the Western Balkans is directly tied to the opportunities for democratic and economic advancement available to the citizens and residents of those seven countries.

(3) It is in the mutual interest of the United States and the seven countries of the Western Balkans to promote stable and sustainable economic growth and development in the region.

(4) The reforms and integration with the European Union pursued by countries in the Western Balkans have led to significant democratic and economic progress in the region.

(5) Despite economic progress, rates of poverty and unemployment in the Western Balkans remain higher than in neighboring European Union countries.

(6) Out-migration, particularly of youth, is affecting demographics in each Western Balkans country, resulting in population decline in all seven countries.

(7) Implementing critical economic and governance reforms could help enable investment and employment opportunities in the Western Balkans, especially for youth, and can provide powerful tools for economic development and for encouraging broader participation in a political process that increases trade and prosperity for all.

(8) Existing regional economic efforts, such as the Common Regional Market, the Berlin Process, and the Open Balkan Initiative, could have the potential to improve the economic conditions in the Western Balkans, while promoting inclusion and transparency.

(9) The Department of Commerce, through its Foreign Commercial Service, plays an important role in promoting and facilitating opportunities for United States trade and investment.

(10) Corruption, including among key political leaders, continues to plague the Western Balkans and represents one of the greatest impediments to further economic and political development in the region.

(11) Disinformation campaigns targeting the Western Balkans undermine the credibility of its democratic institutions, including the integrity of its elections.

(12) Vulnerability to cyberattacks or attacks on information and communication technology infrastructure increases risks to the functioning of government and the delivery of public services.

(13) United States Cyber Command, the Department of State, and other Federal agencies play a critical role in defending the national security interests of the United States, including by deploying cyber hunt forward teams at the request of partner nations to reinforce their cyber defenses.

(14) Securing domestic and international cyber networks and ICT infrastructure is a national security priority for the United States, which is exemplified by offices and programs across the Federal Government that support cybersecurity.

(15) Corruption and disinformation proliferate in political environments marked by autocratic control or partisan conflict.

(16) Dependence on Russian sources of fossil fuels and natural gas for the countries of the Western Balkans ties their economies and politics to the Russian Federation and inhibits their aspirations for European integration.

(17) Reducing the reliance of the Western Balkans on Russian natural gas supplies and fossil fuels is in the national interest of the United States.

(18) The growing influence of China in the Western Balkans could also have a deleterious impact on strategic competition, de-

mocracy, and economic integration with Europe.

(19) In March 2022, President Biden launched the European Democratic Resilience Initiative to bolster democratic resilience, advance anti-corruption efforts, and defend human rights in Ukraine and its neighbors in response to Russia’s war of aggression.

(20) The parliamentary and local elections held in Serbia on December 17, 2023, and their immediate aftermath are cause for deep concern about the state of Serbia’s democracy, including due to the final report of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe’s Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, which—

(A) found “unjust conditions” for the election;

(B) found “numerous procedural deficiencies, including inconsistent application of safeguards during voting and counting, frequent instances of overcrowding, breaches in secrecy of the vote, and numerous instances of group voting”; and

(C) asserted that “voting must be repeated” in certain polling stations.

(21) The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe also noted that Serbian officials accused primarily peaceful protestors, opposition parties, and civil society of “attempting to destabilize the government”, a concerning allegation that threatens the safety of important elements of Serbian society.

(22) Democratic countries whose values are in alignment with the United States make for stronger and more durable partnerships.

### **SEC. 23. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

It is a sense of Congress that the United States should—

(1) encourage increased trade and investment between the United States and allies and partners in the Western Balkans;

(2) expand United States assistance to regional integration efforts in the Western Balkans;

(3) strengthen and expand regional economic integration in the Western Balkans, especially enterprises owned by and employing women and youth;

(4) work with allies and partners committed to improving the rule of law, energy resource diversification, democratic and economic reform, and the reduction of poverty in the Western Balkans;

(5) increase United States trade and investment with the Western Balkans, particularly in ways that support countries’ efforts—

(A) to decrease dependence on Russian energy sources and fossil fuels;

(B) to increase energy diversification, efficiency, and conservation; and

(C) to facilitate the transition to cleaner and more reliable sources of energy, including renewables, as appropriate;

(6) continue to assist in the development, within the Western Balkans, of—

(A) strong civil societies;

(B) public-private partnerships;

(C) independent media;

(D) transparent, accountable, citizen-responsive governance, including equal representation for women and youth;

(E) political stability; and

(F) modern, free-market based economies.

(7) support the expeditious accession of those Western Balkans countries that are not already members to the European Union and to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (referred to in this section as “NATO”) for countries that desire and are eligible for such membership;

(8) support—

(A) maintaining the full European Union Force (EUFOR) mandate in Bosnia and Herzegovina as being in the national security interests of the United States;

(B) encouraging NATO and the European Union to review their mission mandates and posture in Bosnia and Herzegovina to ensure they are playing a proactive role in establishing a safe and secure environment, particularly in the realm of defense;

(C) working within NATO to encourage contingency planning for an international military force to maintain a safe and secure environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially if Russia blocks reauthorization of the mission in the United Nations; and

(D) a strengthened NATO headquarters in Sarajevo;

(9) continue to support the European Union membership aspirations of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia by supporting meeting the benchmarks required for their accession;

(10) continue to support the overarching mission of the Berlin Process and locally-driven initiatives that are inclusive of all Western Balkans countries and remains aligned with the objectives and standards laid out by the European Union as requirements for accession to the European Union;

(11) continue to support the cultural heritage, and recognize the languages, of the Western Balkans;

(12) coordinate closely with the European Union, the United Kingdom, and other allies and partners on sanctions designations in Western Balkans countries and work to align efforts as much as possible to demonstrate a clear commitment to upholding democratic values;

(13) expand bilateral security cooperation with non-NATO member Western Balkans countries, particularly efforts focused on regional integration and cooperation, including through the Adriatic Charter, which was launched at Tirana on May 2, 2003;

(14) increase efforts to combat Russian malign influence campaigns and any other destabilizing or disruptive activities targeting the Western Balkans through engagement with government institutions, political stakeholders, journalists, civil society organizations, and industry leaders;

(15) develop a series of cyber resilience standards, consistent with the Enhanced Cyber Defence Policy and Readiness Action Plan endorsed at the 2014 Wales Summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to expand cooperation with partners and allies, including in the Western Balkans, on cyber security and ICT infrastructure;

(16) articulate clearly and unambiguously the United States commitment to supporting democratic values and respect for international law as the sole path forward for the countries of the Western Balkans; and

(17) prioritize partnerships and programming with Western Balkan countries that demonstrate commitment toward strengthening their democracies and show respect for human rights.

#### SEC. 24. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

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

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) **ICT.**—The term “ICT” means information and communication technology.

(3) **WESTERN BALKANS.**—The term “Western Balkans” means the region comprised of the following countries:

(A) The Republic of Albania.

(B) Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(C) The Republic of Croatia.

(D) The Republic of Kosovo.

(E) Montenegro.

(F) The Republic of North Macedonia.

(G) The Republic of Serbia.

(4) **WESTERN BALKANS COUNTRY.**—The term “Western Balkans country” means any country listed in subparagraphs (A) through (G) of paragraph (3).

#### SEC. 25. CODIFICATION OF SANCTIONS RELATING TO THE WESTERN BALKANS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Each person listed or designated for the imposition of sanctions under an executive order described in subsection (c) as of the date of the enactment of this Act shall remain so designated, except as provided in subsections (d) and (e).

(b) **CONTINUATION OF SANCTIONS AUTHORITIES.**—Each authority to impose sanctions provided for under an executive order described in subsection (c) shall remain in effect.

(c) **EXECUTIVE ORDERS SPECIFIED.**—The executive orders specified in this subsection are—

(1) Executive Order 13219, as amended by Executive Order 13304 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property of persons who threaten international stabilization efforts in the Western Balkans); and

(2) Executive Order 14033 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property and suspending entry into the United States of certain persons contributing to the destabilizing situation in the Western Balkans), as in effect on such date of enactment.

(d) **TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.**—The President may terminate the application of a sanction described in subsection (a) with respect to a person if the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that such person—

(1) has not engaged in the activity that was the basis for such sanctions, if applicable, during the two-year period immediately preceding such termination date; or

(2) otherwise no longer meets the criteria that was the basis for such sanctions.

(e) **WAIVER.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may waive the application of sanctions under this section for renewable periods not to exceed 180 days if the President—

(A) determines that such a waiver is in the national security interests of the United States; and

(B) not less than 15 days before the granting of the waiver, submits to the appropriate congressional committees a notice of and justification for the waiver.

(2) **FORM.**—The waiver described in paragraph (1) may be transmitted in classified form.

(f) **EXCEPTIONS.**—

(1) **HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.**—Sanctions under this title shall not apply to—

(A) the conduct or facilitation of a transaction for the provision of agricultural commodities, food, medicine, medical devices, humanitarian assistance, or for humanitarian purposes; or

(B) transactions that are necessary for, or related to, the activities described in subparagraph (A).

(2) **COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.**—Sanctions under this title shall not apply with respect to an alien if admitting or paroling such alien is necessary—

(A) to comply with United States obligations under—

(i) the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947;

(ii) the Convention on Consular Relations, done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered into force March 19, 1967; or

(iii) any other international agreement; or

(B) to carry out or assist law enforcement activity in the United States.

(3) **EXCEPTION FOR INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.**—Sanctions under this title shall not apply to—

(A) any activity subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.); or

(B) any authorized intelligence activities of the United States.

(4) **EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The requirement to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property under this title shall not include the authority or a requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(B) **DEFINED TERM.**—In this paragraph, the term “good” means any article, natural or manmade substance, material, supply or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment, and excluding technical data.

(g) **RULEMAKING.**—The President is authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section (which may include regulatory exceptions), including under section 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1704).

(h) **SUNSET.**—This section shall cease to have force or effect beginning on the date that is 8 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### SEC. 26. DEMOCRATIC AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPERITY INITIATIVES.

(a) **ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE.**—The Secretary of State, through ongoing and new programs, shall develop an initiative that—

(1) seeks to expand technical assistance in each Western Balkans country, taking into account local conditions and contingent on the agreement of the host country government to develop new national anti-corruption strategies;

(2) seeks to share best practices with, and provide training to, civilian law enforcement agencies and judicial institutions, and other relevant administrative bodies, of the Western Balkans countries, to improve the efficiency, transparency, and accountability of such agencies and institutions;

(3) strengthens existing national anti-corruption strategies—

(A) to combat political corruption, particularly in the judiciary, independent election oversight bodies, and public procurement processes; and

(B) to strengthen regulatory and legislative oversight of critical governance areas, such as freedom of information and public procurement, including by strengthening cyber defenses and ICT infrastructure networks;

(4) includes the Western Balkans countries in the European Democratic Resilience Initiative of the Department of State, or any equivalent successor initiative, and considers the Western Balkans as a recipient of anti-corruption funding for such initiative; and

(5) seeks to promote the important role of an independent media in countering corruption through engagements with governments of Western Balkan countries and providing training opportunities for journalists on investigative reporting.

(b) **PRIORITIZING CYBER RESILIENCE, REGIONAL TRADE, AND ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS.**—

(1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(A) promoting stronger economic, civic, and political relationships among Western Balkans countries will enable countries to better utilize existing resources and maximize their economic security and democratic resilience by reinforcing cyber defenses and increasing trade in goods and services among other countries in the region; and

(B) United States investments in and assistance toward creating a more integrated region ensures political stability and security for the region.

(2) 5-YEAR STRATEGY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRATIC RESILIENCE IN WESTERN BALKANS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a regional economic development and democratic resilience strategy for the Western Balkans that complements the efforts of the European Union, European nations, and other multilateral financing institutions—

(A) to consider the full set of tools and resources available from the relevant agencies;

(B) to include efforts to ensure coordination with multilateral and bilateral partners, such as the European Union, the World Bank, and other relevant assistance frameworks;

(C) to include an initial public assessment of—

(i) economic opportunities for which United States businesses, or those of other like-minded partner countries, would be competitive;

(ii) legal, economic, governance, infrastructural, or other barriers limiting United States trade and investment in the Western Balkans;

(iii) the effectiveness of all existing regional cooperation initiatives, such as the Open Balkan initiative and the Western Balkans Common Regional Market; and

(iv) ways to increase United States trade and investment within the Western Balkans;

(D) to develop human and institutional capacity and infrastructure across multiple sectors of economies, including clean energy, energy efficiency, agriculture, small and medium-sized enterprise development, health, and cyber-security;

(E) to assist with the development and implementation of regional and international trade agreements;

(F) to support women-owned enterprises;

(G) to promote government and civil society policies and programs that combat corruption and encourage transparency (including by supporting independent media by promoting the safety and security of journalists), free and fair competition, sound governance, judicial reform, environmental stewardship, and business environments conducive to sustainable and inclusive economic growth; and

(H) to include a public diplomacy strategy that describes the actions that will be taken by relevant agencies to increase support for the United States relationship by citizens of Western Balkans countries.

(3) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall provide a briefing to the appropriate congressional committees that describes the progress made towards developing the strategy required under paragraph (2).

(C) REGIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United

States Agency for International Development, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, may coordinate a regional trade and development initiative for the region comprised of each Western Balkans country and any European Union member country that shares a border with a Western Balkans country (referred to in this subsection as the “Western Balkans region”) in accordance with this subsection.

(2) INITIATIVE ELEMENTS.—The initiative authorized under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) promote private sector growth and competitiveness and increase the capacity of businesses, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, in the Western Balkans region;

(B) aim to increase intraregional exports to countries in the Balkans and European Union member states;

(C) aim to increase United States exports to, and investments in, countries in the Balkans;

(D) support startup companies, including companies led by youth or women, in the Western Balkans region by—

(i) providing training in business skills and leadership; and

(ii) providing opportunities to connect to sources of capital;

(E) encourage and promote inward and outward trade and investment through engagement with the Western Balkans diaspora communities in the United States and abroad;

(F) provide assistance to the governments and civil society organizations of Western Balkans countries to develop—

(i) regulations to ensure fair and effective investment; and

(ii) screening tools to identify and deter malign investments and other coercive economic practices;

(G) review existing assistance programming relating to the Western Balkans across Federal agencies—

(i) to eliminate duplication; and

(ii) to identify areas of potential coordination within the Western Balkans region;

(H) identify areas where application of additional resources could expand successful programs to 1 or more countries in the Western Balkans region by building on the existing experience and program architecture;

(I) compare existing single-country sector analyses to determine areas of focus that would benefit from a regional approach with respect to the Western Balkans region; and

(J) promote intraregional trade throughout the Western Balkans region through—

(i) programming, including grants, cooperative agreements, and other forms of assistance;

(ii) expanding awareness of the availability of loans and other financial instruments from the United States Government; and

(iii) coordinating access to existing trade instruments available through allies and partners in the Western Balkans region, including the European Union and international financial institutions.

(3) SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.—The initiative authorized under paragraph (1) should facilitate and prioritize support for regional infrastructure projects, including—

(A) transportation projects that build roads, bridges, railways and other physical infrastructure to facilitate travel of goods and people throughout the Western Balkans region;

(B) technical support and investments needed to meet United States and European Union standards for air travel, including screening and information sharing;

(C) the development of telecommunications networks with trusted providers;

(D) infrastructure projects that connect Western Balkans countries to each other and to countries with which they share a border;

(E) the effective analysis of tenders and transparent procurement processes;

(F) investment transparency programs that will help countries in the Western Balkans analyze gaps and establish institutional and regulatory reforms necessary—

(i) to create an enabling environment for trade and investment; and

(ii) to strengthen protections against suspect investments through public procurement and privatization and through foreign direct investments;

(G) sharing best practices learned from the United States and other international partners to ensure that institutional and regulatory mechanisms for addressing these issues are fair, nonarbitrary, effective, and free from corruption;

(H) projects that support regional energy security and reduce dependence on Russian energy;

(I) technical assistance and generating private investment in projects that promote connectivity and energy-sharing in the Western Balkans region;

(J) technical assistance to support regional collaboration on environmental protection that includes governmental, political, civic, and business stakeholders; and

(K) technical assistance to develop financing options and help create linkages with potential financing institutions and investors.

(4) REQUIREMENTS.—All programming under the initiative authorized under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be open to the participation of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia;

(B) be consistent with European Union accession requirements;

(C) be focused on retaining talent within the Western Balkans;

(D) promote government policies in Western Balkans countries that encourage free and fair competition, sound governance, environmental protection, and business environments that are conducive to sustainable and inclusive economic growth; and

(E) include a public diplomacy strategy to inform local and regional audiences in the Western Balkans region about the initiative, including specific programs and projects.

(d) UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION.—

(1) APPOINTMENTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, subject to the availability of appropriations, the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, in collaboration with the Secretary of State, should consider including a regional office with responsibilities for the Western Balkans within the Corporation's plans to open new regional offices.

(2) JOINT REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall submit a joint report to the appropriate congressional committees that includes—

(A) an assessment of the benefits of providing sovereign loan guarantees to countries in the Western Balkans to support infrastructure and energy diversification projects;

(B) an outline of additional resources, such as tools, funding, and personnel, which may be required to offer sovereign loan guarantees in the Western Balkans; and

(C) an assessment of how the United States International Development Finance Corporation can deploy its insurance products in

support of bonds or other instruments issued to raise capital through United States financial markets in the Western Balkans.

**SEC. 27. PROMOTING CROSS-CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL ENGAGEMENT.**

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) promoting partnerships between United States universities and universities in the Western Balkans, particularly universities in traditionally under-served communities, advances United States foreign policy goals and requires a whole-of-government approach, including the utilization of public-private partnerships;

(2) such university partnerships would provide opportunities for exchanging academic ideas, technical expertise, research, and cultural understanding for the benefit of the United States; and

(3) the seven countries in the Western Balkans meet the requirements under section 105(c)(4) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151c(c)(4)).

(b) UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS.—The President, working through the Secretary of State, is authorized to provide assistance, consistent with section 105 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151c), to promote the establishment of partnerships between United States universities and universities in the Western Balkans, including—

(1) supporting research and analysis on foreign policy, cyber resilience, and disinformation;

(2) working with partner governments to reform policies, improve curricula, strengthen data systems, train teachers and students, including English language teaching, and to provide quality, inclusive learning materials;

(3) encouraging knowledge exchanges to help provide individuals, particularly at-risk youth, women, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable, marginalized, or underserved communities, with relevant education, training, and skills for meaningful employment;

(4) promoting teaching and research exchanges between institutions of higher education in the Western Balkans and in the United States; and

(5) encouraging alliances and exchanges with like-minded institutions of education within the Western Balkans and the larger European continent.

**SEC. 28. PEACE CORPS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS.**

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Peace Corps, whose mission is to promote world peace and friendship, in part by helping the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women, provides an invaluable opportunity to connect the people of the United States with the people of the Western Balkans.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Peace Corps shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that includes an analysis of current opportunities for Peace Corps expansion in the Western Balkans region.

**SEC. 29. YOUNG BALKAN LEADERS INITIATIVE.**

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that regular people-to-people exchange programs that bring religious leaders, journalists, civil society members, politicians, and other individuals from the Western Balkans to the United States will strengthen existing relationships and advance United States interests and shared values in the Western Balkans region.

(b) BOLD LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FOR YOUNG BALKANS LEADERS.—

(1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—The Department of State, through BOLD (a leadership pro-

gram for young leaders in certain Western Balkans countries), plays an important role to develop young leaders in improving civic engagement and economic development in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, and Montenegro.

(2) EXPANSION.—BOLD should be expanded, subject to the availability of appropriations, to the entire Western Balkans region.

(c) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary of State should further develop and implement BOLD, which shall hereafter be known as the “Young Balkan Leaders Initiative”, to promote educational and professional development for young adult leaders and professionals in the Western Balkans who have demonstrated a passion to contribute to the continued development of the Western Balkans region.

(d) CONDUCT OF INITIATIVE.—The goals of the Young Balkan Leaders Initiative shall be—

(1) to further build the capacity of young Balkan leaders in the Western Balkans in the areas of business and information technology, cyber security and digitization, agriculture, civic engagement, and public administration;

(2) to support young Balkan leaders by offering professional development, training, and networking opportunities, particularly in the areas of leadership, innovation, civic engagement, elections, human rights, entrepreneurship, good governance, public administration, and journalism;

(3) to support young political, parliamentary, and civic Balkan leaders in collaboration on regional initiatives related to good governance, environmental protection, government ethics, and minority inclusion;

(4) to provide increased economic and technical assistance to young Balkan leaders to promote economic growth and strengthen ties between businesses, investors, and entrepreneurs in the United States and in Western Balkans countries;

(5) to tailor such assistance to advance the particular objectives of each United States mission in the Western Balkans within the framework outlined in this subsection; and

(6) to secure funding for such assistance from existing funds available to each United States Mission in the Western Balkans.

(e) FELLOWSHIPS.—Under the Young Balkan Leaders Initiative, the Secretary of State shall award fellowships to young leaders from the Western Balkans who—

(1) are between 18 and 35 years of age;

(2) have demonstrated strong capabilities in entrepreneurship, innovation, public service, and leadership;

(3) have had a positive impact in their communities, organizations, or institutions, including by promoting cross-regional and multiethnic cooperation; and

(4) represent a cross-section of geographic, gender, political, and cultural diversity.

(f) PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP CENTER.—Under the Young Balkan Leaders Initiative, the Secretary of State shall take advantage of existing and future public diplomacy facilities (commonly known as “American Spaces”) to hire staff and develop programming for the establishment of a flagship public engagement and leadership center in the Western Balkans that seeks—

(1) to counter disinformation and malign influence;

(2) to promote cross-cultural engagement;

(3) to provide training for young leaders from Western Balkans countries described in subsection (e);

(4) to harmonize the efforts of existing venues throughout Western Balkans countries established by the Office of American Spaces; and

(5) to annually bring together participants from the Young Balkan Leaders Initiative

to provide platforms for regional networking.

(g) BRIEFING ON CERTAIN EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall provide a briefing to the appropriate congressional committees that describes the status of exchange programs involving the Western Balkans region.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The briefing required under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) assess the factors constraining the number and frequency of participants from Western Balkans countries in the International Visitor Leadership Program of the Department of State;

(B) identify the resources that are necessary to address the factors described in subparagraph (A); and

(C) describe a strategy for connecting alumni and participants of professional development exchange programs of the Department of State in the Western Balkans with alumni and participants from other countries in Europe, to enhance inter-region and intra-region people-to-people ties.

**SEC. 30. SUPPORTING CYBERSECURITY AND CYBER RESILIENCE IN THE WESTERN BALKANS.**

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) United States support for cybersecurity, cyber resilience, and secure ICT infrastructure in Western Balkans countries will strengthen the region's ability to defend itself from and respond to malicious cyber activity conducted by nonstate and foreign actors, including foreign governments, that seek to influence the region;

(2) insecure ICT networks that are vulnerable to manipulation can increase opportunities for—

(A) the compromise of cyber infrastructure, including data networks, electronic infrastructure, and software systems; and

(B) the use of online information operations by adversaries and malign actors to undermine United States allies and interests; and

(3) it is in the national security interest of the United States to support the cybersecurity and cyber resilience of Western Balkans countries.

(b) INTERAGENCY REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY AND THE DIGITAL INFORMATION ENVIRONMENT IN WESTERN BALKANS COUNTRIES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that contains—

(1) an overview of interagency efforts to strengthen cybersecurity and cyber resilience in Western Balkans countries;

(2) a review of the information environment in each Western Balkans country;

(3) a review of existing United States Government cyber and digital initiatives that—

(A) counter influence operations and safeguard elections and democratic processes in Western Balkans countries;

(B) strengthen ICT infrastructure and cybersecurity capacity in the Western Balkans;

(C) support democracy and internet freedom in Western Balkans countries; and

(D) build cyber capacity of governments who are allies or partners of the United States;

(4) an assessment of cyber threat information sharing between the United States and Western Balkans countries;

(5) an assessment of—

(A) options for the United States to better support cybersecurity and cyber resilience in

Western Balkans countries through changes to current assistance authorities; and

(B) the advantages or limitations, such as funding or office space, of posting cyber professionals from other Federal departments and agencies to United States diplomatic posts in Western Balkans countries and providing relevant training to Foreign Service Officers; and

(6) any additional support needed from the United States for the cybersecurity and cyber resilience of the following NATO Allies: Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Croatia.

#### **SEC. 31. RELATIONS BETWEEN KOSOVO AND SERBIA.**

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Agreement on the Path to Normalization of Relations, which was agreed to by Kosovo and Serbia on February 27, 2023, with the facilitation of the European Union, is a positive step forward in advancing normalization between the two countries;

(2) Serbia and Kosovo should seek to make immediate progress on the Implementation Annex to the agreement referred to in paragraph (1);

(3) once sufficient progress has been made on the Implementation Annex, the United States should consider advancing initiatives to strengthen bilateral relations with both countries, which could include—

(A) establishing bilateral strategic dialogues with Kosovo and Serbia; and

(B) advancing concrete initiatives to deepen trade and investment with both countries; and

(4) the United States should continue to support a comprehensive final agreement between Kosovo and Serbia based on mutual recognition.

(b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States Government that—

(1) it shall not pursue any policy that advocates for land swaps, partition, or other forms of redrawing borders along ethnic lines in the Western Balkans as a means to arbitrate disputes between nation states in the region; and

(2) it should support pluralistic democracies in countries in the Western Balkans as a means to prevent a return to the ethnic strife that once characterized the region.

#### **SEC. 32. REPORTS ON RUSSIAN AND CHINESE MALIGN INFLUENCE OPERATIONS AND CAMPAIGNS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS.**

(a) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the heads of other Federal departments or agencies, as appropriate, shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees regarding Russian and Chinese malign influence operations and campaigns carried out with respect to Balkan countries that seek—

(1) to undermine democratic institutions;

(2) to promote political instability; and

(3) to harm the interests of the United States and North Atlantic Treaty Organization member and partner states in the Western Balkans.

(b) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an assessment of the objectives of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China regarding malign influence operations and campaigns carried out with respect to Western Balkans countries—

(A) to undermine democratic institutions, including the planning and execution of democratic elections;

(B) to promote political instability; and

(C) to manipulate the information environment;

(2) the activities and roles of the Department of State and other relevant Federal agencies in countering Russian and Chinese malign influence operations and campaigns;

(3) a comprehensive list identifying—

(A) each network, entity and individual, to the extent such information is available, of Russia, China, or any other country with which Russia or China may cooperate, that is supporting such Russian or Chinese malign influence operations or campaigns, including the provision of financial or operational support to activities in a Western Balkans country that may limit freedom of speech or create barriers of access to democratic processes, including exercising the right to vote in a free and fair election; and

(B) the role of each such entity in providing such support;

(4) the identification of the tactics, techniques, and procedures used in Russian or Chinese malign influence operations and campaigns in Western Balkans countries;

(5) an assessment of the effect of previous Russian or Chinese malign influence operations and campaigns that targeted alliances and partnerships of the United States Armed Forces in the Western Balkans, including the effectiveness of such operations and campaigns in achieving the objectives of Russia and China, respectively;

(6) the identification of each Western Balkans country with respect to which Russia or China has conducted or attempted to conduct a malign influence operation or campaign;

(7) an assessment of the capacity and efforts of NATO and of each individual Western Balkans country to counter Russian or Chinese malign influence operations and campaigns carried out with respect to Western Balkans countries;

(8) the efforts by the United States to combat such malign influence operations in the Western Balkans, including through the Countering Russian Influence Fund and the Countering People's Republic of China Malign Influence Fund;

(9) an assessment of the tactics, techniques, and procedures that the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense, determines are likely to be used in future Russian or Chinese malign influence operations and campaigns carried out with respect to Western Balkans countries; and

(10) recommended authorities or activities that the Department of State and other relevant Federal agencies could enact to increase the United States Government's capacity to counter Russian and Chinese malign influence operations and campaigns in Western Balkans countries.

(c) FORM.—Each report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

**SA 2284.** Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

#### **TITLE II—SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY IN THE REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA**

##### **SEC. 21. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the “Mobilizing and Enhancing Georgia's Options for Building Accountability, Resilience, and Independence Act”.

##### **SEC. 22. DEFINITIONS.**

In this title:

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

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) GEORGIA.—The term “Georgia” means the Republic of Georgia.

(3) NATO.—The term “NATO” means the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of State.

##### **SEC. 23. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the progress made by the people of Georgia in forging an innovative and productive society since the country's independence from the Soviet Union should be applauded;

(2) the consolidation of democracy in Georgia is critical for regional stability and United States national interests;

(3) Georgia has seen significant democratic backsliding in recent years, as evidenced by numerous independent assessments and measures;

(4) the current Government of Georgia is increasingly hostile towards independent domestic civil society and its chief Euro-Atlantic partners while increasingly embracing enhanced ties with the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China, and other anti-Western authoritarian regimes;

(5) the United States has an interest in protecting and securing democracy in Georgia; and

(6) the Secretary should suspend the United States-Georgia Strategic Partnership Commission, established through the United States-Georgia Charter on Strategic Partnership on January 9, 2009, until after the Government of Georgia takes measures—

(A) to represent the democratic wishes of the citizens of Georgia; and

(B) to uphold its constitutional obligation to advance the country towards membership in the European Union and NATO.

##### **SEC. 24. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to support the constitutionally stated aspirations of Georgia to become a member of the European Union and NATO, which—

(A) is made clear under Article 78 of the Constitution of Georgia; and

(B) is supported by the overwhelming majority of the citizens of Georgia;

(2) to continue supporting the capacity of the Government of Georgia to protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity from further Russian aggression or encroachment within its internationally recognized borders;

(3) to call on all political parties and elected Members of the Parliament of Georgia to continue working on addressing the reform plan outlined by the European Commission to resume Georgia's recently granted candidate status through an inclusive and transparent consultation process that involves opposition parties and civil society organizations, which the people of Georgia have freely elected to pursue;

(4) to reevaluate its relationship with the Government of Georgia and review all forms of foreign and security assistance made available to the Government if it takes the required steps—

(A) to reorient itself toward its European Union accession agenda; and

(B) to advance policy or legislation reflecting the express wishes of the Georgian people;

(5) to emphasize the importance of contributing to international efforts—

(A) to combat Russian aggression, including through sanctions on trade with Russia

and the implementation and enforcement of worldwide sanctions on Russia; and

(B) to reduce, rather than increase, trade ties between Georgia and Russia;

(6) to continue supporting the ongoing development of democratic values in Georgia, including free and fair elections, freedom of association, an independent and accountable judiciary, an independent media, public-sector transparency and accountability, the rule of law, countering malign influence, and anti-corruption efforts, and to impose swift consequences on individuals who are directly responsible for leading or have directly and knowingly engaged in leading actions of policies that significantly undermine those standards;

(7) to continue to support the Georgian people and civil society organizations that reflect the aspirations of the Georgian people for democracy and a future with the people of Europe;

(8) to continue supporting the right of the Georgian people to freely engage in peaceful protest, determine their future, and make independent and sovereign choices on foreign and security policy, including regarding Georgia's relationship with other countries and international organizations, without interference, intimidation, or coercion by other countries or those acting on their behalf;

(9) to call on all political parties, elected Members of the Parliament of Georgia, and officers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia to respect the freedoms of peaceful assembly, association, and expression, including for the press, and the rule of law, and encourage a vibrant and inclusive civil society;

(10) to call on the Government of Georgia to release all persons detained or imprisoned on politically motivated grounds and drop any pending charges against them;

(11) to call on the Government of Georgia to thoroughly investigate all allegations emerging from the recent national elections, which took place on October 26, 2024, make a determination whether the elections should be judged as illegitimate and hold those responsible for interference in the elections; and

(12) to continue impressing upon the Government of Georgia that the United States is committed to sustaining and deepening bilateral relations and supporting Georgia's Euro-Atlantic aspirations.

#### SEC. 25. REPORTS AND BRIEFINGS.

(a) **DEFINED TERM.**—In this section, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(2) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(4) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(5) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

(6) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(b) **REPORT ON RUSSIAN INTELLIGENCE ASSETS IN GEORGIA.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a classified report, prepared consistent with the protection of sources and methods, examining the penetration of Russian intelligence elements and their assets in Georgia, that includes an annex examining Chinese influence and the potential intersection of Russian-Chinese cooperation in Georgia.

(c) **5-YEAR UNITED STATES STRATEGY FOR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH GEORGIA.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed strategy that—

(A) outlines specific objectives for enhancing bilateral ties which reflect the current domestic political environment in Georgia;

(B) includes a determination of the tools, resources, and funding that should be available to achieve the objectives outlined pursuant to subparagraph (A) and an assessment whether Georgia should remain the second-highest recipient of United States funding in the Europe and Eurasia region;

(C) includes a determination of the extent to which the United States should continue to invest in its partnership with Georgia;

(D) includes a plan for how the United States can continue to support civil society and independent media organizations in Georgia; and

(E) includes a determination whether the Government of Georgia remains committed to expanding trade ties with the United States and Europe and whether the United States Government should continue to invest in Georgian projects.

(2) **FORM.**—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, with a classified annex.

#### SEC. 26. SANCTIONS.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ADMISSION, ADMITTED, ALIEN.**—The terms “admission”, “admitted”, and “alien” have the meanings given such terms in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

(2) **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

(3) **FOREIGN PERSON.**—The term “foreign person” means any individual or entity that is not a United States person.

(4) **IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS.**—The term “immediate family members” has the meaning given the term “immediate relatives” in section 201(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(b)(2)(A)(i)).

(5) **KNOWINGLY.**—The term “knowingly”, with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(6) **UNITED STATES PERSON.**—The term “United States person” means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States;

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity; and

(C) any person within the United States.

(b) **INADMISSIBILITY OF OFFICIALS OF GOVERNMENT OF GEORGIA AND CERTAIN OTHER INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN BLOCKING EURO-ATLANTIC INTEGRATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,

the President shall determine whether each of the following foreign persons has knowingly engaged in significant acts of corruption, or acts of violence or intimidation in relation to the blocking of Euro-Atlantic integration in Georgia:

(A) Any individual who, on or after January 1, 2014, has served as a member of the Parliament of the Government of Georgia or as a current or former senior official of a Georgian political party.

(B) Any individual who is serving as an official in a leadership position working on behalf of the Government of Georgia, including law enforcement, intelligence, judicial, or local or municipal government.

(C) An immediate family member of an official described in subparagraph (A) or a person described in subparagraph (B) who benefitted from the conduct of such official or person.

(2) **SANCTIONS.**—The President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (d)(2) with respect to each foreign person with respect to which the President has made an affirmative decision under paragraph (1).

(3) **BRIEFING.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall brief the appropriate committees of Congress with respect to—

(A) any foreign person with respect to which the President has made an affirmative determination under paragraph (1); and

(B) the specific facts that justify each such affirmative determination.

(4) **WAIVER.**—The President may waive the imposition of sanctions under this subsection, on a case-by-case basis, if the President determines and reports to the appropriate committees of Congress that—

(A) such waiver would serve national security interests; or

(B) the circumstances which caused the individual to be ineligible have sufficiently changed.

(c) **IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO UNDERMINING PEACE, SECURITY, STABILITY, SOVEREIGNTY OR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF GEORGIA.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may impose the sanctions described in subsection (d)(1) and shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (d)(2) with respect to each foreign person the President determines, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(A) is responsible for, complicit in, or has directly or indirectly engaged in or attempted to engage in, actions or policies, including ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing acts that are intended to undermine the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Georgia;

(B) is or has been a leader or official of an entity that has, or whose members have, engaged in any activity described in subparagraph (A); or

(C) is an immediate family member of a person subject to sanctions for conduct described in subparagraph (A) or (B) and benefitted from the conduct of such person.

(2) **BRIEF AND WRITTEN NOTIFICATION.**—Not later than 10 days after imposing sanctions on a foreign person or persons pursuant to this subsection, the President shall brief and provide written notification to the appropriate committees of Congress regarding the imposition of such sanctions, which shall describe—

(A) the foreign person or persons subject to the imposition of such sanctions;

(B) the activity justifying the imposition of such sanctions; and

(C) the specific sanctions imposed on such foreign person or persons.

(3) **WAIVER.**—The President may waive the application of sanctions under this subsection with respect to a foreign person for renewable periods not to exceed 180 days if,



not later than 15 days before the date on which such waiver is to take effect, the President submits to the appropriate committees of Congress a written determination and justification that the waiver is in the national security interests of the United States.

(d) **SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**—The sanctions described in this subsection, with respect to a foreign person described in subsection (b) or (c), are the following:

(1) **BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.**—Notwithstanding the requirements under section 202 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701), the President shall exercise all authorities granted under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in property and interests in property of the foreign person if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) **INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.**—

(A) **VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.**—A foreign person that is an alien shall be—

(i) inadmissible to the United States;

(ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and

(iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(B) **CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—The foreign person shall be subject to revocation of any visa or other entry documentation regardless of when the visa or other entry documentation is or was issued.

(ii) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—Each revocation under clause (i) shall take effect immediately and automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the foreign person's possession.

(e) **IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.**—

(1) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this section.

(2) **PENALTIES.**—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of subsection (d)(2)(A) or any regulation, license, or order issued under that subsection shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of such section.

(3) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this title, or in any amendment made by this title, may be construed to limit the authority of the President to designate or sanction persons pursuant to an applicable Executive order or otherwise pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).

(f) **RULEMAKING.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary for the implementation of this section.

(2) **NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 10 days before prescribing regulations pursuant to paragraph (1), the President shall notify the appropriate committees of Congress of the proposed regulations and the provisions of this section that the regulations are implementing.

(g) **SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO BROADER CORRUPTION IN GEORGIA.**—

(1) **DETERMINATION.**—The President shall determine whether there are foreign persons who, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, have engaged in significant corruption in Georgia or acts that are intended to undermine the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Georgia for the purposes of potential imposition of sanctions pursuant to powers granted to the President under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).

(2) **REPORT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a report to the appropriate committees of Congress that—

(i) identifies all foreign persons the President has determined, pursuant to this subsection, have engaged in significant corruption in Georgia or committed acts that are intended to undermine the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Georgia;

(ii) the dates on which sanctions were imposed; and

(iii) the reasons for imposing such sanctions.

(B) **FORM.**—The report required under subparagraph (A) shall be provided in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(h) **TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.**—Any sanctions imposed on a foreign person pursuant to this section shall terminate on the earlier of—

(1) the date on which the President certifies to the appropriate committees of Congress that the foreign person is no longer engaging in the activities that led to the imposition of such sanction; or

(2) the sunset date set forth in section 28.

(i) **EXCEPTIONS.**—

(1) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this subsection:

(A) **AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.**—The term “agricultural commodity” has the meaning given such term in section 102 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5602).

(B) **GOOD.**—The term “good” means any article, natural or man-made substance, material, supply, or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment and excluding technical data.

(C) **MEDICAL DEVICE.**—The term “medical device” has the meaning given the term “device” in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).

(D) **MEDICINE.**—The term “medicine” has the meaning given the term “drug” in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).

(2) **EXCEPTIONS.**—

(A) **EXCEPTION RELATING TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.**—Sanctions under this section shall not apply to—

(i) any activity subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.); or

(ii) any authorized intelligence activities of the United States.

(B) **EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.**—Sanctions under this section shall not apply with respect to a foreign person if admitting or paroling the person into the United States is necessary to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or other applicable international obligations.

(C) **HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.**—Sanctions under this section shall not apply to—

(i) the conduct or facilitation of a transaction for the provision of agricultural commodities, food, medicine, medical devices, or

humanitarian assistance, or for humanitarian purposes; or

(ii) transactions that are necessary for, or related to, the activities described in clause (i).

(j) **EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.**—The requirement to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property under this section shall not include the authority or a requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

## SEC. 27. ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE WITH RESPECT TO GEORGIA.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Upon submission to Congress of the certification described in subsection (c)—

(1) the Secretary of State, in consultation with other heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, should seek to further enhance people-to-people contacts and academic exchanges between the United States and Georgia; and

(2) the President, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, should maintain and expand, as appropriate, military cooperation with Georgia, including by providing further security and defense equipment ideally suited for territorial defense against Russian aggression and related training, maintenance, and operations support elements.

(b) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that if the Government of Georgia takes steps, after the submission of the certification described in subsection (c), to realign itself with its Euro-Atlantic agenda, including by making significant changes to the foreign influence law, the President should take steps to improve the bilateral relationship between the United States and Georgia, including actions to bolster Georgia's ability to deter threats from Russia and other malign actors.

(c) **CERTIFICATION DESCRIBED.**—The certification described in this subsection is a certification submitted by the President to Congress that Georgia has shown significant and sustained progress towards reinvigorating its democracy and advancing its Euro-Atlantic integration.

## SEC. 28. SUNSET.

This title shall cease to have any force or effect beginning on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

**SA 2285.** Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 18(a), add at the end the following:

(4) The foreign payment stablecoin issuer is not owned, in whole or in part, by—

(A) the People's Republic of China, including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Macao Special Administrative Region;

(B) the Republic of Cuba;

(C) the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(D) the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(E) the Russian Federation; or

(F) the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela under the regime of Nicolás Maduro Moros.

**SA 2286.** Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:



**SEC. —. PROHIBITION ON RESTRICTING TRANSACTIONS USING SELF-CUSTODIAL SOFTWARE INTERFACES.**

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “covered office” means—

- (1) the Department of the Treasury;
- (2) an appropriate Federal banking agency;
- (3) the Board;
- (4) the Comptroller;
- (5) the Corporation; or
- (6) a primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator.

(b) PROHIBITION.—No covered office may prohibit, restrict, or otherwise impair the ability of a person to conduct a transaction that—

- (1) is for that person’s own and otherwise lawful purposes; and
- (2) uses self-custodial software or hardware.

**SA 2287.** Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in section 4, insert the following:

( ) DISCLOSURES RELATING TO INTERESTS IN PAYMENT STABLECOIN ISSUERS AND OTHER VIRTUAL CURRENCY.—Section 13104 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following:

“(9) INTERESTS IN PAYMENT STABLECOIN ISSUERS AND OTHER VIRTUAL CURRENCY.—The identity and category of value of any interest in a permitted payment stablecoin issuer (as defined in section 2 of the GENIUS Act) and the value of any payment stablecoins (as defined in section 2 of the GENIUS Act) and other virtual currencies.”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(B), by striking “(3) and (4)” and inserting “(3), (4), and (9)”; and

(3) in subsection (d)(1)—

(A) in the paragraph heading, by striking “(3), (4), (5), AND (8)” and inserting “(3), (4), (5), (8), AND (9)”; and

(B) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “(3), (4), (5), and (8)” and inserting “(3), (4), (5), (8), and (9)”.

**SA 2288.** Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. —. INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall provide intelligence support, including information, intelligence, and imagery collection authorized under title 10, United States Code, to the Government of Ukraine for the purpose of supporting military operations of the Government of Ukraine that are specifically intended or reasonably expected—

- (1) to defend the territory of Ukraine; or
- (2) to retake territory of Ukraine held by Russian Federation-led military forces before February 24, 2022.

(b) TERRITORY OF UKRAINE DEFINED.—In this section, the term “territory of Ukraine” includes the Donbas and Crimea.

**SA 2289.** Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, to provide for

the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. —. LEGAL TENDER.**

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 5103 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “United States coins” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—United States coins”;

(2) by inserting “the exclusive” before “legal tender for all debts, public charges, taxes, and dues”;

(3) by striking “Foreign gold or silver coins are not legal tender for debts” and inserting “No foreign gold, silver coins, or digital assets shall be legal tender or treated as legal tender”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) DIGITAL ASSET DEFINED.—The term ‘digital asset’ means any digital representation of value that can be exclusively possessed and transferred, person to person, without necessary reliance on an intermediary, and is recorded on a cryptographically secured public distributed ledger.”.

(b) PREEMPTION.—A State, political subdivision of a State, or political authority of 2 or more States may not enact or enforce a law, regulation, or other provision having the force and effect of a law relating to treating digital assets (as defined in section 5103(b) of title 31, United States Code, as added by this section) as legal tender for any debt, public charge, tax, or due.

**SA 2290.** Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 6(b)(1) and insert the following:

(1) SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF REGISTRATION.—

(A) SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator of a permitted payment stablecoin issuer that is not a State qualified payment stablecoin issuer with a payment stablecoin with a consolidated total outstanding issuance of less than \$10,000,000,000 may, after a hearing, suspend or revoke a registration under this Act—

(I) on any ground on which such regulator might refuse to issue an original registration;

(II) for a violation of any provision of this Act or the regulations issued thereunder;

(III) for good cause shown; or

(IV) for failure of the registrant to pay a judgment, recovered in any court by a claimant or creditor in an action arising out of, or relating to, the registrant’s stablecoin business activity, within 30 days after the judgment becomes final or within 30 days after expiration or termination of a stay of execution on the judgment, provided that, if execution on the judgment is stayed, by court order or operation of law or otherwise, then proceedings to suspend or revoke the registration (for failure of the registrant to pay such judgment) may not be commenced by the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator during the time of such stay, and for 30 days thereafter.

(ii) GOOD CAUSE.—For purposes of this paragraph, “good cause” “” shall exist when a registrant has defaulted or is likely to default in performing its obligations or financial engagements or engages in unlawful, dishonest, wrongful, or inequitable conduct or practices that may cause harm to the public.

(B) HEARING.—

(i) NOTICE REQUIRED.—The primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator shall give a registrant not less than 10 days’ written notice of the time and place of a hearing to suspend or revoke registration.

(ii) SERVICE.—The notice under clause (i) shall be provided by registered or certified mail addressed to the principal place of business of the registrant.

(C) DECISION.—Any order of the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator suspending or revoking such license shall state the grounds upon which it is based and be sent by registered or certified mail to the registrant at its principal place of business as shown in the records of the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator.

(D) PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION.—The primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator may, when determined by such regulator to be in the public interest, seek a preliminary injunction to restrain a registrant from continuing to perform acts that violate any provision of law.

(E) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting any power granted to the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator under any other provision of law, including any power to investigate possible violations of law, rule, or regulation or to impose penalties or take any other action against any person for violation of such laws, rules, or regulations.

**SA 2291.** Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 4(a)(4)(A)(i)(II) and insert the following:

(II) minimum capital requirements and operating expenses that are no less stringent than such requirements applicable to institutions chartered under the Special Purpose Depository Institutions Act in Wyoming (Wyo. Stat. Ann. tit. 13, ch. 12) or to companies that are approved to issue payment stablecoins under the New York Financial Services Law and the virtual currency regulation issued thereunder (23 N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 23, Part 200).

**SA 2292.** Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in section 4, insert the following:

( ) CHANGE OF CONTROL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No action may be taken, except with the prior written approval of the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator, that may result in a change of control of a permitted payment stablecoin issuer.

(2) APPLICATION TO ACQUIRE A PERMITTED PAYMENT STABLECOIN ISSUER.—

(A) SUBMISSION.—Prior to any change of control described in paragraph (1), a person seeking to acquire control of a permitted payment stablecoin issuer shall submit to the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator a written application, in form and substance acceptable to such regulator, that includes detailed information about the applicant and all directors, principal officers, principal stockholders, and principal beneficiaries of the applicant, as applicable.

(B) DETERMINATION OF CONTROL.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the receipt of an application under subparagraph (A), or such further period as the

primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator may prescribe, the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator shall determine whether the applicant does not or will not, upon the taking of the proposed action, control another person.

(ii) EFFECT OF FILING.—The filing of an application pursuant to this subdivision in good faith by any person shall relieve the applicant from any obligation or liability imposed by this section with respect to the subject of the application until the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator has acted upon the application.

(iii) REVOCATION OR MODIFICATION.—The primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator may revoke or modify a determination under this subparagraph after notice and opportunity to be heard, if, in the determination of the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator, revocation or modification is consistent with this section.

(iv) FACTORS.—In making a determination under this subparagraph, the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator may consider—

(I) whether the person's purchase of common stock is made solely for investment purposes and not to acquire control over the permitted payment stablecoin issuer;

(II) whether the person could direct, or cause the direction of, the management or policies of the permitted payment stablecoin issuer;

(III) whether the person could propose directors in opposition to nominees proposed by the management or board of directors of the permitted payment stablecoin issuer;

(IV) whether the person could seek or accept representation on the board of directors of the permitted payment stablecoin issuer;

(V) whether the person could solicit or participate in soliciting proxy votes with respect to any matter presented to the shareholders of the permitted payment stablecoin issuer; and

(VI) any other factor that indicates such person would or would not exercise control of the permitted payment stablecoin issuer.

(C) APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF APPLICATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator deems an application under this subsection to be complete, the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator shall approve or deny the application.

(ii) EXTENSION.—The primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator may, for good cause shown, extend the period under clause (i) for such additional reasonable period of time as may be required to enable compliance with the requirements and conditions of this Act.

(iii) CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC INTEREST.—In determining whether to approve or deny an application under this subsection, the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator shall, among other factors, take into consideration the public interest and the needs and convenience of the public.

(3) CONTROL DEFINED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In this subsection, the term "control" means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a permitted payment stablecoin issuer, whether through the ownership of stock of such issuer, the stock of any person that possesses such power, or otherwise.

(B) PRESUMPTIONS.—

(i) VOTING POWER.—Control shall be presumed to exist if a person, directly or indirectly, owns, controls, or holds with power to vote 10 percent or more of the voting stock of a permitted payment stablecoin issuer or of any person that owns, controls, or holds with power to vote 10 percent or more of the voting stock of such issuer.

(ii) OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.—No person shall be deemed to control another person solely by reason of being an officer or director of such other person.

( ) MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No action may be taken, except with the prior written approval of the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator, that may result in a merger or acquisition of all or a substantial part of the assets of a permitted payment stablecoin issuer.

(2) APPLICATION FOR MERGER OR ACQUISITION.—

(A) SUBMISSION.—Prior to any merger or acquisition described in paragraph (1), any merging entities or the acquiring entity, as applicable, shall submit to the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator an application containing a written plan of merger or acquisition, in form and substance acceptable to such regulator, that—

(i) specifies each entity to be merged, the surviving entity, or the entity acquiring all or substantially all of the assets of the permitted payment stablecoin issuer, as applicable; and

(ii) describes the terms and conditions of the merger or acquisition, as applicable, and the mode of carrying it into effect.

(B) APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF APPLICATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator deems an application under this subsection to be complete, the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator shall approve or deny the application.

(ii) EXTENSION.—The primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator may, for good cause shown, extend the period under clause (i) for such additional reasonable period of time as may be required to enable compliance with the requirements and conditions of this Act.

(iii) CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC INTEREST.—In determining whether to approve or deny an application under this subsection, the primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator shall, among other factors, take into consideration the public interest and the needs and convenience of the public.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 3, and that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Duffey nomination postcloture; further, that notwithstanding rule XXII, at 11:30 a.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Duffey nomination and if cloture is then invoked on Calendar No. 103, Allison Hooker, the Senate recess following the cloture vote until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings; finally, that if cloture is invoked on the Hooker nomination, the postcloture time be expired at 2:15 p.m. and the Senate vote on confirmation of the Hooker nomination; and that if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session of the Senate, the motions to reconsider be considered

made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator WHITEHOUSE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Rhode Island.

#### 253RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE "GASPEE" RAID

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I take the Senate back to June 9 of 1772, and I read from Rory Raven's "Burning the Gaspee."

A handful of longboats glided across the water on a moonless night. The men—some at the oars, other nervously fingering muskets or clubs or handspikes—were silent as they drew closer and closer to the silhouette of a schooner a short distance away. A white British ensign fluttered from the schooner's topmast in a humid breeze.

A sentry on deck peered into the darkness, catching sight of the approaching boats.

"Who comes there?" he called.

The men in the boats bristled at the sentry's English accent.

"We mean to come aboard," replied a big man in the lead boat. "You cannot," the sentry shouted back. "You cannot come aboard."

A moment later, the schooner's commanding officer came on deck. Roused from his bunk, he stood at the rail in his shirtsleeves. Raising a pistol, he warned the men not to come closer.

Another man in another boat rose to his feet and declared, "I am the sheriff of the county of Kent."

That would be Kent County, RI—

"I am the sheriff of the county of Kent, God damn you. I have a warrant to apprehend you, God damn you. So surrender, God damn you."

The officer drew his sword and repeated his warning. Some of the sailors under his command joined him, weapons at the ready.

In one of the boats, a man turned to the friend seated next to him, saying, "Reach me your gun—I can kill that fellow."

The gun was handed over. Shouldering the musket, the man took aim and the shot echoed over across the waters.

The officer doubled over and fell.

The officer involved was Lieutenant Duddingston of the Royal Navy. The ship he was on was the HMS *Gaspee*, a naval vessel deployed as a revenue cutter to harass the trade of the Rhode Island Colonials.

There is a bit more of a story around this because before the challenge to the *Gaspee* that led to that shooting, the *Gaspee* had been harassing other Rhode Island shipowners. One of them was a very prominent individual.

The *Gaspee* seized a boat called the *Fortune*, and this reading is from the chapter "The Dark Affair, The Gaspee Incident" from "An Empire on the Edge" by Nick Bunker.

Unwilling to trust a local judge, he sent the *Fortune* round to Boston, a step of doubtful legality that only made matters worse. Unwittingly, the *Gaspee* had antagonized a family of Rhode Islanders who embodied all the values for which the colony stood.

The rum [on board] belonged to the Greenes, Quakers with a farm or two, a sawmill, and a forge for making anchors. The navy had not the slightest idea who they were or why it might not be wise to upset them. But one of the men who owned the cargo was Nathanael Greene, who would soon shed his Quaker beliefs to become the youngest general in George Washington's army and his closest aid from Bunker Hill to Yorktown. As Greene wrote soon after the arrest of the *Fortune*, the loss of her cargo created "such a Spirit of Resentment that I have devoted almost the whole of my time in devising measures for punishing the offender."

Well, of course, Nathanael Greene was not only George Washington's aide-de-camp and administrative officer, but he was also deployed to lead the southern campaign in the South, which caused Lord Cornwallis to write home to his wife to say:

That damn Greene is more dangerous than Washington.

So the *Gaspee* launched that spirit of resentment that led to a General Greene more dangerous than Washington, a Rhode Islander.

The story of that day is fairly simple. On July 9, 1772, another ship, the *Hannah*, is making her way north toward Providence when the *Gaspee* comes after her, seeking to stop and board her and seeking to seize her cargo.

Well, the *Hannah* was having none of it and continued sailing north, so the *Gaspee* gave chase. In the course of the chase, the captain of the *Hannah* steered the vessel over a sandy spit that sticks out where a river comes into Narragansett Bay at a place called Namquit Point and delivers a column of sand.

Now, the captain of the *Hannah* knew those waters well, and he knew the depths well, and he slid over the shallows in his lighter boat. The big-armed *Gaspee* coming along behind foundered on the sand in a falling tide and was stuck. The despised *Gaspee* and the despised Lieutenant Duddingston became a target.

The *Hannah* continued up to Providence that night. It was owned by the Brown family, who ended up giving their names to Brown University, were prominent merchants in 1772, and they rallied several longboats full of men who that night, presumably after some refreshment, rode down from Providence—miles down—to where the *Gaspee* was stranded.

That is where that incident began. It was those men in those longboats on that moonlit night who decided they were going to rid their beloved Narragansett Bay of the wretched and detested *Gaspee*, so they ended up shooting the captain of the vessel, Lieutenant Duddingston. He survived his wounds. They took the vessel. They captured the crew. They took everybody ashore. They saw that medical

care was given to Lieutenant Duddingston. They came back out, and they set fire to the *Gaspee*.

This painting, which hangs in my office, is a depiction of the *Gaspee* on fire that night. As the fire burned, it came to the powder magazine, and the powder magazine exploded. The *Gaspee* was blown to smithereens across Narragansett Bay, and that was the end of her.

Now, the episode got rather lost to history. I will put it in a time context. This is June 9 of 1772. This is more than a year before the Boston Tea Party up in Boston Harbor. On that occasion, Massachusetts Colonials painted their faces and boarded a civilian vessel and pushed tea bags off it into Boston Harbor. That was Massachusetts.

Rhode Island's effort a year and a half before was to trick the military vessel into grounding herself, come down the bay in longboats at night, shoot the captain, capture the crew, and blow the boat up.

What more did we need to do to be in the history books? Well, we are getting there. I give this speech every year.

Rory Raven wrote "Burning the *Gaspee*." "The Burning of His Majesty's Schooner *Gaspee*" by Steven Park. Makes an entire book.

And I just read "An Empire on the Edge," from an entire chapter on the *Gaspee* incident.

What happened afterwards is nearly as interesting as the destruction of the *Gaspee*. King George was furious. Parliament was furious. An enormous bounty on the heads of the men in those longboats was offered by the King—over \$100,000 in today's money.

And officials were sent from England to go and put on a trial. Find these men, try them, and hang them. No one would talk.

About 60,000 people lived in Rhode Island back then, but it was a close community, gathered mostly around the shore, a very prosperous community because of its trading. And nobody would talk.

There was never any satisfaction to King George for his rages.

So, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Washington Post article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 14, 2023]  
BOSTON TEA PARTY? RHODE ISLAND SAYS ITS REBELLION WAS FIRST—AND JUST AS IMPORTANT

(By Dan Diamond)

You'd be forgiven for thinking you know this story.

American colonists, itching for independence, stormed a British vessel. A spark in New England helped ignite a national revolution.

But this was not the Boston Tea Party. Eighteen months before colonists dumped tea in Boston Harbor—an event that marks its 250th anniversary this week—Rhode Islanders attacked and destroyed a British navy ship off the coast near Providence, furious with what they saw as the crown's overreach.

The burning of the HMS *Gaspee* on June 10, 1772, was the first major armed act of rebellion by the American colonists, Rhode Island historians and officials maintain. And the resulting fallout—with King George III demanding that the perpetrators be held accountable in a showdown between the colonial legal system and the British courts—helped unify the colonies for the war to come.

"[T]his is a Matter in which the whole American Continent is deeply concerned and a Submission of the Colony of Rhode Island to this enormous Claim of power would be made a Precedent for all the rest," founding father Samuel Adams wrote to Rhode Island's deputy governor in January 1773.

But the *Gaspee* affair, which shook the colonies and rattled the crown, has been largely forgotten outside of Rhode Island. It's been overlooked in U.S. history classes and remains little studied by historians of the American Revolution. The Washington Post reviewed six high school and college U.S. history textbooks and found no mention of the burning of the *Gaspee*, even as multiple pages were devoted to later—and, in the minds of many Rhode Islanders, lesser—events such as the Boston Tea Party.

"Nobody knows that well before anybody pushed a tea bag off a civilian ship in the Boston Harbor, Rhode Islanders blew up a military vessel," Sen. SHELDON WHITEHOUSE (D-R.I.) said in a recent interview in his office—sitting in front of a painting that depicts the burning of the *Gaspee*.

The senator from Rhode Island has repeatedly given speeches that celebrate the *Gaspee* raiders, and he's denounced the attention paid to Massachusetts, saying that leaders of his neighboring state have spent centuries spinning their own history.

"They got drunk, painted themselves like Indians and pushed tea bags into the Boston Harbor, which we in Rhode Island think is pretty weak tea compared to blowing up the goddamn boat and shooting its captain," WHITEHOUSE told The Post. "But you know, all those Massachusetts people went on to become president and run Harvard . . . so they told their story, and their story, and their story."

Rhode Island-based historians agreed that the *Gaspee* affair is a case study in how important chapters in history become, well, history. The state's own firsts—Rhode Island, for example, was the first colony to declare independence from Britain on May 4, 1776, two months before the other 12 colonies—tend to get relegated to footnotes in national stories about the revolution.

"So much focus is put into Massachusetts history, and Rhode Island gets overlooked," said Kathy Abbass, the principal investigator of the Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project, which is working to locate the wreckage of the *Gaspee* off the shore of Warwick, R.I. "Partly that's because the early histories were written by professors at Harvard and Yale, which set the tone for all the histories that came later."

#### THE ATTACK ON THE GASPEE

There's little dispute over the events leading up to the burning of the *Gaspee*—only how historically significant they were.

In Rhode Island, as across the colonies, residents were bristling at the taxes, fees and other burdens imposed by a British parliament an ocean away. That parliament, meanwhile, grew frustrated by what leaders saw as Americans' efforts to evade the responsibilities of being part of the British Empire.

"The British were trying to raise money by capturing vessels that were sneaking stuff in and not paying duty," Abbass said. "And yes, of course we were smugglers [in Rhode Island]—there's no doubt about that."

Commanded by Lieutenant William Dudingston, a Scottish naval officer, the *Gaspee* sailed into Narragansett Bay in early 1772, seeking to enforce trade laws that the American colonists were increasingly flouting. The British ship began to abruptly board colonial vessels off the coast of Rhode Island and seize their cargo, such as barrels of smuggled rum. Accusations soon proliferated that the *Gaspee's* crew was stealing sheep and hogs from local farmers, and cutting down their fruit trees for firewood.

Rhode Islanders compared Dudingston to a pirate, sued him in a local court (which found against him) and even sought his arrest. But the British warned that anyone who attempted to interfere in the *Gaspee's* work would be executed.

"Let them be cautious what they do; for as sure as they attempt it, and any of them are taken, I will hang them as pirates," British Adm. John Montagu wrote to Rhode Island's governor in April 1772.

Then came June 9.

A small ship called the *Hannah*, reportedly owned by Rhode Island entrepreneur John Brown, was headed toward Providence. It refused the *Gaspee's* exhortations to stop—probably because the *Hannah* carried illegal cargo—and the British gave chase. But the *Hannah's* captain, a local man named Benjamin Lindsey, knew the area better than Dudingston, and he led the *Gaspee* into waters that had receded because of the daily tides. The British ship ended up stuck on a sandbar, waiting for the tides to change again hours later.

The *Hannah* successfully slipped away to Providence, where Lindsey quickly recounted his tale to Brown, one of the city's leading merchants, who was a member of the loose resistance movement known as the Sons of Liberty and part of the family that helped found Brown the Ivy League university that would later bear its name.

Brown was also a smuggler—one of Rhode Island's most notorious, Abbass said—and had been nursing a grudge against Dudingston and his ship.

Learning that the *Gaspee* was temporarily marooned, "Mr. Brown immediately resolved on her destruction," Ephraim Bowen, a local man who was among the several dozen men who joined Brown, would recount decades later.

As many as 60 men gathered in the Providence harbor that evening, launching boats and muffling their oars to quietly row out to the *Gaspee* under cover of darkness. As they approached the ship, a confrontation began—with one of the *Gaspee* raiders asserting that Dudingston was a criminal who had evaded the local law, Bowen recounted—that led to Dudingston being shot in the groin and arm and all of the ship's crew being taken from the vessel.

The Rhode Islanders burned the *Gaspee* to the water line early on the morning of June 10. Then the gunpowder on board exploded, sending pieces of the ship flying.

As news of the attack made its way to London, British leaders seethed. In a royal proclamation, King George III offered a reward of up to 1,000 pounds sterling—more than \$150,000 in today's currency—to anyone who could help identify and convict the "outrageous and heinous Offenders" behind the ship's burning. He also established a commission to conduct a formal inquiry, and the British vowed to transport any colonists indicted in the attack to England for trial and, almost certainly, execution.

But no arrests were ever made. Rhode Islanders refused to volunteer information about the *Gaspee* raiders, and local officials found ways to slow or stymie the British investigation. Colonial leaders further argued that anyone involved in the *Gaspee's* burning

should face a jury of their peers in America. A Rhode Island sheriff even arrested Dudingston as he recovered from his wounds, charging him for the *Gaspee's* previous seizures of cargo.

Meanwhile, the nation's founding fathers exchanged fervent messages about the *Gaspee's* burning and the British response, setting up the committees of correspondence that helped them coordinate strategies in the years to come.

Adams, particularly, warned that Britain's determination to pursue the *Gaspee* affair, and the discussion of the deployment of troops, could lead to a cascade of events that might spark "a most violent political Earthquake through the whole British Empire if not its total Destruction," he wrote in January 1773 to Rhode Island's deputy governor, Darius Sessions.

"I have long feared that this unhappy Contest between Britain & America will end in Rivers of Blood," Adams wrote.

#### AN 'UNCELEBRATED BURNING' IS FORGOTTEN

Most of the Rhode Islanders involved in the burning of the *Gaspee* successfully concealed their identities from the British and even other colonials, helping confound the crown's probe. In some ways, their effort to hide was too successful: Even today, about half the men who burned the *Gaspee* are unknown.

But as the American Revolution began to slip out of living memory, Rhode Islanders tried to lay a claim to the first shot fired.

"The first blood that was shed in the revolutionary contest, by that very act begun, stained her deck, and it was drawn by a Rhode Island hand," William Hunter, a former U.S. senator from Rhode Island, said in an address on July 4, 1826—50 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence. "Yes, the blood of Lieutenant Dudingston was the first blood drawn in the American cause."

Those efforts to highlight the *Gaspee* affair had limited success. In the fight over the American legacy, Rhode Island would end up largely nudged to the side—a casualty of a battle between larger states, chiefly Massachusetts and Virginia, that were disproportionately home to some of the era's most influential figures.

"There was a very busy group of Boston-based intellectuals who were eager to frame Boston as the driver of the revolution and Bostonians as the inheritors of the legacy of the revolution," said Nat Sheidley, a historian who runs Revolutionary Spaces, a Boston-based organization that runs public programs about colonial America—including this week's anniversary of the tea party. He added that America's elite leaders initially downplayed a number of revolutionary events, such as the destruction of tea in Boston's harbor, fearing that it would undermine the sense of order in the young nation.

"But by the 1830s, it felt a little bit safer to go there," Sheidley said. "And so that's the moment where . . . the name 'Tea Party' is invented, and it becomes popularized as a story of what led us to the revolution."

A century later, a 1922 New York Times article detailed "the uncelebrated burning" of the *Gaspee* and asked why the Boston Tea Party had developed a "much stronger hold" upon Americans.

"[A]n exhibition of daring the tea party was literally a tea party and nothing more compared with the *Gaspee* incident," Jonathan A. Rawson Jr. wrote in the Times.

#### THE GASPEE AFFAIR'S PLACE IN HISTORY

Even today, some historians are largely unfamiliar with the *Gaspee* or suggest that its burning was a regional matter, The Post found. But in Rhode Island, lore about the *Gaspee* is thriving. For 57 years, local volun-

teers have held an annual celebration—known as *Gaspee Days*—featuring a parade to celebrate the burning of the ship, which is increasingly joined by government officials, reenactors and thousands of residents.

"Declare your independence from bank fees!" reads one ad from a local credit union in last year's 250th anniversary booklet.

Other efforts abound. Rhode Island's secretary of state offers free *Gaspee* posters on demand. A Brown University instructor created a virtual reality app that allows users to be immersed in a reenactment of the story. A license plate depicting the burning of the *Gaspee* became available to state drivers this fall—and it looks "wicked cool," said John Concannon, a retired pediatrician who is *Gaspee Days'* historian.

It's all part of a larger state goal: to ensure that the burning of the *Gaspee* is never forgotten again. Historians who have studied the event said that it merits more mention, particularly in textbooks.

"The thing about the *Gaspee* that is important was that the king took notice," said Abbass, who has written about other colonial attacks on British vessels that preceded the burning of the *Gaspee* but provoked negligible reaction from the crown.

The king's intervention also led to a British attempt to circumvent the colonial courts, causing alarm and ultimately backfiring on the crown, Concannon said. He argued that several articles in the Declaration of Independence, including the right to a jury of one's peers, stem from the *Gaspee* affair—a more significant contribution to that document than made by the Boston Tea Party, he said.

That's one reason this weekend's latest celebration of the events in Massachusetts continues to vex Rhode Islanders. When it comes to the founding of America, Concannon said, the burning of the *Gaspee* is "just as important."

*Philip Bump, Azi Paybarah and Dan Lamothe contributed to this report.*

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. And you can recognize the picture I just showed you, it is in the article, and it does quite a good job of putting into context this rebellious act by Rhode Island that took place nearly a year before the Boston Tea Party and yet is mostly overlooked by historians.

Here is another version of the *Gaspee* aflame before it explodes, and here are the men in the longboats coming away from it having lit that fire.

So it is important enough that I thought I might try a poetical hand to it. I have read this before, and I will read it again.

Listen, my colleagues, and you shall see  
How Rhode Islanders blew up the dread *Gaspee*.

Great Britain was fearsome, she ruled the sea,

But Rhode Islanders burned with the fire to be free.

So when George sent his frigate to tax our coast,

And its arrogant captain was heard to boast

That he'd soon have Rhode Island under his sway,

Well, a course was set for a fateful day.

Narragansett Bay sparkled bright and blue  
June 9 of 1772,

The trading ship *Hannah* was making her way

With cargo for Providence that fine day.

King George's *Gaspee* pursued in chase,

But the *Hannah* decided to give her a race.

Away fled the *Hannah* with wind in her sails,

As the Gaspee's cannon fired from its rails.  
Evading the Gaspee's cannon balls,  
The Hannah sailed for the Namquid shoals.  
Fast and light, Hannah crossed the shallows,

But when the Gaspee attempted to follow,  
She ran aground on the Warwick shore.  
In a falling tide, and could move no more.  
That night dark longboats with muffled oars,

Came slipping quietly down the shore,  
To rid our Bay of the dread Gaspee,  
And show old King George that Rhode Island be free.

The battle was fierce off Warwick Neck.  
When the gunsmoke cleared from the Gaspee's deck,

The Rhode Islanders had her as their prize,  
And her crew bound up in chains and ties.  
When the crew was ashore, Pawtuxet's Rangers

Assured they'd present us no further dangers.

Back to the Bay, in the dark of the night,  
Went the Gaspee Raiders to set her alight.  
The fire spread through the Raiders' prize,  
'Til a blast filled the Narragansett Bay skies.

The fire had reached the Gaspee's magazines,  
And her gunpowder blew her to smithereens.

Away sped the raiders into the dark,  
Leaving in the embers freedom's spark.  
"I want their names!" King George demanded,

And ordered the Raiders be apprehended.  
But his call for hangings came to naught:  
His nooses hung empty; no charge was brought;

Because never a traitorous tale was told.  
Rhode Island stood steady, silent, and bold.  
The spark that was struck in the Gaspee Raid

Lit a flame that still burns in our hearts today.

And the lesson from then is a lesson now,  
That every American still will avow.  
"However majestic your powers may be,  
You should heed our warning: don't tread on me."

So that is the tale of the *Gaspee*. And  
one day it will get its appropriate notice in history.  
I yield the floor.

## ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:50 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 10 a.m.

## NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DERRICK ANDERSON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE CHRISTOPHER PAUL MAIER, RESIGNED.

### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

JOHN BARTRUM, OF INDIANA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VICE SHEREEF M. ELNAHAL, RESIGNED.

### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MINDY BRASHEARS, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR FOOD SAFETY, VICE JOSE EMILIO ESTEBAN, RESIGNED.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

JONATHAN BURKE, OF GEORGIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR TERRORIST FINANCING, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, VICE ELIZABETH ROSENBERG.

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

AUSTIN DAHMER, OF ARIZONA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE MARA ELIZABETH KARLIN.

### EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

JEFFREY GOETTMAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A DEPUTY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE (AFRICA, WESTERN HEMISPHERE, EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST, ENVIRONMENT, LABOR, AND INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS), WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR, VICE JAYME RAY WHITE.

### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STELLA HERRELL, OF NEVADA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, VICE ADRIENNE WOJCIECHOWSKI, RESIGNED.

### UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

ANTHONY LOMANGINO, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A GOVERNOR OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 8, 2031, VICE ROMAN MARTINEZ IV, TERM EXPIRED.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

JONATHAN MCKERNAN, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE J. NELLIE LIANG, RESIGNED.

### PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

CASEY MEANS, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE MEDICAL DIRECTOR IN THE REGULAR CORPS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS THEREFOR AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND REGULATIONS, AND TO BE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE VIVEK HALLEGGERE MURTHY, RESIGNED.

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

PLATTE MORING, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VICE ROBERT PHILLIP STORCH.

JOHN NOH, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE ELY STEFANSKY RATNER.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

CHRIS PILKERTON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR INVESTMENT SECURITY, VICE PAUL M. ROSEN, RESIGNED.

### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

GLEN SMITH, OF IOWA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT, VICE BASIL IVANHOE GOODEN, RESIGNED.

### FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

LAURA SWETT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2030, VICE MARK C. CHRISTIE, TERM EXPIRING.

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ALEXANDER VERLEZ-GREEN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE ALEXANDRA BAKER, RESIGNED.

### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

GREGORY ZERZAN, OF TEXAS, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, VICE JOHN EDWARD PUTNAM.

### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

#### *To be admiral*

VICE ADM. FRANK M. BRADLEY

#### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

#### *To be lieutenant colonel*

CLARENCE ABERCROMBIE, JR.

DANIEL S. ADAMS

JULIEN S. ADAMS

TRAVIS K. ADAMS

SCOTT M. ADDY

THOMAS G. AINSCOUGH

JUSTIN V. ALBANO

TANNER A. ALLSHOUSE

KEVIN D. ALLUM

GEOFFREY B. ANDERSEN

BRIAN J. ANDERSON

CHANDLER D. ANDERSON

RAYMOND A. ANDERSON IV

SEAN T. ANDREWS

DANIEL V. ARMSTRONG

MICHAEL A. ARNOLD

KEVIN J. ARPIN

DAVID A. ASCHE

JONATHAN M. ASHLEY

ERIC S. ATCHISON

JONATHAN W. AVERA

SHANE M. BAIA

LUCAS J. BAMFORD

LILLIAN B. BAPTIST

GEOFFREY T. BARNES

BRITTNY L. BARNEY

RICHARD G. BEAN

ANDREW J. BEAUREGARD

JAMES R. BEHNKE

ZACHARY F. BELL

ANTHONY J. BELVISO

LAUREN BENHAMOU

MARK D. BENISCHEK

RICHARD BENKOVICS

LOUIS L. BENNETT

JON J. BIRMINGHAM

JOEL R. BISCHOFF

ALLEN S. BLACK

GORDON M. BLAIR

RYAN A. BLAKENEY

JOSEPH W. BLEDSOE

SEAN M. BLICK

COLIN A. BLOUNT

JOSEPH J. BOBEN

REBECCA M. BODTKE

JASMINE S. BOGARD

JASON R. BOND

ANDREW D. BOWEN

KYLE T. BOYD

SEAN M. BOYINGTON

DAVID M. BRADY

ALEXANDER D. BRANT

DAVY M. BRAXTON

ANDREW G. BROCK

SAMUEL T. BROWNE

ANDREW N. BUCHHEIT

CHRISTINA R. BURKE

PATRICK T. BURKE

NICHOLAS M. BURRIOLA

KYLE E. BUSHAW

ANDREW R. BUTTITTA

ERIK D. CADORETTE

MICHAEL C. CAMERLINGO

EDWARD D. CARLIN

CHRISTOPHER J. CARRIER

MARLENA J. CARRILLO SULTEMEIER

JOSEPH G. CARROLL

JAMES E. CARSON

KYLE L. CARTER

CAROLINE E. CASCINO

THOMAS C. CHANDLER

THOMAS J. CHENEY

ALEXANDER J. CHESNEY

ASHLEY M. CLARK

JACOB N. CLARK

JON CLAUSEN

HOWARD G. CLAY

CHARLES J. COLE

BRANDON L. COLEMAN

AMANDA L. COLLAZZO

TRAVIS R. COLLIER

DOMINIC M. COLLINS

VICTOR M. CONDE

SEAN T. CONRAD

DANIEL F. COOK

JACOB H. COOK

DAVID J. COOKE

SIMON F. COOKE

SEAN A. COSME

DAVID G. COTTER

ADAM D. CRIBB

CLAYTON R. CROCKER

JENNIFER S. CRUM

JUSTIN M. CRUZ

TOBY P. CUMBER, JR.

LUCAS C. CUMM

WILLIAM L. CUMMINGS

RYAN T. CURRY

LAUREN E. DALY

CHRISTOPHER L. DANIELS

ELISE R. D'ARCY

TRAVIS M. DAVENPORT

BRIAN J. DAVIS

JUSTIN L. DAVIS

OMAR DELADO

SHANE A. DENSMORE

LUCAS R. DERBY

ANDREW P. DEWITT

DANIEL B. DIAL

NATHANIEL A. DIAL

BRIAN E. DIENST

MICHAEL J. DIGIROLAMO

TOBIAS G. DIRKS

MATTHEW C. DIRKSEN

JOSHUA L. DODSON

MECHELL D. DOTSON

ERIN P. DOYLE

PATRICK K. DOYLE

IOANNIS A. DRACOPOULOS

CHRISTIAN S. DRESCHER

PAUL A. DRIGGERS

SEAN M. DRONEN

JACOB Z. DUDE

CRAIG W. DUFFY

HERBERT A. DUKE

IAN C. DUNCA

MICHAEL G. DUNN

BRIAN G. DUQUE

TRAVIS M. DYKE

JORDAN B. EAKER

NICHOLAS E. EBY

JAMES D. EICHELBERGER

ROSS M. ELDER

COREY M. ELLSWORTH

STEFANI J. ELLSWORTH

PAUL T. ENDREIS

ZACHARY M. EVANS

GUY H. EVERTSON

DANIEL M. EYROLLES

CHRISTOPHER FEI

JOSHUA J. FERES

ROBERT N. FERREIRA  
LEE W. FISCHER  
ALEXANDER D. FLORI  
JACK C. FORRESTER  
DOUGLAS B. FOULK  
THOMAS C. FREEMAN  
MICHAEL T. FREY  
NATHAN L. FREY  
GREGORY A. FROMKNECHT  
STEPHAN L. FRYE  
ADAM M. FUHRMANN  
KYLE W. GADOURY  
KENNETH C. GAHAN  
CHRISTOPHER T. GAINES  
BRENNAN M. GALLAGHER  
ELIZABETH N. GALLAGHER  
JESSE S. GALT  
GARY F. GARCIA  
CASEY T. GARNER  
MARIE C. GAUDREAU  
GREGORY A. GERRARD  
GRACE M. GIBBENS  
NICHOLAS P. GIEDA  
NATHANIEL W. GILBERT  
DEREK F. GILLESPIE  
THOMAS A. GIOVARELLI  
CHRISTOPHER J. GIUTTARI  
MICHAEL N. GLATTHAR  
AMANDA R. GO  
CHRISTOPHER A. GOEN  
CHRISTOPHER L. GOETZ  
JARED C. GOLDEN  
CHRISTOPHER A. GOODLOE  
JEANLUC B. GORDON  
JEREMY D. GRANOW  
JAMES R. GRAY  
IGNATIUS W. GREEN  
SCOTT F. GREGORY  
TRAVIS A. GRIFFITT  
ERIK M. GRIMES  
DANIEL HA  
JOSEPH J. HAAS  
JOHN A. HADJIS  
JOSHUA HAGWOOD  
AUBREY J. HAIGWOOD  
CORY D. HALVORSON  
JOSHUA E. HAMMERVOLD  
JONATHAN A. HANSEN  
MARK W. HANSEN  
DAVID P. HARD  
BRYCE N. HARDT  
JEROME R. HARMS  
DANIEL I. HARP  
JASON B. HARRIS  
WILLIAM J. HARRISON  
NATHAN S. HARTOIN  
PATRICK W. HAUP  
TYLER K. HAZEL  
MATTHEW T. HEATH  
TOM J. HEISTUMAN  
BRIAN P. HERRING  
ALEXANDER R. HESS  
KATHERINE J. HEWLETT  
ERIC L. HICKERNELL  
KEVIN J. HICKMAN  
JOHN A. HITSOS  
IAN J. HOCKING  
TARA B. HOLMES  
JOSEPH L. HOMAN  
MICHAEL D. HOUSTON  
RACHEL A. HOWELL  
PARKER D. HUCO  
DANIEL C. HUTTO  
JOHN C. HUYLER  
JONATHAN H. HYLTON  
BRANDON S. IRONS  
JACOB W. ISAACSON  
JOSHUA G. ISENKA  
JARED M. JAIME  
MICHAEL L. JANSSEN  
WOODRUFF B. JOHNSON  
ERYN A. JOHNSTON  
GREGORY T. JOHNSTON  
KYLE D. JONES  
LAURA M. JONES  
CODY W. JORDAN  
JOHN C. JOZSA  
BRIAN J. JUOLA  
CARLY M. KAYSER  
LOREN M. KEISLING  
MICHAEL G. KENNY  
SHAUN M. KIBBY  
PAUL KIM  
JONATHAN R. KIMBERLY  
ANDREW W. KIRK  
BRANDON J. KISS  
GEORGE M. KNUDSEN  
MARK C. KOCH  
RYAN J. KOELLING  
MATTHEW B. KOHL  
VINCENT K. KOZIOL  
BENJAMIN D. KRETZER  
MATTHEW T. KURTZ  
DEREK C. KVEDAR  
CHRISTOPHER J. LABUD  
KEVIN T. LACOSSE  
MICHAEL J. LAMBERT  
BRIAN R. LANE  
SAMANTHA J. LANG  
KOREY F. LANTES  
JEFFREY A. LARKIN  
CHRISTOPHER S. LARSON  
ZOE A. LAURO  
ANDREW J. LAUSHINE  
CLINT R. LECHER  
BRANDON J. LECHNER  
KATLYN C. LEIBRAND

JAMIE T. LEMIEUX  
KURT A. LEMMEN  
ROBERT K. LENZEN  
DANIEL G. LEONG  
SEAN T. LEUSCHEN  
JEFFREY M. LEVERSEDGE  
WILLIAM A. LINDBERG  
DANIEL LIU  
EVAN R. LOMELI  
MATTHEW S. LOWE  
SERGIO C. LOZANO  
CASSIE L. LUHRSEN  
MATTHEW J. LUMAN  
KYLE T. LUND  
MICHAEL E. MADDEN  
MICHAEL L. MAGNER  
KYLE R. MAHONEY  
DANIEL J. MAKOWICKI  
GREGORY R. MANCEWICZ  
ANTHONY P. MARCO  
JACOB D. MARSH  
KALEB R. MARSH  
MARK O. MARSHALL, JR.  
JAY C. MARTIN, JR.  
JEFFREY A. MARTIN  
JOEL A. MATHEWS  
ASHLEY A. MAYES  
DOUGLAS P. MAYO  
CHRISTOPHER J. MCCOOL  
SPENSER W. MCINTYRE  
KEVIN T. MCKERNAN  
MCKAY R. MCLAREN  
DEDRIAN J. MCNUITY  
MATTHEW F. MCPHAIL  
PATRICK J. MCQUAID  
MATTHEW R. MCQUEENEY  
EDWARD D. MCRAE II  
TRENTON M. MELCHER  
JESSICA L. MENDENHALL  
DUSTIN R. MEREDITH  
LISA N. MERICAL  
JESSICA A. MESSER  
CHARLES A. MILLER  
EDWARD H. MILLER  
RODERICK A. MILLS  
BRADLEY R. MINOT  
STEPHEN M. MIRANDA  
DANIEL J. MITCHELL  
DMITRI R. MITCHELL  
KARL A. MOHRMANN  
BRADY C. MONTUORI  
TYLER E. MOORE  
MICHAEL R. MORRISON  
ELLIS R. MOSER  
DANIEL S. MOSHER  
TYTUS M. MOSS  
MICHAEL D. MOSTELLER  
CHRISTOPHER K. MOWRER  
RYAN L. MURDOCK  
NATHANIEL L. MYERS  
DEVIN J. NELSON  
HOUSTON A. NELSON  
KYLE B. NELSON  
ROBERT D. NELSON  
JAMES R. NICHOL  
THOMAS G. NICHOLS  
TIMOTHY J. NICHOLS  
ROBERT C. NOLAN  
LEE J. NOONBURG  
WILLIAM D. NUNALEE  
MICHAEL J. OAKES  
ALICIA R. OJEDA  
RALPH A. OJEDA  
SOREN T. OLSON  
BRANDON F. ONGNA  
ANDREW J. OWENS  
DANIEL J. OWENS  
NOAH A. PALICIA  
JONATHAN D. PALKA  
HOWARD N. PALMER III  
WILLIAM M. PALMER  
DANIEL J. PARKER  
BRIAN B. PARMETER  
BRIEN PATEL  
MARIO A. PATINO  
HARRISON M. PAULL  
JOSEPH C. PAWKO  
KYLE J. PEACE  
KEVIN T. PETERSON  
MATTHEW J. PIANALTO  
ZACHARIAH W. PITTMAN  
ALEXANDER L. PLUMB  
EMANUEL T. PRODAN  
JAMES A. RAMIREZ  
CHRISTOPHER M. RAUSCH  
THOMAS W. REAGAN  
BILLY R. REEVES  
MICHAEL R. REID  
ROBERT J. RICCI  
TAHICHI B. RICHARDSON  
DONOVAN L. RICKS  
GARRETT M. RILEY  
JOHN P. ROBERTS  
ADAM P. ROBINSON  
ERIC D. RODE  
RICHARD A. RODRIGUEZ  
RYAN A. ROGL  
NATHANIEL R. ROLAND  
JOSEPH W. ROMANO  
NICHOLAS J. ROMANO  
COLBY M. ROSE  
JOSHUA W. ROUNTREE  
JOHN M. ROUSE, JR.  
PALMER F. ROUX III  
SEAN A. RUSH  
ANDREW R. RUSINKO  
DANIEL R. RYAN

PATRICK S. RYAN  
KEITH A. RYBICKI  
ELLIOTT R. SAHLI  
ANDREW G. SAINSBURY  
CALOGERO A. SAN FILIPPO  
MARGRET A. SANCHEZ  
JARON T. SANDUSKY  
BACHAR N. SATCHELL  
JENNIFER M. SAVAGE  
MICHAEL J. SAYERS  
PHILLIP F. SCALISE  
KRISTOPHER R. SCHMAUTZ  
JEFFREY W. SCHMIDT  
MONIQUE A. SCHONSHECK  
TYLER M. SCHONSHECK  
KYLE S. SCHROEDER  
ADAM M. SEMA  
CHRISTOPHER W. SEVERINO  
ANDREW R. SEXTON  
MICHAEL J. SEXTON  
SEAN M. SHANAHAN  
MICHAEL R. SHAW  
SARAH C. SHAW  
SEAN D. SHAY  
JULIETTE E. SIMPSON  
CURTIS C. SINEWE  
TIMOTHY W. SMALL  
ALLAN J. SMITH  
ANDREW M. SMITH  
DAVID R. SMITH  
KIRK M. SMITH  
KYLE A. SMITH  
PHILIP M. SMITH  
JESSE T. SNOOK  
NOEL J. SOMERS  
JOSEPH E. SONGER  
JOHN R. SPEAKMAN  
MATTHEW A. SPINKS  
JULIAN J. SPINOZA  
NOAH M. SPITTLER  
GRANT L. STARKWEATHER  
CHRISTOPHER M. STEENSON  
JOSEPH T. STELMACH  
PATRICK N. STEPPE  
BRIANNA L. STERNITZKY  
DANE S. STEVENSON  
JASON D. STEWART  
KEVIN D. STOUT  
ROBERT A. STRAIN  
DIRK R. STRYKOWSKI  
SCOTT G. SUDDERTH  
FERNANDO E. SUI TO ACUNA  
JOSEPH P. SULLIVAN  
KEVIN T. SUMMERBELL  
NOLAN J. SWEENEY  
SEAN C. TAULMAN  
CALEB J. TAYLOR  
JARED T. TAYLOR  
RYAN J. TAYLOR  
BRANDON J. TELKEN  
MITCHELL T. THALER  
KIERSTEN L. THOMPSON  
JOHN R. TILTON  
AARON M. TINDALL  
BRENDEN M. TORPHY  
DANIEL TORRES MERLADET  
PATRICK M. TRACY  
DANIEL K. TRAPANI  
BRYCE M. TURNER  
ZACHARY T. TURNER  
JOHN T. TYRHOLO  
BRIAN R. VALICHKA  
JAMIE L. VAN NESTE  
HUNTER K. VAN STETSEN  
JASON VANDYKE  
MICHAEL T. VANDYKEN  
TRAVIS S. VANOVER  
JONATHAN R. VANPINXTEREN  
HAROLD C. VANTA  
TAYLOR J. VANTIGER  
CARTER F. VANWORTH  
ROBERT S. VASEY  
JESSE VELA, JR.  
STEVEN E. VERBARENDSE  
JASON L. VERO  
COURTNEY M. VIDT  
MARIA A. VON HEILAND  
WILLIAM T. WAKE  
ANGELA J. WALKER  
KURT W. WALLIN  
PATRICK A. WALSH  
JENNIFER N. WALTERS  
CHRISTOPHER E. WASHINGTON  
CHARLES J. WASSON  
BRITTANY N. WATKINS  
TY R. WATSON  
QUAD M. WATTS  
ANTHONY A. WEAVER  
MICHAEL W. WEBSTER  
ANDREW J. WESSEL  
BRYAN D. WEST  
WILLIAM N. WEST  
DENISE M. WHITE  
JUSTIN D. WHITE  
BRANDON E. WHITEHEAD  
FORREST K. WHITFIELD  
JOSEPH P. WILKINSON  
DANIEL P. WILLIAMS  
ZACHARY L. WILLIAMS  
JONATHAN J. WILLIS  
ROBERT J. WILSON  
DANIEL W. WINNINGHAM  
JOSEPH D. WINTERS  
RYAN T. WITZIG  
CASEY J. WOODS  
CHRISTOPHER T. WRIGHT  
TYLER P. WRIGHT

WESTON C. YAGER  
BRANDEN R. YARRINGTON  
KYLE D. YOHE  
ROBERT YOST  
RYAN L. YOUNG  
JAMES A. ZAISER  
RYAN A. ZIELINSKI  
DAVID A. ZITELLI  
ANDREW P. ZWIRLEIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant colonel*

BRYCE D. ACRES  
JASON D. BOYD  
KYLE P. BUCKMILLER  
TODD A. CHAPMAN  
BRIAN J. COYNE  
LAUREN J. CYR  
KERRY W. DUBUISSON  
CORY D. ELDER  
MARK V. FLAHERTY  
ALEXANDER G. FOOS  
RYAN J. FRANK  
STEPHANIE A. FRANK  
RONALD J. GRIMLEY  
JESSE A. HASKETT  
JOSHUA D. HAYNES  
BENJAMIN W. HUNT  
LARA E. JOHNSON  
AMANDA C. LAMONICA  
SUONG H. LEE  
STEPHEN K. ORTIZ  
MORGAN H. PACK  
EMMANUEL J. RAMIE  
ETHAN Z. REGO  
LUCAS A. RIDER  
KRISTIN K. SELVIDGE  
STEPHEN E. STUTZRIEM  
KYLE A. TODD  
SANDRA WALKER  
ARIANA M. WENSEL  
CHRISTOPHER D. WESTFALL

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

*To be major*

JESSICA E. BASSO  
NICOLE S. LOPEZ  
BRIAN M. NELSON  
BRADLEY TAIT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

*To be colonel*

MARY E. CARD-MINA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

*To be colonel*

RUDYLEE ARMIJO  
ROBERT A. CEDERSTROM  
SARAH G. GRANT  
JEFFREY P. HICKS  
ROBERT A. LEJEUNE, JR.  
RYAN K. MILLER  
WILSON T. MUSTAIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be colonel*

MARK R. MILHISER

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be captain*

MATTHEW D. BAIRD  
DONALD J. PETERSEN  
DANIEL L. SCHEER  
JERRY T. WHITLOCK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be captain*

NEREMIAH J. S. CASTANO  
STEPHANIE L. CUNNINGHAM  
CAROL L. GOOD  
LACECHE L. GORDONLITTLETON  
KRISTINA HADLEY  
CAROLINE A. HODGSON  
LYNN M. HOUSTON  
TRENT A. LEBOEUF  
JOMARIE LITZINGER  
INGRID K. MAHONEY  
ELISA M. MORRISON  
TANYA C. PAYTON  
GREGORY K. SMITH  
SHIRLENE M. SULATAN

PETER S. SUNDEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be captain*

MATTHEW B. DANIELS  
MICHAEL J. GRIFFITH  
LESLIE G. JETT  
GEORGE R. LAWTON  
CHRISTOPHER P. LEWIS  
LEA A. MURR  
ERIC J. PALMER  
KENNETH J. PHILLIPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be captain*

COLIN C. ENGELS  
TREVEN S. FELECICANO  
CHRISTOPHER L. WORTHY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be captain*

MARK L. BROOKS  
WILLIAM D. HICKS  
HERNAN PINILLA  
JOHN B. STOCKSTILL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be captain*

WENDY F. ALBAND  
JAMES M. BELARMINO  
MARK F. BRADY  
JESSICA M. BURHAM  
CHRISTINA M. CHIRICO  
RICHARD X. FENG  
RITABELLE A. FERNANDES  
RICHARD P. GOODRICH, JR.  
NARINDER P. GREWAL  
JASON B. GUILLIAN  
DAVID A. HAMPTON  
NICOLE M. HOLLIS  
DONALD J. LUCAS, JR.  
KEVIN M. LUNNEY  
MAUREN F. MCCLENAHAN  
ANDREW J. PELCZAR  
BENJAMIN F. RUDDICK  
KIMBERLY SMITH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be captain*

PETER J. HAMMES  
SALVATORE M. PIZZINO  
JEANNINE L. WEISS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be captain*

TOBY J. DEGENHARDT  
DANIEL D. LANDRY  
RYAN G. MCDONALD  
BRIAN A. POTOSKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

*To be captain*

BEN P. AMMERMAN  
MICHAEL A. ARCATI  
ADAM K. B. BRANDON  
THOMAS M. BROWN  
DAVID W. FINK  
MANDY L. GARDNER  
MICHAEL B. HANZEL  
JAMES J. JUNG  
DUKE J. KIM  
JANELLE Y. KURODA  
DAVID J. LEVINE  
COURTNEY E. LEWIS  
ADAM H. MOSELEY  
GILBERT A. SERRANO  
ROBERT C. SINGER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be captain*

JAMES M. MISSLER, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

KAELAN F. CLAY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

ELLIOTT GILES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

CHAD C. BARNHART  
SPENCER M. BIGELOW  
BRIAN R. BRENNER  
CODY G. CLAPP  
HENRY A. DEBELL  
MICHAEL D. DEDWYLDER  
KELCEY E. DUNAWAY  
MORGAN K. GILMOUR  
LAURA Y. LU  
LAUREN P. LUSCUSKIE  
NATHAN B. SCHOEN  
MARYALICE SPIN  
CATLIN J. TAKAHASHI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

*To be captain*

BURNES C. W. BROWN  
CHRISTOPHER W. CLEVENER  
JEFFREY J. CREIGHAN  
THOMAS D. FUTCH  
JUSTIN R. GROVER  
LEIF E. GUNDERSON  
MICHAEL S. HARTZELL  
KARL HASSENFRATZ  
MICHAEL J. HUBER  
JEREMY R. JANNEY  
DANIEL T. JONES  
RUSSELL W. JONES  
TOWNEY G. KENNARD III  
KENNETH M. KIRKWOOD  
ERIC J. KNEPPER  
DUSTIN T. KRAEMER  
ALFRED W. LONG, JR.  
EDWARD J. MAY, JR.  
GWENDOLYN H. MURPHY  
MARTIN E. ROSCHMANN  
RYAN A. STEWART  
CHRISTOPHER S. TURNER  
KENNETH W. ZILKA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

*To be commander*

JUSTUS T. COOK  
TRAVIS M. EVERT  
ROBERT M. HUBNER  
CHRISTOPHER D. JONES  
DAVID R. RODRIGUEZ  
SHEU O. YUSUF

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

*To be lieutenant commander*

JEREMY M. ADAMS  
PERRY J. BENZSCHAWEL  
DAIN A. BOMBERGER  
ZACHARY S. CHYRA  
ROBERT A. DEGABRIELE  
PATRICK A. DELUCIA  
JAMES S. DOHERTY  
RYAN M. ERPS  
MICHAEL D. FORMBY  
TREVOR W. HEIL  
JOEL R. HUNTER  
CARL L. JONES, JR.  
JUSTIN KNISELY  
DMITRIY KOTOV  
CHAD P. LODER  
RICHARD M. LOGAZINO, JR.  
BENJAMIN J. LUCENTE  
MATTHEW D. MARTIN  
TILGHMAN H. MCCABE  
AARON M. MCCOY  
WILLIAM E. MCCURDY  
FREDERICK T. MCDONALD  
MATTHEW R. MCKINLEY  
JOSE E. MEZA  
EVAN A. SARINA  
JAMES E. SHANK  
NATHAN D. STAMBAUGH  
ADAM M. SUMMERS  
CHRISTOPHER A. SURMAN  
RENIER E. VANBREEN  
MICHAEL A. WOULFE  
CHANCE S. YERGENSEN

IN THE SPACE FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be colonel*

RAYMOND C. BRUSHIER

## WITHDRAWALS

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on June 2, 2025 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nominations:



JARED ISAACMAN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE ADMINIS- TRATOR OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE	ADMINISTRATION, VICE BILL NELSON, RESIGNED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 20, 2025.	JOHN BARTRUM, OF INDIANA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (ENTERPRISE INTE- GRATION), VICE GUY T. KIYOKAWA, RESIGNED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON MARCH 10, 2025.
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## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### INTRODUCTION OF THE REAL ID GENDER REQUIREMENT REFORM ACT

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2025*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the REAL ID Gender Requirement Reform Act, which would repeal the requirement in the REAL ID Act that REAL ID-compliant licenses include gender. Instead, states would decide whether to include gender on their respective REAL ID-compliant licenses. I am pleased Representative MAXWELL FROST is co-leading this bill.

Under this bill, if a state includes gender on its REAL ID-compliant licenses, the state must allow individuals to change the gender designation on their license through self-attestation. It would also require states that include gender on their REAL ID-compliant licenses to have a neutral or other designation gender field, in addition to male or female.

Under the REAL ID Act, gender must be included on a license. This can be problematic for transgender and nonbinary individuals. I recognize that some LGBTQ+ individuals do not want gender designations on licenses at all, while others do want gender designation so as to express their identity. I believe this bill strikes the middle ground, while showing Congress' support for LGBTQ+ individuals.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

### CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF ELISSA DEVITO

#### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2025*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate a devoted public servant, Elissa DeVito of Preston, Connecticut. Elissa is retiring from teaching at Waterford Public Schools after over 30 years of dedicated service. Her decades of outstanding expertise and dedication to her community will be sorely missed.

Elissa spent her early life in Rockville, Maryland before attending Syracuse University where she met the love of her life, Michael. Elissa moved to Connecticut in May of 1991. She and Michael lived in Groton and Mystic before settling in Preston in 1994, where they have been ever since.

Elissa chose a path of public service and has dedicated her life to education and teaching. For decades, she has worked as a teacher, helping to shape the minds of generations of children. She began her career with Waterford Public Schools on November 30, 1992, at Oswegatchie Elementary School. She stayed at Oswegatchie until the fall of 2009 when she transferred to Quaker Hill Elementary School.

While Elissa has spent most of her career working with kindergarteners, she has also spent a few years working with first and second graders.

Always going above and beyond to create a caring and supportive environment for the students that entered her classroom, it has been Elissa's mission to provide the next generation with the tools they need to succeed. Elissa is a natural educator and has been known as an expert at teaching young students to read. Students go from learning the letters of the alphabet to reading books by the end of their time in her classroom.

As she enters retirement, Elissa is looking forward to spending more time reading, one of her favorite pastimes, visiting her daughters, Samantha, Emily, and Alexa and going on trips with her husband Michael.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent constituents as devoted and compassionate as Elissa. Elissa has impacted hundreds of students during her career. Elissa will leave behind an expert skill set and enthusiasm that will be hard to replace, but her 33 years of unwavering dedication to the Waterford community will leave a legacy for years to come through each and every one of her students. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Elissa DeVito's immeasurable contributions and congratulating her on her well-earned retirement.

### HONORING DALE W. SISSON, JR.

#### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2025*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Dale W. Sisson, Jr., on his retirement from the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD), after a distinguished career dedicated to serving our nation.

Mr. Sisson's commitment to the Navy and to the advancement of our national defense is truly commendable. He has served NSWCDD with distinction for over two decades, culminating in his role as Technical Director, where he oversaw a \$1.8 billion portfolio of research, development, test, and evaluation. His leadership of the 4,930-member NSWCDD workforce has been instrumental in ensuring the technical excellence of complex naval combat, sensor, weapon, and strategic systems, making Dahlgren a vital asset to our national defense and a source of pride for Virginia's First Congressional District.

Prior to his role as Technical Director, Mr. Sisson served as the Executive Director of the Naval Ordnance Safety and Security Activity (NOSSA) and Deputy for Weapons Safety, Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA). In these critical roles, he was responsible for providing executive and technical direction for all ordnance surety programs assigned to NOSSA and ensuring the safety and effective-

ness of our Navy and Marine Corps munitions through his work with the Department of the Navy's Weapon System Explosives Safety Review Board.

Mr. Sisson's prior leadership roles at NSWCDD, including his tenure as Head of the Electromagnetic & Sensor Systems Department and his detail as Director of Systems Engineering within the office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, Test, & Evaluation (DASN (RDT&E)), further demonstrate his dedication and expertise. His contributions to the Navy's development of laser weapons, recognized with the Department of the Navy's Superior Civilian Service medal in 2015, exemplify his innovative spirit and technical prowess.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Dale W. Sisson, Jr., for his years of dedicated service to our Nation and in wishing him all the best in his well-deserved retirement. He has made a significant and lasting impact on our national security, and we are deeply grateful for his contributions.

### RECOGNIZING ANITA ALTMAN

#### HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2025*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anita Altman, a distinguished New Yorker and cherished member of our community, who will celebrate her 80th birthday on June 2, 2025.

Anita has devoted her life to building a more inclusive, compassionate, and just society. A proud daughter of the Bronx, Anita was raised in a working-class Greek Jewish household by her parents, Jack and Sarah, and her grandparents Anna and Zadick Coffino, who emigrated from the Ottoman Empire and made their home on the Lower East Side. From these deep roots, Anita cultivated a lifelong commitment to public service, Jewish communal life, and progressive social change.

After earning her B.A. from City College and a Master's in Health Services Administration from the New School, Anita began a career that would span urban planning, public health, and groundbreaking social advocacy. From her early work at the New York City Planning Department and Montefiore Medical Center to her service on Manhattan's Community Board 7, Anita has been a tireless force for equitable development, healthcare access, and community empowerment.

Anita's visionary leadership at UJA-Federation transformed the landscape of aging and disability services in New York. She was instrumental in launching the state's first programs for Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities, helping thousands of seniors age with dignity in the communities they helped build. She led one of the first Jewish communal responses to the AIDS epidemic and convened the Federation's Task Force on

• 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.

Family Violence, for which she was honored with the Governor's Courage Award and the Woman of Valor award from the New York Board of Rabbis.

Perhaps most widely known is Anita's creation of the Reel Abilities Film Festival, the nation's largest showcase of films by and about people with disabilities. Through ReelAbilities, Anita helped elevate underrepresented voices, challenge public perceptions, and promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities in American life.

As she celebrates 80 extraordinary years, I recognize Anita Altman for her vision, her integrity, and her unwavering belief that all people deserve to live with dignity, visibility, and respect.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ASHOK RAMSARAN, A DISTINGUISHED CIVIC AND COMMUNITY LEADER IN QUEENS, NEW YORK

### HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2025*

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ashook Ramsaran, a distinguished civic and community leader in my Sixth Congressional District.

Mr. Ramsaran has been a resident of Queens, New York, since emigrating from Guyana (formerly British Guiana) in 1968. He is the third generation of Indian indentured laborers who worked on British sugar cane plantations after the emancipation of enslaved people in British colonies in 1834. His great-grandfather, Pooriye, arrived in Guyana in 1853 aboard the ship *Adelaide*, and his great-grandmother, Radhah, arrived in 1860 aboard the ship *Colgrain*. His family faced significant struggles and persevered under extremely harsh conditions on the plantations. Throughout the generations, they worked tirelessly to build a better life in Guyana rather than return to poverty in India.

Mr. Ramsaran was the first member of his family to attend school, an opportunity he valued greatly. He attended Auchlyne Church of Scotland Primary School and Corentyne High School through a Booker Sugar Estates Scholarship. He graduated high school with diplomas from the University of Cambridge and the University of London. He briefly worked as a primary school teacher at Yakusari Primary School, then at the Ministry of Health in Georgetown, and as a clerk at magistrate's courts in New Amsterdam and Whim Village in Guyana.

Before leaving for the U.S.A. to pursue higher education and a better life for his family, Mr. Ramsaran married Camille (formerly Camille Ramgadoo). He embodied the American dream with courage, determination, and a commitment to succeed. While attending college and supporting his family, which included his wife and two small children, he held several jobs. He earned advanced engineering degrees from Polytechnic-New York University and persevered through many hardships, including violent racial attacks against his family and their home. With remarkable resilience, he exceeded expectations, purchased a home, quickly advanced to prominent positions in major companies, funded his children's college

education, and established a successful engineering firm in Queens, New York. He has become a role model for his immediate and extended family, as well as for others in his community.

Together with Camille, Mr. Ramsaran is the parent of Arnold and the late Gerald, and they are the grandparents of Jaden and Gavin, all of whom reside in Queens.

Mr. Ramsaran holds numerous positions in civic and community organizations, including: Executive Vice-President of the Queens Civic Congress (QCC); Chair of the Community Advisory Council for NY Presbyterian Hospital/Queens (NYP/Q); President of the Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC); Past President of GOPIO International (2011 to 2016); Board Member of the Center for Caribbean & Latin American Studies at St. John's University (SJU/CLACS); Executive Board Member of India Empire, a Diaspora publication; Financial Co-Chair and Elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Flushing, New York (FPC); Board Member of the Fresh Meadows Civic Association, New York (FMCA); Chair of the Queens Civic Congress Conference 2022, addressing critical community issues such as civic engagement, transportation, land use, public safety, services for seniors and children, homelessness, education, real estate tax equity, redistricting, discrimination, and racial justice; Member of the District 24 AM Weprin South Asian Advisory Panel (SAAP); Member of the Queens Borough President's Census 2020 Committee; Member of the Queens Borough President's Civic Engagement Committee; and Delegate to the Queens Borough President's General Assembly (QGA).

Mr. Ramsaran takes initiatives and leads efforts to landmark and secure street naming in recognition of outstanding institutions, communities, and individuals. His landmarking efforts include the Brinckerhoff Colonial Dutch Cemetery (1713), and he has facilitated street namings such as Little Guyana Avenue, Don Capalbi Way (in honor of an exceptional civic leader), Old Towne of Flushing Burial Ground Lane (a historic cemetery for African Americans and Native Americans), Brinckerhoff Memorial Way, and others that honor civic and religious leaders.

Additionally, Mr. Ramsaran has established memorials to commemorate Indian indenture-ship in various British colonies from 1828 to 1917, including the Kolkata Memorial in India and Indian Arrival Monuments in Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Martinique, and other locations. He embraces his noble and selfless service to the global Indian Diaspora community in various ways, tracing his roots to a rich and enduring heritage.

Mr. Ramsaran expresses that he "feels blessed to be an American," where he lives and contributes to improving the lives of others by utilizing his skills, resources, and advocacy. He is dedicated to his moral obligation and duty to give back to society—specifically to Queens, New York, and the Nation—providing him with opportunities and the freedom to progress while helping those who are less fortunate.

Queens is the most diverse county in the United States, and Mr. Ramsaran actively collaborates with many groups and organizations to address common concerns. He deeply engages with community issues of interest and importance, making significant contributions that resonate throughout the community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HOLLIS HAMILTON HOOKS, A PILLAR OF THE LAKE LAND COMMUNITY

### HON. SCOTT FRANKLIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2025*

Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Hollis Hamilton Hooks, a lifelong Lakelander whose quiet leadership and steady service left a lasting impact on the community he loved.

Hollis never sought the spotlight, but his influence was deeply felt throughout Polk County. From his early work in Washington to a successful career in financial services, he remained guided by a strong sense of duty to give back.

In 1992, Hollis was elected to the Polk County School Board, where he helped lead the district's first strategic planning effort. He championed policies to expand school choice and raise academic standards through the development of magnet programs. He also served on the board of the Polk Education Foundation, where he helped channel private-sector support into classroom resources, scholarships, teacher recognition programs and professional development.

Hollis made a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of our region. As chairman of the board for the Lakeland Regional Medical Center, he played a key role in guiding improvements to local care. Through his work with the hospital's foundation, he helped drive critical investments in enhanced services and modernized facilities to meet the needs of a rapidly growing community.

His commitment to civic life extended to the arts and public discourse. He served on the board of the Polk Museum of Art, working to increase access to arts education and cultural programming. He also sat on the board of LkldNow's parent nonprofit, underscoring his belief in the value of informed and engaged local communities.

Hollis Hooks was more than a civic leader. He was my friend, a fellow elder at First Presbyterian Church of Lakeland, and a man of profound integrity. My prayers are with his wife Debbie, their children and all who had the privilege of knowing him. Hollis made Lakeland stronger, and his example of humble leadership will continue to guide and inspire.

May we honor his memory by living lives of purpose and service.

CONGRATULATING SOPHIA RIVERA, GIRLS' SHOT PUT AND DISCUS STATE CHAMPION

### HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2025*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Sophia Rivera of Ephrata High School on winning gold medals in both girls' shot put and girls' discus at the 2025 PIAA Class 3A Track and Field Championship, held on May 23 and 24.

The 2025 PIAA Class 3A track and field championship took place on May 23 and 24,

during which Ephrata junior Sophia Rivera excelled in shot put and discus. On the first day, Rivera captured the state title in girls' shot put with a distance of 43 feet, 3 inches. Her domination continued into girls' discus the following day, where a throw of 143 feet, 3 inches nabbed the gold medal.

Sophia Rivera's two state titles crown a spectacular season and a complete sweep in the postseason, as Rivera won gold medals in both events during the Lancaster-Lebanon League championship and the District Three championship weeks prior.

With two state titles and a total of 6 gold medals during the track and field postseason, Sophia Rivera has firmly established herself as one of Pennsylvania's best in shot put and discus. I offer my sincere congratulations to Sophia on her success this year and look forward to seeing what she accomplishes next.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, June 3, 2025 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### JUNE 4

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies  
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for the Department of Commerce.

SD-192

Committee on Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine dismantling transnational criminal organizations in the Americas.

SD-419

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
To hold hearings to examine the reauthorization of the over-the-counter monograph drug user fee program.

SD-430

10:15 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations  
Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy  
To hold hearings to examine China's malign influence in Africa.

SD-419

4 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Cheryl Mason, of North Carolina, to be Inspector General, and Donald Bergin III, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Congressional and Legislative Affairs), both of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SR-418

4:15 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging  
To hold hearings to examine the aging farm workforce, focusing on America's vanishing family farms.

SH-216

#### JUNE 5

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2026 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217.

SD-G50

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Sean Cairncross, of Minnesota, to be National Cyber Director, Robert Law, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans, James Percival, of Florida, to be General Counsel, and Sean Plankey, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, all of the Department of Homeland Security, Kevin Rhodes, of Florida, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, and James Woodruff II, of Florida, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Penny Schwin, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Secretary, and Kimberly Richey, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, both of the Department of Education, and Daniel Aronowitz, of Virginia, and David Keeling, of Kentucky, both to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

SD-430

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine barriers to supply chain modernization and factor productivity enhancements.

CHOB-210

10:15 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary  
Business meeting to consider S. 1829, to combat the sexual exploitation of children by supporting victims and promoting accountability and transparency by the tech industry, and the nominations of Stanley Woodward, Jr., of the District of Columbia, and Thomas Gaiser, of Ohio, both to be an Assist-

ant Attorney General, Ronald A. Parsons, Jr., to be United States Attorney for the District of South Dakota, and David Charles Waterman, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa, all of the Department of Justice, Joseph Edlow, of Maryland, to be Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, and John Squires, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

SH-216

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 1397, to require the Secretary of State to establish a quantum cooperation program to enhance international cooperation in quantum information science, S. 1463, to allow the Secretary of the Interior to enter into memoranda of understanding for the purpose of scientific and technical cooperation in the mapping of critical minerals and rare earth elements, S. 1478, to provide the United States Government with additional tools to deter state and non-state actors from wrongfully detaining United States nationals for political leverage, S. 1579, to provide for the treatment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) as international organizations for purposes of the International Organizations Immunities Act, S. 1731, to require the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy in response to the global basing intentions of the People's Republic of China, S. 1780, to provide for congressional oversight of security assistance to Mexico, S. 1801, to facilitate the development of a whole-of-government strategy for nuclear cooperation and nuclear exports, S. Res. 227, condemning Hamas for its premeditated, coordinated, and brutal terrorist attacks on October 7, 2023, against Israel and demanding that Hamas immediately release all remaining hostages and return them to safety, an original bill entitled, "Defending International Security by Restricting Unlawful Partnerships and Tactics ('DISRUPT') Act, and an original bill entitled, "Taiwan Non-Discrimination Act of 2025".

S-116

#### POSTPONEMENTS

##### JUNE 4

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for the National Nuclear Security Administration.

SD-124

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S3155–S3188*

**Measures Introduced:** Five bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1922–1926, and S. Res. 258–260. **Page S3169**

**Measures Reported:**

S. 244, to direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, to conduct a study of the national security risks posed by consumer routers, modems, and devices that combine a modem and router, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 119–25)

S. 258, to improve forecasting and understanding of tornadoes and other hazardous weather, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 119–26)

S. 433, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the National Manufacturing Advisory Council within the Department of Commerce, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 119–27) **Page S3169**

**Measures Considered:**

**Genius Act:** Senate resumed consideration of S.1582, to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S3155–58**

Pending:

Thune (for Ricketts/Lummis) Amendment No. 2228, to provide for expedited certification of existing regulatory regimes. **Page S3155**

Bennet Amendment No. 2278 (to Amendment No. 2228), to provide a definition. **Pages S3155–58**

**Appointments:**

***Commission to Study the Potential Transfer of the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History to the Smithsonian Institution Act:*** The Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 118–144, announced the appointment of the following individuals to be members of the Commission to Study the Potential Transfer of the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History to the Smithsonian Institution Act: Louise Mirrer of New York, and Amy Gutmann of Pennsylvania. **Page S3161**

***Migratory Bird Conservation Commission:*** The Chair announced, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, pursuant to Public Law 70–770, the appointment of the following individual to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: Senator Heinrich (re-appointment). **Page S3161**

***Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts:*** The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 85–874, as amended, appointed the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: Senator Warner (reappointment). **Page S3161**

**Bowman Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of 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. **Page S3158**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Wednesday, June 4, 2025. **Page S3158**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3158**

**Walsh Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Edward Walsh, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to Ireland. **Pages S3158–59**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of 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. **Page S3159**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S3158**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3158**

**O'Neill Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of James O'Neill, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services. **Pages S3159–60**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Edward Walsh, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to Ireland. **Page S3159**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S3159**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3159**

**Duffey Nomination—Cloture:** Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Michael Duffey, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment. **Page S3161**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 282), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S3161**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, June 3, 2025; and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, at 11:30 a.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, and if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs), the post-cloture time be expired at 2:15 p.m., and Senate vote on confirmation thereon. **Page S3182**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Derrick Anderson, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

John Bartrum, of Indiana, to be Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mindy Brashears, of Texas, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Food Safety.

Jonathan Burke, of Georgia, to be Assistant Secretary for Terrorist Financing, Department of the Treasury.

Austin Dahmer, of Arizona, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Jeffrey Goettman, of Virginia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Africa, Western Hemisphere, Europe, the Middle East, Environment, Labor, and Industrial Competitiveness), with the Rank of Ambassador.

Stella Herrell, of Nevada, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

Anthony Lomangino, of Florida, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2031.

Jonathan McKernan, of Tennessee, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Casey Means, of California, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service for a term of four years.

Platte Moring, of South Carolina, to be Inspector General, Department of Defense.

John Noh, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Chris Pilkerton, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security.

Glen Smith, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development for Rural Development.

Laura Swett, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2030.

Alexander Verlez-Green, of Virginia, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Gregory Zerzan, of Texas, to be General Counsel of the Department of Transportation.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Space Force. **Pages S3185–87**

**Nominations Withdrawn:** Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nominations:

Jared Isaacman, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which was sent to the Senate on January 20, 2025.

John Bartrum, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Enterprise Integration), which was sent to the Senate on March 10, 2025.

**Pages S3187–88**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages S3169–71**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**

**Pages S3171–73**

**Additional Statements:**

**Pages S3168–69**

**Amendments Submitted:**

**Pages S3173–82**

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—282) **Page S3161**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:50 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 3, 2025. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3182.)



## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 6 public bills, H.R. 3667–3672; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 457, were introduced. **Page H2382**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page H2383**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Smith (NE) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2381**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

## Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

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## NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D517)

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”. Signed on May 23, 2025. (Public Law 119–13)

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”. Signed on May 23, 2025. (Public Law 119–14)

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

### Senate

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* business meeting to consider S. 222, to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to allow schools that participate in the school lunch program to serve whole milk; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Michael Boren, of Idaho, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment, 3 p.m., SR–328A.

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for the Department of Education, 10 a.m., SD–124.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimate for fiscal year 2026 for the Securities and Exchange Commission, 2:30 p.m., SD–124.

*Committee on Finance:* business meeting to consider the nomination of William Long, of Missouri, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Department of the Treasury, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph Barloon, of Maryland, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador, Janet Dhillon, of Virginia, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for a term of five years, and Brian Morrissey, Jr., of Virginia, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury, 10:30 a.m., SD–215.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on the Constitution, with the Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights, to hold joint hearings to examine District Judges v. Trump, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

### House

*Committee on Rules,* Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 2483, the “SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025”; H.R. 2931, the “Save SBA from Sanctuary Cities Act of 2025”; H.R. 2966, the “American Entrepreneurs First Act of 2025”; and H.R.

2987, the “Capping Excessive Awarding of SBLC Entrants Act of 2025”, 4 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of June 3 through June 6, 2025

### Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Michael Duffey, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Michael Duffey, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs). If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Allison Hooker, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Dale Marks, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, and after a period of debate, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

### Senate Committees

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* June 3, business meeting to consider S. 222, to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to allow schools that participate in the school lunch program to serve whole milk; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Michael Boren, of Idaho, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment, 3 p.m., SR-328A.

*Committee on Appropriations:* June 3, Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for the Department of Education, 10 a.m., SD-124.

June 3, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimate for fiscal year 2026 for the Securities and Exchange Commission, 2:30 p.m., SD-124.

June 4, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for the Department of Commerce, 10 a.m., SD-192.

*Committee on Armed Services:* June 5, to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2026 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be

immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

*Committee on Finance:* June 3, business meeting to consider the nomination of William Long, of Missouri, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Department of the Treasury, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

June 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph Barloon, of Maryland, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador, Janet Dhillon, of Virginia, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for a term of five years, and Brian Morrissey, Jr., of Virginia, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury, 10:30 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* June 4, to hold hearings to examine dismantling transnational criminal organizations in the Americas, 10 a.m., SD-419.

June 4, Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy, to hold hearings to examine China's malign influence in Africa, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

June 5, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1397, to require the Secretary of State to establish a quantum cooperation program to enhance international cooperation in quantum information science, S. 1463, to allow the Secretary of the Interior to enter into memoranda of understanding for the purpose of scientific and technical cooperation in the mapping of critical minerals and rare earth elements, S. 1478, to provide the United States Government with additional tools to deter state and non-state actors from wrongfully detaining United States nationals for political leverage, S. 1579, to provide for the treatment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) as international organizations for purposes of the International Organizations Immunities Act, S. 1731, to require the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy in response to the global basing intentions of the People's Republic of China, S. 1780, to provide for congressional oversight of security assistance to Mexico, S. 1801, to facilitate the development of a whole-of-government strategy for nuclear cooperation and nuclear exports, S. Res. 227, condemning Hamas for its premeditated, coordinated, and brutal terrorist attacks on October 7, 2023, against Israel and demanding that Hamas immediately release all remaining hostages and return them to safety, an original bill entitled, “Defending International Security by Restricting Unlawful Partnerships and Tactics (“DISRUPT”) Act”, and an original bill entitled, “Taiwan Non-Discrimination Act of 2025”, 10:30 a.m., S-116, Capitol.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* June 4, to hold hearings to examine the reauthorization of the over-the-counter monograph drug user fee program, 10 a.m., SD-430.

June 5, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Penny Schwinn, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Secretary, and Kimberly Richey, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, both of the Department of Education, and Daniel Aronowitz, of Virginia,

and David Keeling, of Kentucky, both to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor, 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* June 5, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Sean Cairncross, of Minnesota, to be National Cyber Director, Robert Law, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans, James Percival, of Florida, to be General Counsel, and Sean Plankey, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, all of the Department of Homeland Security, Kevin Rhodes, of Florida, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, and James Woodruff II, of Florida, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* June 3, Subcommittee on the Constitution, with the Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights, to hold joint hearings to examine District Judges v. Trump, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

June 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine pending nominations, 10:15 a.m., SH-216.

June 5, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1829, to combat the sexual exploitation of children by supporting victims and promoting accountability and transparency by the tech industry, and the nominations of Stanley Woodward, Jr., of the District of Columbia, and Thomas Gaiser, of Ohio, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Ronald A. Parsons, Jr., to be United States Attorney for the District of South Dakota, and David Charles Waterman, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa, all of the Department of Justice, Joseph Edlow, of Maryland, to be Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, and John Squires, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 10:15 a.m., SH-216.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* June 4, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Cheryl Mason, of North Carolina, to be Inspector General, and Donald Bergin III, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Congressional and Legislative Affairs), both of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 4 p.m., SR-418.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* June 3, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

*Special Committee on Aging:* June 4, to hold hearings to examine the aging farm workforce, focusing on America's vanishing family farms, 4:15 p.m., SH-216.

### House Committees

*Committee on Agriculture,* June 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled "American Innovation and the Future of Digital Assets: From Blueprint to a Functional Framework", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

June 5, Subcommittee on Conservation, Research, and Biotechnology, hearing entitled "Supporting Farmers, Strengthening Conservation, Sustaining Working Lands", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Appropriations,* June 4, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and

Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Federal Aviation Administration, 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

June 4, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, budget hearing on the Office of Management and Budget, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

June 5, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Commerce, 11 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

June 5, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Indian Health Service, 1:30 p.m., 2008 Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services,* June 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Department of the Army Fiscal Year 2026 Posture", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

June 4, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled "Update on Navy Programs and Capabilities for Seapower and Projection Forces", 3 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

June 5, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Department of the Air Force Fiscal Year 2026 Posture", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and Workforce,* June 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Department of Education"; and business meeting on Subcommittee assignments, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

June 5, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Department of Labor", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* June 4, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation, hearing entitled "Stopping Illegal Robocalls and Robotexts: Progress, Challenges, and Next Steps", 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

June 4, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled "AI in the Everyday: Current Applications and Future Frontiers in Communications and Technology", 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services,* June 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled "American Innovation and the Future of Digital Assets: From Blueprint to a Functional Framework", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

June 5, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions, hearing entitled "Framework for the Future: Reviewing Data Privacy in Today's Financial System", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* June 4, Europe Subcommittee, hearing entitled "Assessing the Challenges Facing NATO", 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

June 5, Middle East and North Africa Subcommittee, hearing entitled "After Assad: The Future of Syria", 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* June 4, Subcommittee on the Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust, hearing entitled "The Elite Universities Cartel: A History of Anticompetitive Collusion Inflating the Cost of Higher Education", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

June 5, Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance, hearing entitled "Foreign Influence on American's Data Through the CLOUD Act", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, June 4, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing entitled “Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness”, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform*, June 4, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “Safeguarding Procurement: Examining Fraud Risk Management in the Department of Defense”, 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

June 4, Subcommittee on Delivering on Government Efficiency, hearing entitled “Public Funds, Private Agendas: NGOs Gone Wild”, 2 p.m., HVC–210 Capitol.

June 5, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Federal Government in the Age of Artificial Intelligence”, 10 a.m., 210–HVC.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology*, June 5, Subcommittee on Research and Technology; and Subcommittee on Energy, joint hearing entitled “Pursuing the Golden Age of Innovation: Strategic Priorities in Biotechnology”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Small Business*, June 4, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Budgeting for Growth: Testimony from SBA Administrator Kelly Loeffler”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

June 5, Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access, hearing entitled “Investing in America: How Private Equity Empowers Main Street”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, June 4, Subcommittee on Aviation, “FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024: Stakeholder Perspectives on Implementation One Year Later”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

June 5, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “The Future of the Coast

Guard: Review of Coast Guard Programs and Structure”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, June 4, Subcommittee on Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture, hearing entitled “National Reconnaissance Office, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency FY 2026 Budget Hearing”, 9 a.m., HVC–304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

June 4, Subcommittee on National Security Agency and Cyber, hearing entitled “FY 2026 Budget Request for the National Security Agency”, 1:30 p.m., HVC–304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

June 5, Subcommittee on Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture, hearing entitled “FY 2026 Budget Request for the Military Services”, 9 a.m., HVC–304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

June 5, Subcommittee on Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture, hearing entitled “FY 2026 Budget Request for the United States Cyber Command and United States Special Operations Command”, 10:15 a.m., HVC–304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

June 5, Subcommittee on National Intelligence Enterprise, hearing entitled “FY 2026 Budget Request for the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Department of Homeland Security”, 11 a.m., HVC–304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

### Joint Meeting

*Joint Economic Committee*: June 5, to hold hearings to examine barriers to supply chain modernization and factor productivity enhancements, 10 a.m., 210, Cannon Building.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Tuesday, June 3

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

12 noon, Tuesday, June 3

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Tuesday:** Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Michael Duffey, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Michael Duffey, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs). If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Allison Hooker, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Dale Marks, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, and after a period of debate, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination.

*(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Allison Hooker until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)*

## House Chamber

**Program for Tuesday:** Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

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