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No. 94

## House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
June 3, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAVID J. TAYLOR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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

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

### NIPPON STEEL AND U.S. STEEL MERGER

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Nippon Steel and U.S. Steel merger brokered by President Trump to ensure that a critical American company remains right at home in Pennsylvania.

By ensuring that U.S. Steel retains an American CEO, an American-dominated board, and allows the U.S. Gov-

ernment to have veto power over critical business decisions, President Donald J. Trump has fully protected our national security.

This merger will be a huge benefit for the Pennsylvania economy and for our workers, as it not only includes a massive investment in U.S. Steel's operations already present in Pennsylvania but also includes up to \$4 billion for a new steel mill, creating thousands of additional jobs.

President Trump stepped up to the plate to protect a critical American company. Mr. Speaker, because of his leadership, the Pennsylvania economy and our Nation that depends on steel production will once again see another example of the golden age of America developing right in front of our eyes.

### SUPPORTING FENTANYL LEGISLATION

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, already this Congress, the House of Representatives passed the HALT Fentanyl Act, legislation to crack down on the criminals who create, traffic, and sell the deadly fentanyl that takes the lives of so many Americans.

This week, we will be taking another step to further support our fellow Americans struggling with the deadly cycle of addiction by passing the SUPPORT Act. This legislation will ensure our brave first responders can access and administer Narcan to save the lives of those suffering from an overdose, as well as to continue the resources for comprehensive opioid recovery centers to further support recovery.

Too many of our Nation's citizens are stuck in the deadly cycle of addiction, and we must extend a helping hand so that they can return to a normal life and be integral members of their communities.

I look forward to supporting this legislation on the House floor this week to help ensure that our fellow Americans address this vicious cycle of addiction.

### SUPPORTING WHOLE MILK AT SCHOOL LUNCHES

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 649, the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, legislation to permit schools to provide whole milk at school lunches.

School children throughout our country are unable to receive the health benefits and the nutrients that whole milk provides due to out-of-date regulations that limit the type of milk that students can drink at lunch.

As a doctor, I know how important a diet that includes whole milk is to ensure that our Nation's kids have the building blocks to build strong bones, strong muscles, and strong brains.

Even the CDC agrees that whole milk is the healthiest drink available for our children. Not only will this legislation result in healthier children, but it will be a critical boost to our Nation's dairy industry, an industry States like Pennsylvania rely on.

In Pennsylvania, we produce more than 10 billion pounds of milk annually from 470,000 dairy cows throughout our Commonwealth. Our dairy farmers work incredibly hard to provide healthy products for our families, and now it is our turn to support them and to support our children with this commonsense legislation.

### HONORING CHIEF ROBERT STATLER

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Johnstown Fire Department Chief Robert Statler who retired after 40 years of distinguished public service.

Chief Statler joined the Johnstown Fire Department 29 years ago as a firefighter. Throughout the years, he fulfilled the responsibilities of driver, captain, training officer, and assistant chief before he was promoted to chief in 2019.

Before joining the Johnstown Fire Department, Chief Statler began his impressive legacy of public service as a fourth-generation volunteer firefighter with the Windber Fire Department.

□ 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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In addition to the leadership that he provided to Johnstown as fire department chief, he also served as co-city manager, emergency director, and liaison between the firefighters and city management. Throughout the Johnstown community, he is known as a faithful colleague and a consistent professional.

On behalf of everyone in the 13th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, I express gratitude to Chief Statler for his devotion to public safety and offer best wishes for a life of enrichment through all of his future endeavors.

### ONE BIG, UGLY BILL

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today, June 3, Congress reconvenes after a 12-day break. On May 22, the last time we were here, this Chamber was involved in a 2-day marathon. H.R. 1, the misnamed one big, beautiful bill, was jammed through in the dead of the night, as it was being written in real time, by a vote of 215 to 214.

During my time home, I held two townhalls. One was up in Tolland, Connecticut, near the border of Massachusetts. The other was down along the shoreline in Madison, Connecticut. Both townhalls were well-attended.

Last night in Madison, it was standing room only. People were bursting with questions about how a bill that can change the tax code for the next 10 years, that can intervene in terms of our healthcare system, in terms of taking away people's health coverage, can happen with no transparency and no public input.

As I said, it was being written in the dead of the night prior to the vote on May 22. This is what we know now as the dust has settled in terms of what the impact of this bill is.

In terms of healthcare, the bill is going to cut our Medicaid program, America's largest healthcare program, and extract roughly \$700 billion from the system over the next 10 years.

The Affordable Care Act, subsidizes premiums, which provides health insurance for millions of Americans. Again, those premiums are going to be cut. As a result, people are going to lose their health insurance. That is not me saying that. That is the Congressional Budget Office, the neutral umpire that calls balls and strikes around this Congress who is saying that.

Again, they have calculated that 15 million Americans will lose their health insurance as a result of this measure which was passed by the majority and jammed through in the dead of the night.

In Connecticut, we have already seen what the numbers mean in terms of this bill. The Kaiser Family Foundation is not a partisan group. They have been studying healthcare trends and finance for decades. They determined

that 140,000 citizens in the State of Connecticut will lose their health coverage as a result of this bill.

As the dust has settled, we now know of one thing that didn't get a lot of attention. As a result of the deficit impact of this bill, which is going to add trillions of dollars to the national debt, it is going to trigger a sequestration, an automatic cut to the Medicare system. Medicare is the system that provides health insurance for people over 65 and people on disability.

That is \$500 billion over the next 10 years. Again, it is going to be a cut across the board to hospitals, to physicians, and to a whole series of medical devices and pharmacy products that are covered by Medicare.

Again, this is because of the reckless deficit spending that this bill creates. That is not me saying that. The calculation of the Joint Committee on Taxation was \$3.7 trillion of new debt on top of the \$36 trillion of debt that we have today.

The Wharton School of Finance, where President Trump attended school, calculated \$3 trillion, as well. When they added the interest costs that are going to be paid on that additional deficit, that spending, that is going to push the number closer to \$5 trillion.

Again, today the deficit is \$36 trillion. We are spending \$89 billion a month in terms of interest costs on the existing debt. That is larger than what we spend in the Department of Defense on a monthly basis. It is bigger than any other account in the discretionary budget of this government.

This bill accomplishes two harmful, damaging impacts to America which are, number one, 15 million people are going to lose their health insurance. We are also going to see the deficit grow by anywhere between \$3 trillion and \$5 trillion. For what? It is to reward the top 1 percent whose tax cuts are going to be extended and enlarged for many over the coming years, leaving working families and the poor in the dust.

We can do better than this as a nation. Again, it is not too late to stop this. The Senate is now going to take up this bill.

The external pressure is going to rise up with the American Hospital Association and with patient groups like the American Cancer Society, the American Lung Association, Autism Speaks, and people who represent disability groups. They are rising up now to stop this bill because of the harm it is going to cause on individuals and families all across this country.

It is time to stop this one big, ugly bill that is going to do so much damage to the American people.

### CONGRATULATING LUCAS GASTON

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize

and congratulate several military academy appointments.

Lucas Gaston of Brookville, Pennsylvania, has recently accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Lucas is the son of Becky and Mike Gaston and the grandson of Hazel and Joe Gaston, as well as Nancy and Ted Fox of Brookville.

As a student of Brookville Area High School, Lucas is active in the classroom and on the athletic field and throughout his community.

Lucas is serving as the secretary of his class. He is a track and field and golf athlete. He participates in concert and marching band, and he is a Special Olympics volunteer and a member of the National Honor Society.

I thank Lucas for his commitment to service and wish him the very best of luck as he embarks on this exciting new phase of life at West Point.

### CONGRATULATING BRYONY SHIPE

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Bryony Shipe of Ford City, Pennsylvania. Bryony recently accepted a fully qualified appointment to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York.

She is the daughter of Amanda and Lucas Shipe and the granddaughter of Kathie and Dave Olinger, as well as Patty and Larry Shipe.

Bryony is a senior at Commonwealth Charter Academy and is an excellent example of a well-rounded student and active community member. Bryony is an active volunteer and tutors at a local education center. She is a varsity athlete in cross-country and swimming, and she is co-captain of the varsity swimming and diving team.

Her focus on service to others is an extremely valuable attribute that will contribute to her military career at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

I offer Bryony best wishes at Kings Point, and I look forward to seeing all that she achieves.

### CONGRATULATING ARCHIE WALKER

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Archie Walker of Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. Archie accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Archie is a senior at Central Mountain High School. She is the daughter of Jennifer and Greg Walker. Archie is an accomplished young woman, striving to make a difference in her country.

Walker is currently serving as the vice president of the Rotary Club. She is a 3-year varsity athlete in soccer, a dual-enrollment student at Commonwealth University, and a member of the National Honor Society.

Walker has proven herself on the field and in the classroom. I have no doubt that her determination will serve her well at the military academy, and I wish her the very best in this next chapter.

□ 1215

CONGRATULATING ADAM BELL

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Adam Bell of State College, Pennsylvania.

Adam accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Adam is the son of Elizabeth and Jayce Bell, the grandson of E. Ann Wortman and the late Jerry Wortman, as well as Janie and Roy Bell.

As a student at State College Area High School, Bell is involved in his high school's culinary program and has represented his school in competitions. He is a varsity athlete in three sports, diving, wrestling, and track, and participates in Model U.N.

Whether in the kitchen, on the field, or in the classroom, Adam excels in every area.

Bell will continue his athletic pursuits while at the Naval Academy as a pole vaulter for USNA's track and field team. His drive for success will help him excel at the Naval Academy. I wish Adam good luck as he begins the next chapter of his life as a midshipman and student athlete in Annapolis.

Mr. Speaker, it was an honor to nominate these young students. Their dedication to serving our country is inspirational. I look forward to seeing their successes in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I thank them all again for their commitment to our Nation.

#### PREVENTING BLACKOUTS IN PUERTO RICO

(Mr. HERNÁNDEZ of Puerto Rico was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ. Mr. Speaker, Puerto Rico faces an energy crisis. In anticipation of a generation shortfall this summer, which was announced months ago, the government said that it would pursue the option of deploying barges to provide temporary energy generation.

I am no fan of fossil fuels but an even lesser fan of blackouts, so I supported the government's decision.

However, a few weeks ago, the government walked back that plan. It cited objections from Federal agencies, claiming the barges were not viable because they couldn't withstand hurricane-force winds. Based on that, the proposals were disqualified from the bidding process.

Then began the rumors of irregularities, lobbying, and conflicts of interest. The discomfort made its way to Washington, and some of my Republican colleagues crossed the aisle to share with me their concerns.

Soon after, one of the companies disqualified from the bidding process issued a public statement calling for transparency. They pointed to political ties and potential undue influence.

I believe that a demand for transparency is fair and that a demand for transparency should be nonpartisan.

That is why, yesterday, I joined my Republican colleague, Chairman MARK GREEN of the Homeland Security Committee, in sending a bipartisan letter to multiple Federal agencies. We are requesting explanations for the rejection of the barge proposals and the decisionmaking process behind it.

Let me be clear: This is not about siding with one company over another. It is about transparency. It is about oversight. It is about whether Federal agencies, knowingly or not, were used to manufacture a pretext to favor certain interests.

The people of Puerto Rico don't deserve blackouts, and we need to make sure that there are no deals being made in the dark during those blackouts.

Mr. Speaker, in the interest of my constituents, I will repeat my remarks in Spanish.

(Spanish translation of the statement made in English is as follows:)

Señor Presidente, Puerto Rico enfrenta una crisis energética. Ante la proyección de un déficit de generación eléctrica para este verano, el gobierno había anunciado que buscaría suplir las necesidades energéticas mediante barcazas temporadas.

Yo no soy fanático de los combustibles fósiles—pero soy menos fanático de los apagones. Por lo tanto, respaldé esta iniciativa del gobierno.

Pero hace unas semanas, el gobierno dio marcha atrás. Alegó que las agencias federales habían señalado que las barcazas no eran viables porque no resistirían vientos huracanados. Y con ese argumento, las propuestas fueron descalificadas del proceso de subastas.

Fue entonces cuando comenzaron los rumores—sobre irregularidades, sobre cabilderos, sobre conflictos de interés. Y la incomodidad llegó hasta Washington. La incomodidad causó que varios colegas republicanos cruzaran el pasillo de este hemiciclo para expresarme directamente sus preocupaciones.

Nosotros entendemos que, si una de las compañías descalificadas, luego publicó una declaración pública exigiendo transparencia, lo menos que podemos hacer es exigir transparencia.

Esa compañía señaló posibles vínculos políticos e influencias indebidas de cabilderos. Por eso, ayer me uní a un colega republicano, el presidente del Comité de Seguridad Interna, MARK GREEN, para enviar una carta bipartidista a varias agencias federales solicitando explicaciones sobre la descalificación de la propuesta de las barcazas y el proceso de evaluación que se siguió.

Ahora quiero ser claro: esto no se trata de favorecer a una compañía sobre otra. Se trata de transparencia. Se trata de supervisión. Se trata de saber si agencias federales fueron utilizadas—con o sin su conocimiento—para fabricar un pretexto para descalificar estas compañías para favorecer ciertos intereses.

El pueblo de Puerto Rico no merece apagones. Pero el pueblo de Puerto Rico tampoco merece que se hagan acuerdos a oscuras durante esos apagones. Y este congreso está disposición de averiguar si las cosas se están haciendo correctamente y del lado correcto es que estaremos siempre.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Puerto Rico will provide a translation of his remarks to the Chair.

#### CALL EVIL BY ITS NAME

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

Mr. FINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today not just as a Member of Congress but as the father of two Jewish boys. I speak for all the Jews across the country, millions of them, who today go to the grocery store, their jobs, and school and live their lives afraid of what might happen to them.

Eighty years ago in Germany, Jews were burned in ovens for being Jews, and on Sunday, as I sat at home with my children watching TV, we saw that here in the United States, in 2025, Jews are being burned again.

You see, Mr. Speaker, it feels like open hunting season on Jewish Americans. I wear a kippah not because I am a proud and observant Jew. I am not all that observant. I wear it out of respect for all the Jews around America who do not feel safe wearing theirs today. That is because, by wearing it, they feel they literally have a target on their heads.

We have heard for 18 months that the intifada should be globalized. We have heard "resistance by any means necessary." On Sunday, and again 2 weeks ago, we saw what that looked like.

In this country, we have a hard decision to make. We have to make a decision about whether we are going to continue to be afraid or whether we are going to call evil by its name.

I have news for you, Mr. Speaker. When someone chants "Free Palestine," what they are calling for is the destruction of the only Jewish state in the world.

When someone says, "From the river to the sea," what they are calling for is the genocide of every Jew who lives in Israel and abroad.

We have to make a decision as a country: Are we going to call evil by its name, or are we going to continue to live in fear?

There are things that we can do, things that we must do, and things that I will be working here to make happen.

We must join Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Bahrain and declare the Muslim Brotherhood and all of its affiliates the terrorist organization that it is.

We must tackle the anti-Semitism that we have seen at our universities, and I have a bill that will deal with that. That is because when people hear lies that come from the universities that they believe are truthful and honest, and when they hear lies about what is going on in the world, it inflames them and leads to the actions that we have seen in the past couple of weeks.

The murderer—I don't know that he murdered anyone, so I apologize. The attempted murderer in Colorado was someone who is here illegally. That is the worst kind of crime because it is done by someone who shouldn't even be here. We need to do everything possible to back President Trump in getting these people out of this country.

There is no right to come to the United States if a person is not a citizen. It is not a right. It is a privilege. If a person does not share our values and if they do not believe in this country, then they should not be here.

I call on every one of these illegal immigrants to either get out or for us to get them out.

Lastly, as it relates to visas, I am a huge believer in immigration. America is a country of immigrants. Immigrants are what have made us great, but it is the immigrants who wish to come here and build us up, not those who wish to come here and tear us down.

For those who come to this country and go to our universities and work in other places, and their job is to undermine and defeat what has existed for 249 years, it is time for us to revoke those visas and to send them home.

The most important thing, Mr. Speaker, is that we must not be afraid to tell the truth.

#### HONORING BRENTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2025

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

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the remarkable achievements of the Brentsville High School class of 2025 in Prince William County. I was honored to join the graduates at their ceremony this past weekend.

Whether on the athletic field, in band performances and concerts, or in the classroom, each of the graduates has contributed to a Tiger legacy that will be remembered. As they step into the next chapter of their lives, I hope they carry on the spirit and pride of Brentsville.

I am very excited. I know many of the parents were so excited and so proud.

I thank the graduates for all that they have done, and I am sure that they will thank their teachers and parents, as well.

I congratulate the Brentsville High School class of 2025.

#### CONGRATULATING OSBOURN PARK HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2025

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate the graduates of Osbourn Park High School's class of 2025 in Manassas, Virginia.

The graduates have taken on challenges and risen to the occasion, whether on the basketball court with the girls' State champions, in the classroom with so many of them, 40 percent, getting a graduation GPA of 3.5 and higher, and even on the stage or elsewhere, and many are going on to either serve our country in the military or in trade schools and apprenticeships.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the graduates, again, on all their achievements. To the entire class of 2025 at Osbourn Park High School: Once a Yellow Jacket, always a Yellow Jacket.

I look forward to seeing all that they accomplish.

#### CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS OF BATTLEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2025

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the achievements of Battlefield High School's class of 2025 in Prince William County.

I was honored to be there this past week to celebrate the 555 Bobcats, who packed Eagle Bank Arena with a lot of proud parents and teachers.

I was really blown away by all of their accomplishments. Almost 70 percent of the students will be attending a 4-year college, and 20 percent will be attending a 2-year college. Others are joining the workforce, trade schools, apprenticeships, and even the military.

I congratulate, again, the Battlefield High School class of 2025. I am looking forward to seeing all that they accomplish.

#### HONORING GAINESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2025

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, today, I also rise to honor and congratulate the graduates of Gainesville High School's class of 2025.

To the graduates, as they become Cardinal alumni and take the big step into their future endeavors, they can remember the lessons that they have learned: how to be a leader, how to care for the community, and how to leave each place better than where they found it.

These lessons will stick with them as they embark on their next journey. They all have taken on the challenges in every aspect of their high school career, whether it is on the football field, in the classroom, or on the stage, and overcome all these challenges.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Gainesville High School class of 2025 graduates. I am excited to see the future and what it has in store for them.

#### CONGRATULATING MANASSAS PARK HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2025

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor and congratulate the graduates of Manassas Park High School's class of 2025 from the city of Manassas Park.

I was honored to be there to celebrate on the football field with them. I am glad it didn't rain on us.

The graduates have faced the pressures of growing up in an ever-changing world, and they have done so with determination and heart. That says a great deal about who they are and even more about who they will become.

Many of the parents were so proud, and the teachers, as well. They had big smiles on their faces.

I look forward to seeing all that the graduates accomplish.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate, again, the Manassas Park High School's class of 2025. I believe in their potential, and I look forward to seeing what they will accomplish.

□ 1230

#### INDUCTEES OF THE LOUDOUN COALITION ON WOMEN AND GIRLS' HALL OF FAME

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Finally, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the seven new-

est inductees of the Loudoun Coalition on Women and Girls' Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame recognizes women whose leadership, advocacy, and achievements have contributed to a stronger and more prosperous community.

Here are the newest inductees:

Rae Mitchell, who devoted nearly three decades to improving education in Loudoun, Fairfax, and Newport News Public Schools;

Kim Tapper, who directed numerous music and dance performances while incorporating movement therapy to support mental health;

Crystal Lily-Wheeler, who dedicated countless hours to community service while also serving on the board of National Capital Treatment & Recovery;

Danielle Nadler, who focused on fostering academic success at Loudoun County Schools and staff through the Loudoun Education Foundation;

Breana Turner, who advocates for Black women's health and research solutions to health inequities;

Jennifer Montgomery, who led efforts to combat food insecurity and created a simplified system coordinating human services; and

Finally, Lisa Jones who amplified domestic violence survivors' voices, organized trainings, and connected survivors with resources and support. Lisa has done an amazing job.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate each and every one of the honorees and express my deep thanks to these women for enriching the lives of our community, including the next generation.

#### RECOGNITION OF RICHARD "DICK" WALLACE

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of Richard "Dick" Wallace.

Dick was a man who led a captivating life growing up in Alexandria, Virginia. From a young age, he exhibited an exceptional musical talent, often playing intricate pieces by ear on multiple instruments.

Dick was an Eagle Scout, God and Country, and Order of the Arrow in Boy Scouts.

He was passionate about educating students about the Federal Government, playing an instrumental role in implementing the Presidential Classroom, a program teaching high school students about the U.S. Constitution and the workings of Washington, D.C.

In 1975, after the birth of his child, Richard Austen, the family fell in love with and then moved to Savannah, Georgia.

As a people person and proud citizen of Savannah, Dick served the community in many ways, including as a YMCA soccer coach, head of the Military Civilian Affairs for the Savannah Chamber of Commerce, and president of Ardsley Park Neighborhood Association, among countless other accomplishments.

Dick will be missed. May his memory live on in the smiles of those he profoundly impacted.

#### RECOGNITION OF ARROWHEAD POINTE GOLF COURSE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arrowhead Pointe Golf Course, a well-kept, picturesque green nestled within Richard B. Russell State Park in the Georgia mountains.

Offering breathtaking views of Lake Richard B. Russell, this course has become a destination for golf lovers seeking both challenges and tranquility. Ranked number eight on the 2025 USA Today 10 Best List, Arrowhead Pointe is described as the epitome of serenity and offers an excellent recreational experience to locals and visitors alike.

Beyond its natural beauty and top-tier design, Arrowhead Pointe is praised for its affordability, making it accessible for golfers of all ages and budgets. This course is more than just a place to play. It is a retreat where families and friends can connect with nature, enjoy healthy competition, and create lasting memories.

Arrowhead Pointe exemplifies the best of public golf, offering a world-class experience, welcoming players with warm southern hospitality, and fair prices.

Today, we celebrate Arrowhead Pointe Golf Course and its contribution to Georgia's tourism, recreation, and community well-being.

#### CONGRATULATING BERRY COLLEGE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Berry College, a well respected and prestigious university located in Mount Berry, Georgia.

Leisure and Travel ranked Berry College as the second-most beautiful campus in America. The institution is breathtakingly picturesque, offering stunning views of lakes, fields, forests, and mountains. Not only is it one of the most beautiful, but it is reportedly the world's largest as well, encompassing nearly 27,000 acres and offering 88 miles of trails.

Beyond its attractive exterior, Berry College offers state-of-the-art education to over 2,000 undergraduates and nearly 200 graduate students. As a private, nonprofit college, Berry consistently gives back to Georgia and the United States through generous contributions to student scholarships, academic resources, classroom technology, the arts, athletics, and high-quality facilities.

Berry College exhibits the best of private education, providing students with limitless opportunities to pursue their academic and professional aspirations.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Berry College for elevating the standard of higher education in Georgia.

#### RECOGNITION OF NFA BURGER, THE BEST BURGER IN GEORGIA

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the unexpected but powerful example of American entrepreneurial spirit.

Recently, Southern Living Magazine named NFA Burger the best hamburger in the entire State of Georgia.

Sometimes, the American Dream looks different from what you would expect, and in this case it looks like a cheeseburger served from a Chevron gas station.

Founded by Billy Kramer, NFA Burger has served roughly 200,000 perfectly seasoned patties to long lines of locals and travelers since 2019.

NFA Burger's recognition was earned without flashy branding and large investors. This emphasized the quality, consistency, and community support of a small business operating in a humble setting.

This commendation serves as a reminder that entrepreneurship thrives in small towns and family-owned storefronts across America.

Today, I congratulate NFA Burger for this tremendous achievement.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

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

#### PRAYER

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

Lord, lead us to the joy to be found only in You. Whatever we are to face this day, may we find that in all things, our joy and our contentment can be found in You.

While it is easy to say that when life is pleasant, when the going is easy, we soon realize that pleasure is often hard to find and life is not always easy. Remind us that You want more for us than passing moments of happiness, but a contentment that carries us through the trials, challenges, and turmoil life brings.

Whatever test we face this day, set our feet on the firm foundation of faith that You have laid for us.

As we tap into the strength and encouragement You offer us in prayer and Scripture, may we soon appreciate the endurance You build up in us daily.

In the facing of this day, instill in us the spiritual maturity that ensures that we are not overtaken by fear, nor overwhelmed by change, but produce in us the confidence in Your abiding presence and the certainty of Your perfect plan in the facing of all circumstances.

Lord, we lack nothing. We need not fear anything when we trust in You.

In Your eternal name, we pray.  
Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

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

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

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. MOYLAN 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.

#### MARITIME SECURITY

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution to condemn the illegal and international use of flag of convenience practices in maritime efforts. I am honored to be working alongside Representative TOKUDA and the Oceana in this effort, a leading maritime conservation NGO.

Flags of convenience is a practice that allows a ship to register their ship under another country to avoid certain regulations, taxes, and fees associated with their country. Among other things, this is a growing threat to U.S. maritime security, labor standards, and economic interests.

To quote Dr. Max Valentine of the Oceana organization:

Transparency at sea isn't just a tool for ocean conservation. It is essential for protecting workers, enforcing maritime security, and ensuring a level playing field for the global fishing industry.

#### OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES CEREMONY

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to proudly recognize the class of 2025 enlistees of our armed services who participated in the Our Community Salutes ceremony at Elizabeth City State University.

It was a true privilege to meet 27 talented young men and women from northeastern North Carolina and Virginia, all of whom have made the commendable decision to serve our Nation.

Our Community Salutes deserves praise for including northeastern North Carolina in their national graduation season tour, and I commend Dr. Ken Hartman for founding this exceptional program.

I extend special thanks to Ryan Bauman for expertly organizing this event, Lieutenant Commander Charles Michael Wise for prayer, and Rear Admiral John Vann of the United States Coast Guard for his motivating words.

It was an honor to present each enlistee with a copy of the United States Constitution, an important document they have sworn to uphold.

### RECESS

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

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

□ 1500

### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KNOTT) at 3 p.m.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

### AERIAL FIREFIGHTING ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2025

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 160) to amend the Wildfire Suppression Aircraft Transfer Act of 1996 to reauthorize the sale by the Department of Defense of aircraft and parts for wildfire suppression purposes, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 160

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Aerial Firefighting Enhancement Act of 2025".

#### SEC. 2. MODIFICATION AND REAUTHORIZATION OF AUTHORITY FOR SALE BY DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OF AIRCRAFT AND PARTS FOR WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION PURPOSES.

Section 2 of the Wildfire Suppression Aircraft Transfer Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-307; 10 U.S.C. 2576 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) by striking "a period" and inserting "the period"; and

(B) by inserting "or water" after "fire retardant";

(2) in subsection (b), by striking "sold under subsection (a)" and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting "sold under subsection (a) may be used only for the provision of aircraft services for wildfire suppression purposes.";

(3) in subsection (c), by inserting "or water" after "fire retardant";

(4) in subsection (d)(1), in the second sentence, by striking "subsection (a)(1)" and inserting "subsection (g)"; and

(5) by striking subsection (g) and inserting the following:

"(g) PERIOD FOR EXERCISE OF AUTHORITY.—The period specified in this subsection is the period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Aerial Firefighting Enhancement Act of 2025 and ending on October 1, 2035."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to support S. 160, the Aerial Firefighting Enhancement Act.

This bill will amend the Wildfire Suppression Aircraft Transfer Act of 1996 to allow the Department of Defense to, once again, sell excess aircraft and aircraft parts for wildfire suppression.

This will help facilitate the acquisition of excess military aircraft for the aerial wildfire suppression fleet.

This lifesaving authority protects our aerial firefighters and brings in revenue from military aircraft that are not needed. In fact, the Congressional Budget Office anticipates this legislation will reduce government spending.

Our brave first responders work tirelessly on the front lines, fighting wildfires that continue to get more dangerous every year.

This bipartisan, commonsense bill gives these brave men and women access to more equipment that is critical in an emergency.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Senators TIM SHEEHY and MARTIN HEINRICH for introducing this important legislation which passed the Senate unanimously in April.

I also thank Representative DAN NEWHOUSE for introducing the House companion bill and leading the charge in this Chamber. I encourage my colleagues to once again support S. 160.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 160, the Aerial Firefighting Enhancement Act.

This bill amends the Wildfire Suppression Aircraft Transfer Act of 1996 to reauthorize the sale of aircraft and

parts by the Defense Department for wildfire suppression for 10 years.

This bill reauthorizes the Secretary of Defense to sell excess Department of Defense aircraft and aircraft parts, which are acceptable for commercial sale to persons or entities that contract with the government for the delivery of fire retardants or water by air to suppress wildfires. The aircraft and parts could only be used for fire suppression.

This bill will help the U.S. suppress wildfires and recognizes the unfortunate reality that fire season is now year-round and additional resources, including aircraft, are required to effectively suppress catastrophic wildfires.

S. 160 is a bipartisan, commonsense bill that will help the United States maintain a robust fleet of wildfire suppression aircraft. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, the Aerial Firefighting Enhancement Act.

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, which will protect our brave aerial firefighters across the country.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 160.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### GERALD E. CONNOLLY ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS ACT OF 2025

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3490) to require the Government Accountability Office to produce a report on esophageal cancer, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3490

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Gerald E. Connolly Esophageal Cancer Awareness Act of 2025".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) esophageal cancer is the fastest increasing cancer among American men;

(2) esophageal cancer is one of the fastest growing cancer diagnoses among all Americans, increasing more than 700 percent in recent decades;

(3) esophageal cancer kills 1 American every 36 minutes every day;

(4) esophageal cancer is among the deadliest of cancers, with only about 1 in 5 patients surviving 5 years;

(5) esophageal cancer has tripled in incidence among younger Americans in recent decades;

(6) esophageal cancer has low survival rates because it is usually discovered at advanced stages when treatment outcomes are poor;

(7) raising awareness about esophageal cancer empowers individuals to seek preventive care, recognize symptoms, and pursue early detection strategies;

(8) survivors, caregivers, medical professionals, and researchers have made tremendous strides in advancing treatment options and improving the quality of life for those affected by the disease;

(9) esophageal cancer can be prevented through early detection of its precursor, Barrett's esophagus, which can be eliminated with curative outpatient techniques;

(10) research indicates that patients diagnosed with early-stage esophageal cancer have a significantly higher 5-year survival rate (as high as 49 percent) compared to those diagnosed at later stages, underscoring the critical need for enhanced screening and awareness; and

(11) as of December 2022, the American Gastroenterological Association recommends screening with a standard upper endoscopy in individuals with 3 or more established risk factors for Barrett's Esophagus and esophageal adenocarcinoma, including—

(A) male sex;

(B) non-Hispanic white ethnicity;

(C) age of 50 years or older;

(D) a history of smoking, chronic gastrointestinal reflux disease, or obesity; and

(E) a family history of Barrett's Esophagus or esophageal adenocarcinoma.

### SEC. 3. GAO REPORT.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress that includes an evaluation of—

(1) the total impact of esophageal cancer-related health care spending under the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program for Federal employees and retirees diagnosed with esophageal cancer; and

(2) how often individuals covered under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program with medical records indicating such individuals are high-risk for esophageal cancer undergo screening according to the established guidelines.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives has lost a true statesman.

Gerry Connolly was a father, a husband, friend, and a lifelong public servant that dedicated his life to his constituents, his community, and his country. I was deeply saddened to hear about his sudden passing.

From the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to 16 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, Gerry Connolly was a devoted public servant from Virginia's 11th Congressional District.

In Congress, Gerry Connolly was a friend to many of us. He was steadfast in fighting for what he believed in, but he was always committed to bipartisanship where he thought we could agree.

Over his tenure on this committee, I am proud to say we cosponsored eight bills together, including the Mail Traffic Deaths Reporting Act, the FedRAMP Authorization Act, and the Federal AI Governance and Transparency Act.

Mr. Speaker, I know I am not alone in that.

Many of my Republican committee colleagues found Gerry Connolly to be a partner and a friend. I extend my condolences to his family and also to the members of his staff. We lost our colleague after a short but courageous fight against esophageal cancer, one of the deadliest and fastest growing cancer diagnoses among Americans today.

The symptoms of this cancer are often overlooked or misdiagnosed, leading to late detection and limited treatment options.

Through this legislation, we hope to raise awareness about esophageal cancer to improve the odds for those who contract this disease. I am proud to have joined Ranking Member Gerry Connolly in cosponsoring the Gerald E. Connolly Esophageal Cancer Awareness Act and look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle on its passage into law.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I also thank the majority for their courtesy in moving this bill expeditiously to the floor.

The Esophageal Cancer Awareness Act was introduced by our dear friend, the late Ranking Member Gerry Connolly and by a bipartisan and unanimous vote of our committee, the bill was renamed in his honor.

First of all, I acknowledge Gerry's wife, Smitty, and his daughter, Caitlin Rose, who are in the gallery, along with many of Gerry's current and former staff to witness the debate on this bill.

Our Ranking Member, Mr. Connolly, lived his life serving others and making our country a better place. He was a steadfast advocate of the disadvantaged and the voiceless, and he stood up for what was right and what was just.

Gerry was a skilled statesman, an accomplished legislator, and a fierce defender of democracy. I am sure he would want everyone here to continue fighting like hell to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves, to defend the rights of every American, and bring accountability and transparency to power.

Esophageal cancer is the fastest increasing cancer among American men. It is also one of the deadliest. This bill would direct the GAO to report on key issues relating to esophageal cancer, including Federal spending for it under the Federal Employee Health Benefit Program and the screening rates among high-risk individuals within that program. This bill will hopefully offer some significant amount of help in the fight against esophageal cancer.

Mr. Connolly was the epitome of a public servant and will be deeply missed. It is our job now to continue this fight in his memory.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members not to refer to persons in the gallery.

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

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARCIA) for his remarks.

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank our acting ranking member for his leadership here and to honor our incredible ranking member.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bill, which of course, supports our fight against cancer and to improve healthcare for all Federal workers.

This is such an important way to honor the legacy of our colleague, our Ranking Member Gerry Connolly.

Gerry was a dedicated public servant, a fighter, and a mentor to all of us on the Oversight Committee. Gerry worked to hold our government accountable for over 30 years and was dedicated to improving the lives of all Americans.

He was a champion of our Federal workforce, of transparency, and in making government work for all the people that we serve.

He believed in the power of Congress and in fighting tirelessly for the constituents that he served and, of course, for the rule of law and our Constitution.

He served as a county executive where he fought to expand affordable housing and to invest in infrastructure, and he always supported public workers. He delivered for his community. He delivered for the country, and he left a proud legacy.

Now, Gerry represented the best among us in public service, which is why we strongly support this bill. We all miss him greatly, and I know every single member of our committee will work to carry on his legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge every Member to honor Gerry by supporting this bill.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge all Members to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill honoring the legacy of our friend and colleague, Gerry Connolly. I hope that this legislation can shed some light on the impact of esophageal cancer on Federal Government public servants.



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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3490, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

#### CONNECTING SMALL BUSINESSES WITH CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION GRADUATES ACT OF 2025

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1642) to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs for small business development centers and women's business centers, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1642

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Connecting Small Businesses with Career and Technical Education Graduates Act of 2025".

#### SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

(a) DEFINITION.—Section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(gg) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—The term ‘career and technical education’ has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302).”.

(b) SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—Section 21(c)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (T), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (v) of the first subparagraph (U) (relating to succession planning), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(3) in second subparagraph (U) (relating to training on domestic and international intellectual property protections)—

(A) in clause (ii)(II), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(B) by redesignating such subparagraph as subparagraph (V); and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(W) providing educational information to small businesses on—

“(i) hiring graduates from career and technical education programs; and

“(ii) career and technical education programs relevant to such businesses, including how to use such programs to satisfy hiring needs of such businesses;

“(X) providing information to career and technical education programs about how students and graduates of such programs can access resources and services of small business development centers to start and expand a small business concern; and

“(Y) as appropriate, connecting small businesses with career and technical education programs to assist students and graduates of such programs with identifying career opportunities.”.

(c) WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS.—Section 29(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 656(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

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

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

“(4) providing educational information to small business concerns owned and controlled by women on—

“(A) hiring graduates from career and technical education programs; and

“(B) career and technical education programs relevant to such concerns, including how to use such programs to satisfy hiring needs of such concerns;

“(5) providing information to career and technical education programs about how students and graduates of such programs can access resources and services of women's business centers to start and expand a small business concern; and

“(6) as appropriate, connecting small business concerns owned and controlled by women with career and technical education programs to assist students and graduates of such programs with identifying career opportunities.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

□ 1515

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my bill, H.R. 1642, the Connecting Small Businesses with Career and Technical Education Graduates Act of 2025. Earlier this year, I introduced this bill alongside the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. OLSZEWSKI), my friend.

Across America, the skilled labor shortage, particularly in trades, is a growing concern. Industries like construction, healthcare, and manufacturing are struggling to find qualified workers. At the same time, thousands of career and technical education graduates are entering the workforce with the hands-on skills employers desperately need.

This bipartisan legislation offers a commonsense solution. H.R. 1642 requires the Small Business Administration's resource partners to provide small businesses with vital information on how to hire graduates of career and technical education programs.

In addition, it ensures that students and graduates of these programs know about the business counseling resources available through SBA resource partners to help them start and grow their own small businesses.

Solving the skilled workforce shortage will take an all-hands-on-deck approach, and I am proud to lead this important step forward. I thank Representative OLSZEWSKI for joining me in introducing this bipartisan bill. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1642.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be here today as we consider bills that will strengthen the SBA and work to broaden services available to small businesses. These firms employ roughly half of the private workforce, create two-thirds of all new jobs, and generate almost half of our Nation's economic activity.

These aren't just statistics. They are the foundation of our local economies, providing essential services, from plumbers and electricians to physicians, and making towns and cities across the country attractive places to live and work.

They don't work on just their own behalf. They create millions of neighborhood jobs and reinvest in their local communities, from funding Little League teams to engaging in philanthropy.

Over the past 4 years under the Biden administration, we saw a surge in startups, as over 21 million new small businesses were created, the vast majority of which were created by women, including women of color. These acts of hope for the future make our economy stronger and give us reason to celebrate.

Unfortunately, the past few months have caused extreme uncertainty in the small business community. With so many new businesses starting, there is much more we could do on Capitol Hill to support their growth and flourishing.

That is why I am pleased we are here to consider seven bipartisan bills that aim to strengthen SBA services, restore trust and accountability, and expand resources for disabled entrepreneurs.

Turning to our first bill, while college affords opportunity for so many of our students, it isn't the only path to success. For students who are looking for in-demand skills that prepare them directly for the workforce, career and technical education programs can offer viable alternatives. These programs collaborate directly with local private-



sector businesses and tailor curricula to the needs of the community.

At a time when newly graduated students are seeing higher unemployment rates than the broader labor force, small businesses that rely on certain skills are still unable to find qualified workers. By directing small business development centers and women's business centers to provide educational information to small businesses about career and technical education programs, this bill will go a long way in meeting the labor needs of small businesses and also giving the graduates of CTE programs the tools they need to launch and grow their own successful startups.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman WILLIAMS, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. BRESNAHAN, and Mr. TRAN for their work on this bipartisan bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1642 to bring necessary solutions to all small businesses, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. TRAN).

Mr. TRAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1642, the Connecting Small Businesses with Career and Technical Education Graduates Act.

Small businesses can't thrive if they can't access a highly qualified workforce. This legislation will help small business owners connect with graduates of vocational programs and hire employees who can help their businesses thrive.

Talented graduates come out of vocational education programs in my district, like Coastline College in Fountain Valley, and have the skills that small businesses in Orange County need.

This bill will help ensure graduates of career and technical education programs find good-paying jobs that they are already trained for. It is pro-small business, pro-students, pro-workforce, and pro-economic growth. It is a win for everyone.

I am proud to co-lead H.R. 1642. I thank my colleagues, Chairman WILLIAMS and Congressmen OLSZEWSKI and BRESNAHAN, for their leadership in championing this important piece of legislation. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

I thank my colleagues, Chairman WILLIAMS, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. BRESNAHAN, and Mr. TRAN, for their bipartisan effort to ensure small businesses have access to the skilled workforce coming out of local career and technical education programs.

For years, small businesses have raised concerns about their ability to find workers with the best skills to staff their businesses. By leveraging our small business development centers and women's business centers, we can

help connect promising graduates of CTE programs to small businesses in need. Moreover, we can help those graduates start and grow their own businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 1642, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1642.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

#### WOSB ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1816) to establish requirements relating to certification of small business concerns owned and controlled by women for certain purposes, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1816

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "WOSB Accountability Act".

#### SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF SELF-CERTIFIED SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY WOMEN FROM GOALS.

(a) EXCLUSION OF SELF-CERTIFIED WOSBS FROM GOVERNMENTWIDE AND AGENCY GOALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 15(g) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(4) EXCLUSION OF SELF-CERTIFIED WOSBS FROM GOALS.—Only small business concerns owned and controlled by women that have been certified under section 8(m)(2)(E) shall be included in calculating the goals established—

"(A) under paragraph (1)(A)(v); and

"(B) by the head of a Federal agency for small business concerns owned and controlled by women under paragraph (2)."

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on the first day after the end of the second fiscal year beginning after the Administrator issues the regulations required under subsection (b)(2).

(b) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SELF-CERTIFIED WOSBS.—

(1) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN SELF-CERTIFIED WOSBS IN GOALS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a small business concern described in subparagraph (B) shall be

deemed to have been certified by the Administrator or a national certifying entity approved by the Administrator under section 8(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(m)) as a small business concern owned and controlled by women under paragraph (2)(E) of such section (15 U.S.C. 637(m)(2)(E)) for the purposes of calculating the goals described in paragraph (4) of section 15(g) of the such Act (as added by subsection (a) of this Act) until the Administrator or such a national certifying entity make a determination with respect to the certification of such concern.

(B) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS DESCRIBED.—A small business concern described in this subparagraph is a small business concern—

(i) that is self-certified as a small business concern owned and controlled by women as of the date on which the amendments made by subsection (a) take effect;

(ii) that files a certification application with the Administrator or a national certifying entity approved by the Administrator under section 8(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(m)) prior to such date; and

(iii) for which the Administrator or such a national certifying entity does not make a determination prior to such date regarding certification pursuant to such certification application.

(2) RULEMAKING.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue regulations carrying out this section.

(c) QUARTERLY BRIEFINGS REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and on a quarterly basis thereafter until the date specified in subsection (b), the Administrator shall provide to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Committee Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate a briefing on the implementation of the requirements of this section. Such briefings shall include—

(1) the total number of small business concerns expected to seek certification as a small business concern owned and controlled by women;

(2) the number of applications for certification pending with the Administrator or a national certifying entity approved by the Administrator under section 8(m) of the Small Business Act during the period covered by the briefing;

(3) the total number of applications approved by the Administrator or such a national certifying entity since the date of the enactment of this Act;

(4) the timelines associated with processing such applications by the Administrator or such a national certifying entity between submission and approval;

(5) the administrative costs to the Administration to make determinations on such applications and the estimated cost to such applicant to seek certification from a national certifying entity;

(6) a discussion of the Administrator's current and future outreach efforts to small business concerns owned and controlled by women and to Federal agencies on the requirements of this Act; and

(7) recommendations for additional legislative authority or resources required to fully implement the requirements of this Act.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term "Administration" means the Small Business Administration.

(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(3) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—The term "small business concern" has the meaning given under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(4) **SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY WOMEN.**—The term “small business concern owned and controlled by women” has the meaning given the term in section 8(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(m)).

(e) **NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.**—No additional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements of this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1816, the WOSB Accountability Act, introduced by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY), the gentleman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LALOTA).

H.R. 1816 prohibits agencies from counting self-certified women-owned small business contractors, otherwise known as WOSBs, toward an agency's women-owned small business contracting goals.

The committee has repeatedly found that programs that allow self-certification are far more susceptible to waste, fraud, and abuse. After years of hard work removing self-certification from other contracting goals, this bill is an opportunity to remove it from one of the two remaining statutorily defined small business contracting goals.

I am proud of this committee's work to remove self-certification in other programs, such as service-disabled veteran-owned small business contractors. Now, it is time to do the same with the WOSB program to help ensure integrity across SBA programs.

While we continue to have conversations on how to better align small businesses' contracting goals with merit-based principles, this bill would reduce the ability of fraudsters to exploit the system that is currently in place.

By mitigating the ability to defraud government contracts, we help ensure that taxpayer dollars are used as intended and help create a more level playing field between the WOSB program and other small business set-aside programs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1816, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

In recent years, both SBA and Congress have directed changes to the small business contracting programs to increase accountability and ensure proper use. The WOSB Accountability Act will continue this work by moving the Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program to full SBA certification.

This bill is important to ensure that the Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program works as intended, assists the companies as intended, and, ultimately, levels the playing field for women-owned firms competing for government contracts as intended.

The data shows that women are starting and running new small businesses, generating revenue and jobs in their communities, and growing in increasingly diverse industries, but fewer and fewer are signing up to work with the government. Again, many more are leaving.

Women-owned small businesses continue to make up a strikingly small share of Federal contracts, and the government continues to fail to meet the 5 percent goal of contracting dollars that Congress set three decades ago.

Better leveraging the Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program to recruit and retain more small firms strengthens the entire industrial base, promotes competition, and drives innovation.

Mr. Speaker, passing this bill today will do that. I urge all Members to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LALOTA).

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, the fundamental question this bill addresses is: Should a Federal contract intended for women go to men and fraudsters, or should a Federal contract intended for women-owned small businesses actually go to women?

Fortunately, even though we Republicans and Democrats disagree on a lot in this Chamber, we agree that the contracts meant for women should go to women.

Yet, right now, under Federal law, companies can simply self-certify—check a box claiming to be a woman-owned small business—and still count toward the Federal Government's goals.

That means bad actors can game the system, take contracts they don't deserve, and rob real women entrepreneurs of the opportunities meant for them. That is wrong, and that is exactly the kind of Washington loophole I am working to close.

Self-certification invites fraud. In fact, the Small Business Administration's own inspector general has repeatedly warned about the risks of fraud under self-certification. This was especially apparent with the SBA's COVID-19 lending programs, where

fraudulent self-certification led to billions of dollars in losses.

That is why I am proud to support the WOSB Accountability Act, a bipartisan effort that ensures contracts meant for women go to women.

This legislation is straightforward, Mr. Speaker. It puts an end to the days of businesses just claiming they are women-owned without having to prove it.

Under this bill, only certified and verified women-owned small businesses would count toward the Federal Government's contracting goals, just like it should be. It is high time we address this issue and empower women in business by ensuring the system works for them, not against them.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member VELÁZQUEZ, my fellow New Yorker, for partnering with me on this important piece of legislation. It is time we stop allowing fraudsters to steal opportunities meant for legitimate women entrepreneurs. I urge all of my colleagues to support the WOSB Accountability Act.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), the distinguished ranking member of the Small Business Committee.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, in 1994, Congress established a goal of awarding 5 percent of Federal contracting dollars to women-owned small businesses. Recognizing the obstacles that female entrepreneurs faced when entering and competing in the Federal marketplace, Congress identified this goal as an uphill battle. Three decades later, we can see how much of an understatement that was and how much more work has to be done.

Empowering female entrepreneurs has long been a top priority of mine. In 2000, to give women-owned firms a boost and incentivize agencies to bring in more WOSBs to compete for contracts, I wrote the law and created the WOSB program.

Today, many women-owned firms are critical partners to Federal agencies as a result of that law, yet the WOSB goal has been met only twice, and women-owned firms are not seeing the contracting opportunities that should accompany their level of participation in the market. We need to again provide a boost to the WOSB program and encourage more competition and success for WOSB firms.

My legislation that we are considering today will move more firms through the SBA's certification process so Federal agencies have a larger pool of companies that can trigger WOSB competitions.

□ 1530

Mr. Speaker, it will further protect the integrity of the program. We want to ensure that women-owned firms are who they say they are because that is who the program is designed to empower.

We expect that contracting officers will have more confidence working

with WOSBs, knowing that the SBA has already verified them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. LALOTA) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) for their work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I close by thanking the ranking member from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) for her leadership on this bill and her many years of work to create, strengthen, and enhance the Women-Owned Small Business program. I am pleased to support this bill and encourage all of my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1816, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PLAIN LANGUAGE IN CONTRACTING ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 787) to require plain language and the inclusion of key words in covered notices that are clear, concise, and accessible to small business concerns, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 787

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Plain Language in Contracting Act".

#### SEC. 2. ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY IN COVERED NOTICES FOR SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Each covered notice shall be written in a manner—

(1) such that a small business concern can easily understand the intent of the covered notice; and

(2) that—

(A) is clear, concise, and well-organized; and

(B) to the maximum extent practicable, follows other best practices appropriate to the subject or field of the covered notice and the intended audience of the covered notice.

(b) INCLUSION OF KEY WORDS IN COVERED NOTICES.—Each covered notice shall, to the maximum extent practicable, include key words in the description of the covered no-

tice such that a small business concern seeking contract opportunities using the single, Government-wide point of entry described under section 1708 of title 41, United States Code, can easily identify and understand such covered notice.

(c) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue rules to carry out this section.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED NOTICE.—The term "covered notice" means a notice pertaining to small business concerns published by a Federal agency on the single Government-wide point of entry described under section 1708 of title 41, United States Code.

(2) SMALL BUSINESS ACT DEFINITIONS.—The terms "Federal agency" and "small business concern" have the meanings given those terms, respectively, in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

#### SEC. 3. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.

No additional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 787, the Plain Language in Contracting Act, introduced by Representatives LALOTA, THANEDAR, and TRAN.

The Plain Language in Contracting Act is a vital piece of legislation designed to limit the cumbersome language used in government contract solicitations. This will empower small businesses to have a greater ability to compete for valuable government contracts.

The number of small businesses contracting with the government has been shrinking for years, and over the past few years the Committee on Small Business has heard firsthand that excessive red tape and unclear government-speak have made working and contracting with the government more difficult and costly for small businesses.

Currently, government contract solicitations are written in an overly complex way that is difficult to navigate unless someone is an attorney or contract specialist. One study found that only 3 percent of government contracts are written in a way that someone without a college degree could understand.

Small businesses often lack the resources to hire an army of attorneys

and contract specialists needed to fully understand these contracts, which creates difficulties in submitting successful bids. The wonky nature of this so-called government-speak has contributed to the shocking loss of small businesses in government contracting.

H.R. 787 will finally remove this unnecessary barrier facing small businesses by forcing the government to take commonsense action and write contract solicitations using simple, plain language.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 787, the Plain Language in Contracting Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Representatives LALOTA and TRAN, for their work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the complexity of the government's procurement process and requirements can be overwhelming to small businesses, including those seeking a Federal contract for the first time.

This government-speak, words we only find in government contracting documents like requests for proposals or solicitations, compound the complexity and may disincentivize firms from bidding.

This bill attempts to add clarity by requiring documents to be written in a plain way that helps firms more easily understand what the government is buying.

Small firms should not be put off from working with the government because available opportunities are not communicated clearly. We need more small businesses to bring their talent and innovation into Federal agencies, and I am hopeful this bill will contribute to that effort.

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LALOTA).

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, America's small businesses shouldn't have to hire a lawyer to apply for and win a simple government contract. Yet that is exactly what Washington's bureaucratic process demands today.

That is why I am honored to champion the Plain Language in Contracting Act, which will reduce the burden on small businesses when trying to secure government contracts.

My legislation ensures Federal agencies use clear, straightforward language in solicitations, thereby removing barriers, increasing transparency, and giving small businesses a fair shot.

Time and again, small business owners tell us the government contracting process is so complex, they ultimately walk away. Bidding on a contract is hard enough, but when the language is challenging and understanding it requires an advanced degree, it is easy to see why.

A study conducted by the Naval Postgraduate School, which analyzed 1 million DOD contracts, found less than 3

percent were in plain English. Most were rated difficult or very difficult to read. There is no other way to describe it. It is unacceptable.

Furthermore, of the 33 million small businesses operating in America, 74,000, only 0.22 percent, successfully secure Federal contracts. Mr. Speaker, 0.22 percent is just 1 in every 446 contracts. That is all.

When small businesses are shut out from opportunities because they are overwhelmed by the language, we don't just lose a bidder. We lose innovation. We lose local job creation. Oftentimes, we lose a better price.

The government should facilitate small businesses and not be a barrier. Federal agencies should speak in terms that are clear, consistent, and accessible to the American people.

The Plain Language in Contracting Act does just that. This bill creates a level playing field and ensures every small business can compete for a government contract without needing a lawyer.

I thank Chairman WILLIAMS and his staff, my colleagues from both sides of the aisle, and the entire Small Business Committee for supporting this commonsense solution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this bill.

MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. TRAN).

Mr. TRAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 787, the Plain Language in Contracting Act.

Far too often, bureaucratic barriers and complex government jargon prevent small business owners, especially veterans and immigrant entrepreneurs, from accessing and securing Federal contracting opportunities.

I consistently hear from small business owners in Orange County that the main reason they do not apply for Federal contracts is that the barriers to entry are simply too high.

H.R. 787 will address this barrier facing small business owners and mandate Federal agencies to use clear and accessible language in their contracting opportunities.

I am proud to co-lead this bill, and I thank the gentleman from Long Island (Mr. LALOTA) for working with me to improve the SBA and simplify the Federal contracting process. Let's continue to empower local businesses and ensure that every entrepreneur has the opportunity to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bipartisan bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, we will put this in really plain words, since that is what the bill does. Small businesses need to be able to understand what is happening in these contracts. Having language that is easy to understand will enable them to apply for these contracts, which enables them to bring their talents and their innovation to bear in our Federal Government.

Over the last decade, small businesses have been leaving at an alarming rate. Nothing we are doing is working to reverse that trend. In fact, the number of small business vendors in the government's ecosystem has been cut nearly in half.

Having this bill will make it easier for small business owners, people who are already working around the clock, to make their business successful for themselves, their communities, and their employees. They will now have an easier chance of applying for a contract with the Federal Government.

I am hopeful when this legislation is implemented, it will contribute to that goal. I thank the bill's sponsors.

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 787, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### TRANSPARENCY AND PREDICTABILITY IN SMALL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 789) to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules for cancelled covered solicitations, to amend the Small Business Act to provide assistance to small business concerns relating to certain cancelled solicitations, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 789

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act".

#### SEC. 2. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION RULES FOR CANCELLED COVERED SOLICITATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue rules as follows:

(1) Requiring disclosure of information about a covered solicitation that was issued and cancelled that includes the following:

(A) A justification for the cancellation of such covered solicitation.

(B) Available information about any plans to reissue such covered solicitation and any associated timeframes for such reissuance.

(C) Available information about any plans to include the requirements of such covered solicitation in another contract or task order of the Federal agency.

(2) With respect to a cancelled covered solicitation which the Federal agency does not intend to reissue, establishing procedures for the referral of a small business concern (as defined under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)) that prepared a bid for such covered solicitation to the Director of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (as defined in section 15(k) of such Act (15 U.S.C. 644(k))) of the Federal agency for assistance in identifying similar contracting opportunities.

(b) PUBLICATION.—The information required under subsection (a) shall be made publicly accessible on the single, Government-wide point of entry described under section 1708 of title 41, United States Code.

(c) COVERED SOLICITATION DEFINED.—In this section, the term "covered solicitation" means a solicitation of a Federal agency for a procurement for which two or more small business concerns were eligible to submit a bid.

#### SEC. 3. DUTIES FOR DIRECTORS OF OFFICES OF SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS UTILIZATION RELATING TO CERTAIN CANCELLED SOLICITATIONS.

Section 15(k) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(k)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (21), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

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

"(22) shall, when notified by a small business concern that a Federal agency cancelled a solicitation for which such concern prepared a bid and such Federal agency does not intend to reissue such solicitation, assist such concern with identifying similar contracting opportunities.".

#### SEC. 4. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.

No additional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements of this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in full support of H.R. 789, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act, introduced by Representatives LATIMER, ALFORD, and MFUME.

H.R. 789 seeks to bring clarity to small business owners when solicitations for contracts are canceled. Often, small businesses devote a considerable amount of time and resources in preparing these proposals for solicitations.

Unfortunately, these solicitations are often canceled by agencies with no explanation provided to the businesses that have already submitted proposals.

H.R. 789 will require agencies to share with the SBA information as to why the solicitation was canceled. Moreover, this bill requires agencies to assist small businesses impacted by the canceled solicitation by identifying similar contracts to bid on.

Small businesses deserve to have a full understanding of what opportunities are available to them and to know how agencies will fulfill their buying needs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 789, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Representatives LATIMER, ALFORD, and MFUME, for their work on this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, prior to this administration, government contracts provided small businesses with stability and predictability. The government was considered a reliable partner that could be trusted to keep its word and pay its bills.

Yet even before the chaos of the Trump administration, there were times when requirements legitimately changed and something the government intended to buy or do was no longer necessary.

In those previously rare instances, the government then canceled the solicitation. Unfortunately, any small business working on a bid lost all the time and money they had invested in the proposal.

Last year, a small business owner testified that it cost him an average of \$10,000 per proposal. If that solicitation was later canceled, the government did not have to provide him with any assistance or even any information.

This bill will change that. While we cannot make small businesses whole, we can make sure they are given additional information and assistance to help them adjust their operations and plans moving forward and hopefully to continue their participation in the Federal market.

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

□ 1545

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LATIMER).

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. MCGARVEY for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize the colleagues who have joined me in leading this bill, Congressman ALFORD of Missouri, Congressman MFUME of Maryland, and Congresswoman GOODLANDER of New Hampshire. I appreciate the opportunity to work together and to highlight why this important legislation is needed.

Small business owners are often resource constrained. Every day, these individuals play the role of salesman, compliance officer, marketing professional, and more, often juggling a variety of business-related activities to support their business.

When a small business owner submits a proposal to work with the Federal Government, they invest considerable time and resources into making their submission the best it can be. They are also forced to navigate a complex and time-consuming contracting process while balancing their other important responsibilities.

Last year, the Small Business Committee heard testimony from a small business owner who said that solicitation proposals can cost a small business upward of \$10,000 worth of labor to draft, develop, review, and execute.

With that in mind, it can be rightfully frustrating for a small business owner if a Federal agency decides to cancel a solicitation without transparency into why that decision has been made. Without insight into how the decision was made, it can feel as though their hard work and considerable investment to submit a proposal was made in vain.

If we are serious about bringing more small businesses into Federal contracting, then we must ensure that businessowners have confidence and trust in their Federal partners. This bipartisan bill, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act, would improve accountability in the Federal contracting process for small businesses.

The bill would require SBA to issue rules requiring that when an agency cancels a solicitation, they must share a justification for why they are canceling the solicitation and provide information about any plans to reissue it. If an agency does not plan to reissue the solicitation, then the bill would create procedures for a small business to receive assistance in identifying similar contracting opportunities.

This bill passed the Small Business Committee unanimously in March and passed the House by voice vote in the last Congress. It is a bipartisan and commonsense solution to help our small businesses more successfully navigate the Federal contracting process.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues here to support this important bill.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD).

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair for yielding, and I thank our friend from Kentucky for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 789, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act.

Small businesses aren't just part of our economy. They are our economy, Mr. Speaker. They are the innovators, the job creators, the backbone of our communities, and the heartbeat of Main Street America.

Far too often, as we have seen, they have been overlooked, underserved, and, frankly, undermined by the very

government they pay taxes to support. Federal agencies are simply not doing enough to open the door for small businesses to compete. Mr. Speaker, this must change.

To do that, I am proud to co-lead this bipartisan bill because supporting our small businesses should never be a Republican or Democratic issue. It is an American issue, Mr. Speaker.

Here is what is happening: When a Federal agency determines they have a need for certain products or services, then that agency's acquisition personnel will post a solicitation on the Federal Government's SAM.gov website for a contract to fill the requirements. That solicitation lays out what the agency wants to buy, how it will evaluate the bids, and when responses are due.

In good faith, small businesses dedicate precious time, money, and resources, sometimes thousands of dollars, to just submit these proposals. Too often, they are met with silence, confusion, or outright cancellation of the solicitation without any explanation. That is not just inefficient. That is unfair.

Agencies right now have broad discretion to cancel or amend solicitations without any transparency whatsoever. A small business can go all in on a contract proposal only to watch it vanish like that with no reason given. That is unacceptable.

H.R. 789 brings much-needed transparency and accountability to this process. It requires agencies to disclose why a solicitation was canceled because our small businesses deserve to know. Additionally, our bill requires a Federal agency's Office of Small Business and Disadvantaged Business Utilization to help small businesses find additional opportunities if a solicitation on which they made an offer is canceled so that they can go after these opportunities.

Small businesses create most of the new jobs in this country. In fact, in Missouri's Fourth Congressional District and in rural communities across America, they are the lifeline and fabric of our communities, but time and time again, they are squeezed out by overregulation and ignored by the bureaucracy. They are pushed aside in favor of corporations with high-paid consultants and armies of lobbyists.

That is wrong, and by passing H.R. 789, we take a concrete step toward restoring fairness in Federal contracting and rebuilding the relationship between our government and the small businesses it is supposed to serve.

I thank Congressmen LATIMER and MFUME for their partnership on this legislation. I also applaud the Small Business Committee chairman, ROGER WILLIAMS, for his leadership in putting Main Street America first.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, in closing, we know that providing a little

more predictability and stability can help reduce the barriers that keep small businesses from bidding on and winning government projects. That is what this bill will do.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank Mr. LATIMER and Mr. ALFORD for their work to bring this to the floor today and to increase transparency and accountability for our small business government contractors. I urge my colleagues to support it, as well, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 789, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## 7(a) LOAN AGENT OVERSIGHT ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1804) to amend the Small Business Act to require a report on 7(a) agents, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1804

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

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “7(a) Loan Agent Oversight Act”.

### SEC. 2. REPORT ON 7(a) AGENTS.

Section 47 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657t) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(j) ANNUAL REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall submit to Congress, in addition to the report required under subsection (h)(2), an annual report including, for the calendar year covered by the report—

“(A) the number of 7(a) agents assisting applicants for loans under section 7(a), disaggregated by the type of 7(a) agents consistent with information reported on the Fee Disclosure and Compensation Agreement, or any subsequent agreement forms that collect such information;

“(B) the number of fraudulent loans made for which an applicant used services of a 7(a) agent;

“(C) the purchase rate by the Administrator of loans for which an applicant used services of a 7(a) agent;

“(D) the number and aggregate dollar value of referral fees paid to 7(a) agents, disaggregated by whether the applicant or 7(a) lender paid such fees;

“(E) without identifying individual 7(a) agents by name, a consolidated analysis of the risk created by the individual 7(a) agents responsible for not less than 1 percent of—

“(i) the dollar value of loans made with the assistance of 7(a) agents; and

“(ii) the number of loans made with the assistance of 7(a) agents;

“(F) an analysis of interest rates on loans for which an applicant or 7(a) lender used services of an agent; and

“(G) a description of how the Administrator communicates with 7(a) agents.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) 7(a) AGENT.—The term ‘7(a) agent’ means a person who provides covered services on behalf of a lender or applicant.

“(B) COVERED SERVICES.—The term ‘covered services’ means—

“(i) assistance with completing an application for a loan under section 7(a) (including preparing a business plan, cash flow projections, financial statements, and related documents); or

“(ii) consulting, broker, or referral services with respect to a loan under section 7(a).”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1804, the 7(a) Loan Agent Oversight Act, introduced by Representatives MEUSER and MCIVER.

H.R. 1804 is an important piece of legislation that brings an additional layer of transparency in the fight against fraud in the Small Business Administration’s flagship 7(a) loan program.

This bill would require the SBA Office of Credit Risk Management to submit annual reports to Congress on the 7(a) loan program. The reports would include the number and dollar value of fraudulent loans associated with loan agents. The SBA already collects this information, and an annual reporting requirement would allow for more effective oversight.

Similar versions of this bill have passed on the House floor with bipartisan support in both the 117th and 118th Congresses. I look forward to seeing the Senate take swift action on this bill, which supports President Trump’s agenda to root out fraud and abuse.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1804, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1804, the 7(a) Loan Agent Oversight Act.

The 7(a) loan program is the SBA’s largest traditional lending program, providing access to capital for small businesses that cannot find it elsewhere. In fiscal year 2024, SBA approved more than 70,000 loans, totaling more than \$31 billion.

Loan agents are an integral part of the 7(a) lending program, helping to facilitate access to capital for small businesses by connecting borrowers with SBA lenders or by offering other products. As of 2020, these agents helped facilitate 11 percent of the loans administered.

Unfortunately, some dishonest loan agents can contribute to fraud, casting a stain on the SBA’s largest lending program and, ultimately, hurting borrowers and lenders alike.

As SBA increases its reliance on loan agents, it is essential that the agency have proper oversight of their involvement to minimize fraud. This will ensure that competent and honest agents can help screen borrowers, prepare forms, and better reach communities that need this capital most.

That is why this bill is so essential. The 7(a) Loan Agent Oversight Act would require SBA to establish a registration system that collects data on 7(a) loan agents to better track and evaluate the performance of loans for each individual agent.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. MEUSER and Mrs. MCIVER for their bipartisan collaboration on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from the great State of Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank our chairman, Chairman WILLIAMS, for his continued leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Democratic Member Mrs. MCIVER, in support of my bill, H.R. 1804, the 7(a) Loan Agent Oversight Act, which provides the Small Business Administration with the oversight capabilities to monitor its flagship loan program responsibly. This bipartisan legislation requires the SBA Office of Credit Risk Management to report on fraudulent loans made by a loan agent as well as the overall default rate on loans issued by those agents.

Loan agents are often the middlemen between the SBA, a 7(a) lender, and a small business. This legislation is necessary due to the increased role of loan agents in facilitating 7(a) loans to American small businesses.

The SBA inspector general reported that nearly one out of every seven loans involved a loan agent. Unfortunately, the inspector general also noted that there has been over \$335 million in documented loan agent fraud. This, of course, needs to be corrected and changed, Mr. Speaker.

Additionally, my legislation requires the SBA to submit their findings to Congress, which allows us to conduct proper oversight of the 7(a) loan program, ensuring it remains a successful public-private partnership that helps small businesses thrive.

Though Administrator Loeffler is bringing a lot to this office and has reined in the Biden administration’s weakening, frankly, of underwriting



standards in the 7(a) program, this bill advances good governance policies that will protect taxpayer dollars and uphold the program's record of success well beyond the next 4 years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of my bill.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. McIVER).

Mrs. McIVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1804, commonsense and bipartisan legislation, which I am proud to co-lead with my colleague, Congressman MEUSER, to bring better oversight and real accountability to one of the Small Business Administration's most important loan programs, 7(a).

Mr. Speaker, small business owners aren't asking for easy. They are asking for a fair shake and a real shot. That is what the 7(a) loan program is supposed to do: help turn grit and a good idea into a successful business.

This program is the reason that someone with a solid plan or a good business but without a big investor or family money can still open up shop.

When small business owners step up with a vision, a diner on the corner, a new chapter for the family plumbing business, or a pet supply store, it is on the government to make sure the tools we have to support them actually work. Right now, they don't.

□ 1600

There hasn't been sufficient oversight of this program, and that means we haven't been doing all that we can to protect small business owners from fraud.

Over the last decade, there has been more than \$335 million in documented loan agent fraud. That is why this bill matters.

It tackles this problem in two ways. First, it creates accountability for loan agents by making sure that the people who connect businesses to resources don't operate in the dark.

Second, by requiring information on loan performance, default rates, and risk analysis, it gives Congress the data we need to do our jobs, making sure the 7(a) program works as intended, and protects small business owners.

It is on us to make sure that the programs we use to support small businesses actually work and work honestly.

Ensuring 7(a) loans work is important because the program is a lifeline. It is a way to make sure that when people go to apply for a loan, they are walking into a fair process, not a rigged one.

Whether it is the mom in Newark who wants to open up a store or the first-generation American in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, who wants to bring a taste of home to town, small businesses create good jobs. They give back. They reinvest, and they show us what is possible in our communities.

H.R. 1804, our 7(a) Loan Agent Oversight Act, is a smart, targeted fix and

will help make sure that small business owners' dreams stay attainable.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I thank my colleague for co-leading this bill with me, and I also thank our ranking member and our chairman for their support. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Mr. MEUSER and Mrs. McIVER, for working together in a bipartisan way on behalf of strengthening the SBA's flagship 7(a) loan program.

For too long, a few bad actors have damaged one of the most successful small business capital access programs in the Federal Government. By giving the SBA the tools and authority it needs, we can root out bad behavior and minimize fraud without punishing loan agents that are acting in good faith on behalf of their clients and helping small businesses access the capital they need to grow.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 1804, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SESSIONS.) The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1804.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

#### THINKDIFFERENTLY ABOUT DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1634) to provide for a memorandum of understanding between the Small Business Administration and the National Council on Disability to increase employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1634

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act".

#### SEC. 1. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration, in consulta-

tion with the Chair of the National Council on Disability, shall—

(1) provide assistance to individuals with disabilities who desire to become entrepreneurs or to be self-employed;

(2) help individuals with disabilities find employment at small business concerns (as defined under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)); and

(3) assist small business concerns with hiring individuals with disabilities and with accessibility issues applicable to individuals with disabilities.

(b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING OR AGREEMENT.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, shall carry out and coordinate the activities described in subsection (a) by entering into one or more memoranda of understanding or other appropriate agreements.

(c) OUTREACH AND EDUCATION.—In carrying out the activities described in subsection (a), the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, shall conduct outreach and education about such activities.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, shall submit to Congress a report on activities carried out pursuant to any memorandum or agreement described in subsection (b) that includes the following:

(1) A description of how the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, carried out such activities.

(2) An analysis of opportunities to expand the technical capabilities of the Small Business Administration in carrying out such activities.

(3) A description of achievements under any such memorandum or agreement.

(4) A description of the plans of the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, to continue activities to expand employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

#### SEC. 2. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.

No additional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in full support of H.R. 1634, the ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act, introduced by Representatives STAUBER and SIMON.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their collaboration on this important legislation which aims to break down barriers and provide greater opportunities for individuals with disabilities nationwide.

Far too many individuals with disabilities continue to face systematic

challenges when trying to enter the workforce or start a small business. As Congress, we have a responsibility to recognize their talents and create opportunities that empower them to succeed.

The bill takes a simple, practical step toward directing the SBA to work directly with the National Council on Disability, and together they will coordinate efforts to help individuals with disabilities pursue entrepreneurship, secure employment with small businesses, and overcome accessibility challenges. This will help ensure that individuals with disabilities have access to business counseling through existing SBA programs, like the Small Business Development Centers.

Importantly, H.R. 1634 is a commonsense, no-cost solution that provides individuals with disabilities more opportunities to succeed on Main Street and start their own small businesses.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan effort, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1634, the ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act.

Although we have made considerable progress on bringing people with disabilities into the workforce, the numbers reveal how far we still have to go. Only 23 percent of the over 44 million individuals living with a disability are employed. This is not because they lack the skills or the willingness to work, but often because they face persistent structural barriers, such as discrimination, limited flexibility in the workplace, and inadequate transportation options, among others.

While small firms employ half the private-sector workforce, they may face challenges of their own, such as outdated infrastructure or uncertainty about accommodations. Helping small firms hire people with disabilities can directly benefit their company and in turn boost the overall economy.

This bipartisan bill requires that SBA collaborate with the National Council on Disability to help employers hire more people with disabilities and provide much needed support to these entrepreneurs.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. STAUBER, Ms. SIMON, Mr. ALFORD, and Mr. PAPPAS for their bipartisan collaboration on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER).

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, before I begin, I thank both my Republican and Democrat colleagues for their kind words. They are both spot on, and I couldn't be more proud to stand here and support this bill.

I rise today in strong support of my bill, the ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act.

I want to begin by thanking my colleagues from California, Missouri, and

New Hampshire, Representatives SIMON, ALFORD, and PAPPAS, for their support of this important legislation.

As a father to a young man with Down syndrome, I have seen firsthand just how much untapped talent exists within the disability community. Unfortunately, outdated systems and perceptions still keep far too many of these individuals on the sidelines in our economy.

That is just unfair, and it is a missed opportunity for American growth and innovation, and deprives our economy of their incredible contributions.

The ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act takes a critical step towards breaking down these barriers. This bill directs the Small Business Administration and the National Council on Disability to collaborate in providing resources and assistance to individuals with disabilities who want to start their own business or find meaningful employment, and it also ensures that small businesses have the guidance they need to hire and support employees with disabilities.

Through this bill, we are ensuring that individuals with disabilities can turn their ambitions into reality, whether that means starting a company or securing meaningful work. At the same time, we are helping small businesses tap into a skilled and motivated workforce by offering them the guidance to do so confidently.

Individuals with disabilities should not be overlooked. They should be empowered.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation so that every American, regardless of their ability, has the opportunity to contribute, succeed, and thrive in this great Nation.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SIMON).

Ms. SIMON. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman MCGARVEY for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman STAUBER, and I am excited to work with him so closely during my time in Congress to advance the opportunities for folks with disabilities in this country. It is just a deep honor for the two of us to continue on our path of representing Americans with disabilities.

As the first congenitally blind person to serve in the United States Congress, I am honored to rise today in support of this bipartisan bill with Representative STAUBER, the ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act.

As a community organizer and leader for over 20 years, I focused on finding jobs and opportunities for low-income folks in the bay area in California, and I came to Congress to bring those communities with me, particularly the disability community, a community that I belong to.

The disability community is too often left out of policy conversations, and today, Democrats and Republicans

are bringing our brothers and sisters to the table.

Right now, the unemployment rate for people with intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities remains alarmingly high in this country. Ashamedly, it is at 80 percent. Yes, 80 percent. This, we know, is unacceptable.

We can close the disability employment gap, not only to advance independence, dignity, and freedom for Americans with disabilities, but to drive economic growth.

This bill, my bill, our bill, creates an essential partnership between the Small Business Administration and the National Council on Disability to help individuals with disabilities pursue self-employment, dignity, launch small businesses, and thrive in the workforce.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill and build an economy that works for all of us. Mr. Speaker, I am so honored to say we can move this forward today.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank Representative STAUBER for advocating for his son and the millions of folks with disabilities in this country to have their just due and to support me in this legislation moving forward. Finally, Mr. Speaker, I thank Chair WILLIAMS and Ranking Member VELÁZQUEZ for their efforts in moving this bill forward.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues: Mr. STAUBER, for sharing his story, for acting on behalf of his son and so many Americans with disabilities; Ms. SIMON for her passion and her work in this area; and Mr. ALFORD and Mr. PAPPAS for their bipartisan work on improving entrepreneurship and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Every individual, no matter their disability, deserves a shot at participating in our economy and getting that shot at the American Dream. Whether it is getting a job in a local small business or launching their own startup, this bill directs the SBA and the National Council on Disability to collaborate on ways to help individuals with disabilities do just that.

By passing this bill, we can start clearing the structural barriers faced by people with disabilities, while growing the economy and helping small business owners.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 1634, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1634, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1615

#### ENTREPRENEURS WITH DISABILITIES REPORTING ACT OF 2025

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1621) to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to submit to Congress a report on the entrepreneurial challenges facing entrepreneurs with a disability, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1621

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Reporting Act of 2025”.

#### SEC. 2. REPORT ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP CHALLENGES OF ENTREPRENEURS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall submit to Congress a report on the challenges that entrepreneurs with a disability encounter with starting and operating a business, including—

- (1) an assessment of the challenges and needs of entrepreneurs with a disability;
- (2) a description of the resources and support that the Administrator provides to entrepreneurs with a disability;
- (3) a description of outreach to entrepreneurs with a disability by the Administrator, including by district and regional offices of the Small Business Administration, small business development centers (as defined in section 3(t) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(t))), and women’s business centers (as described under section 29(a) of such Act (15 U.S.C. 656(a)));
- (4) a description of any joint efforts between offices of the Small Business Administration or the Small Business Administration and other Federal agencies to advance the goal of supporting the economic success of entrepreneurs with a disability;
- (5) any deficiencies in the resources and support described under paragraph (2);
- (6) a description of the use of, and access to, resources of the Administration by entrepreneurs with a disability; and
- (7) any recommendations for legislative actions that are necessary to address the challenges or needs of entrepreneurs with a disability that are identified in the report.

(b) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.—No additional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days

in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1621, the Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Reporting Act of 2025, introduced by Representatives MCGARVEY and STAUBER.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation requires the SBA to report to Congress on the challenges facing individuals with disabilities and what resources or programs the SBA provides to assist them. The report will also include legislative recommendations to address those challenges.

America is the land of opportunity, meaning that anyone can and should be able to engage in entrepreneurship without regard to whether they have a disability. This bipartisan legislation will assess the challenges that individuals with disabilities encounter when starting a small business and identify whether and how government policies may exacerbate those challenges.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives MCGARVEY and STAUBER for their leadership on this important issue and for introducing this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 1621, the Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Reporting Act of 2025.

As vice ranking member of the House Committee on Small Business, I am proud to partner with Congressman STAUBER, who has done incredible work in this area to support Americans with disabilities and help to ensure that every American has the same opportunity to become a successful entrepreneur.

Mr. Speaker, this is, after all, the fundamental promise of the American Dream: that any person in this country can work hard, take risks, and hopefully find success.

Yet, Americans with disabilities, like other underprivileged groups, see fewer opportunities to make their entrepreneurial dream a reality. There are 44 million people with disabilities in the United States. In my home State of Kentucky, approximately 18 percent of people have a disability. Yet, people with disabilities make up just 6 percent of our Nation’s small business owners. We have to change that.

Far too often, entrepreneurs with disabilities encounter significant barriers, both physical and intangible, when starting their own business, including having a harder time getting bank loans and start-up investments, inadequate support services, and insufficient outreach from Federal pro-

grams. We know this is just the tip of the iceberg and that more barriers exist.

Today, nearly 2 million small businesses are owned by people with disabilities, but there could be so many more. Here is how: by improving the public programs that serve differently abled individuals and implementing policies that make work and entrepreneurship more accessible, providing accommodations, tackling ableism, and the list goes on.

Mr. Speaker, to pull this off, our bill would require SBA to conduct a comprehensive study of the resources that are available to entrepreneurs with disabilities, examine their effectiveness, and determine what actions need to be taken to help support these entrepreneurs.

By conducting this report, SBA will have the opportunity to revisit the effectiveness of their programs to ensure that our government better serves people with disabilities who want to start their own small business.

This bill came together in a way that I think the Founders might have envisioned. Last Congress, the Committee on Small Business heard from my constituent Cody Clark, a small business owner, a disabilities rights advocate, and I think the only person who has ever performed a magic trick in front of our committee.

He testified on the challenges that entrepreneurs with disabilities face based on his experience as an entrepreneur with autism, and this bill was born from his insight and experience.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this critical legislation for Cody and for every other American with their own entrepreneurial dream, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER).

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in favor of the Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Reporting Act of 2025.

I will start by thanking my friend and colleague from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY) for introducing this bill and for his hard work in getting this bill to this point.

Every day, people with disabilities across our great country demonstrate resilience, innovation, and an entrepreneurial spirit. Yet, many roadblocks make entrepreneurship unnecessarily difficult.

These individuals don’t lack talent, but they lack access. That is access to capital, access to resources, and the support needed to turn their ideas into successful businesses.

The Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Reporting Act ensures that we take a hard look at the obstacles standing in the way of aspiring entrepreneurs with disabilities. It directs the Small Business Administration to assess whether current programs are effectively serving these individuals and to identify where improvements are needed.

If we are serious about fostering economic growth and opportunity, we cannot leave behind the millions of great Americans with disabilities who want to contribute, who want to innovate, and want to build something of their own.

Removing these obstacles isn't just the right thing to do, but it is a smart investment in economic growth. Entrepreneurs with disabilities bring creativity, and they bring drive. We should be clearing the path and not blocking it.

Mr. Speaker, today is a fly-in day for the House of Representatives. This conversation between Chairman WILLIAMS, Mr. MCGARVEY, and the leadership of Ranking Member VELÁZQUEZ won't get the headlines because this apparently doesn't sell to the news media.

We in this country, as Democrats and Republicans, have more in common than we do differences, and we are letting the American people know that today.

Chairman WILLIAMS has done a tremendous job in the Committee on Small Business of allowing Members to bring ideas and legislation that is bipartisan. I thank the chairman for his hard work and for allowing us to do that.

I thank Ranking Member VELÁZQUEZ for allowing us to do that, as well.

I thank Mr. MCGARVEY for managing the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, this is who we are, and I point out that Mr. MCGARVEY said this is the way the Founding Fathers would want it. I totally agree with that. One of the gentleman's constituents brought the concern, and it took us a little while to get there, but we got there.

Mr. Speaker, we are working in a bipartisan fashion to remove obstacles in the way of the growth for our disability community.

Mr. Speaker, I know your background. The Speaker was chosen, just like me and millions of other parents, to raise a special child who God gave us. It is up to us now as a country and as legislators to not leave anybody behind.

Mr. Speaker, nobody in our disability community will ever be left behind, and you are seeing that in a bipartisan fashion.

I thank Mr. MCGARVEY, Ranking Member VELÁZQUEZ, and Chairman WILLIAMS for their leadership and allowing us to introduce this legislation because we are helping the most vulnerable in our community. That is exactly what we should be doing.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Chairman WILLIAMS and Ranking Member VELÁZQUEZ, for this incredible work and, as Mr. STAUBER said, allowing us to work together in this way.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. STAUBER for his incredible work in this area and for his willingness to advocate for so many Americans, including his own

child. It takes tremendous strength and courage. I thank the gentleman for working with me specifically on this important bipartisan piece of legislation to ensure that this Congress and the SBA do right by Americans with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, entrepreneurship is the hallmark of the American Dream. It is who we are—a land of opportunity for all. This bill takes a commonsense, bipartisan step toward improving government services for entrepreneurs with disabilities.

By requiring the SBA to assess current programs and identify challenges and barriers that entrepreneurs with disabilities face, we lay the groundwork for a better, more inclusive society and economy.

Small businesses are the backbone of the American economy. If we can make it easier for more people to start a small business, we will all benefit.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 1621, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1621, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PROPOSED RESCISSIONS OF BUDGET AUTHORITY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 119-55)

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

##### *To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with section 1012(a) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 683(a)), I herewith report 22 rescissions of budget authority, totaling \$9.4 billion.

The proposed rescissions affect programs of the Department of State, as well as the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the United States Agency for International Development, the United States Institute of Peace, and other international assistance programs.

The details of these rescissions are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

DONALD J. TRUMP.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 28, 2025.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

#### AFTER RECESS

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

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 1642; and

H.R. 1804.

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

#### CONNECTING SMALL BUSINESSES WITH CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION GRADUATES ACT OF 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1642) to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs for small business development centers and women's business centers, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 396, nays 5, not voting 30, as follows:

[Roll No. 146]

YEAS—396

Adams	Baumgartner	Bresnahan
Aderholt	Bean (FL)	Brown
Aguilar	Beatty	Brownley
Alford	Begich	Buchanan
Allen	Bell	Budzinski
Amo	Bentz	Burchett
Amodei (NV)	Bera	Bynum
Ansari	Bergman	Calvert
Arrington	Beyer	Cammack
Auchincloss	Bice	Carbajal
Babin	Biggs (SC)	Carey
Bacon	Bilirakis	Carson
Baird	Bishop	Carter (GA)
Balderson	Boebert	Carter (LA)
Balint	Bonamici	Carter (TX)
Barr	Bost	Casas
Barragán	Boyle (PA)	Case
Barrett	Brecheen	Casten

Castor (FL)	Green, Al (TX)	Meeks	Suoizzi	Torres (CA)	Wasserman	Casar	Goodlander	McClintock
Castro (TX)	Griffith	Menendez	Swallow	Torres (NY)	Schultz	Case	Gosar	McCollum
Cherfilus-	Grothman	Messmer	Sykes	Tran	Waters	Casten	Graves	McCormick
McCormick	Guest	Meuser	Takano	Turner (OH)	Watson Coleman	Castor (FL)	Gray	McDonald Rivet
Chu	Guthrie	Mfume	Taylor	Underwood	Weber (TX)	Castro (TX)	Green (TN)	McDowell
Ciscomani	Hageman	Miller (IL)	Tenney	Valadao	Webster (FL)	Cherfilus-	Green, Al (TX)	McGarvey
Cisneros	Hamadeh (AZ)	Miller (OH)	Thanedar	Van Drew	Westerman	McCormick	Greene (GA)	McGovern
Clark (MA)	Harder (CA)	Miller (WV)	Thompson (CA)	Van Dwyne	Whitesides	Chu	Griffith	McGuire
Clarke (NY)	Haridopolos	Mills	Thompson (MS)	Van Orden	Wied	Ciscomani	Grothman	McIver
Cleaver	Harrigan	Min	Thompson (PA)	Vasquez	Williams (GA)	Cisneros	Guest	Meeks
Cline	Harris (MD)	Moolenaar	Tiffany	Veasey	Williams (TX)	Clark (MA)	Guthrie	Menendez
Cloud	Harris (NC)	Moore (NC)	Timmons	Velázquez	Wilson (SC)	Clarke (NY)	Hageman	Messmer
Clyburn	Harshbarger	Moore (UT)	Titus	Vindman	Wittman	Cleaver	Hamadeh (AZ)	Meuser
Clyde	Hayes	Moore (WI)	Tlaib	Wagner	Womack	Cline	Harder (CA)	Mfume
Cohen	Hern (OK)	Moore (WV)	Tokuda	Walberg	Yakym	Cloud	Haridopolos	Miller (IL)
Cole	Higgins (LA)	Moran	Tonko		Zinke	Clyburn	Harrigan	Miller (OH)
Collins	Hill (AR)	Morelle				Clyde	Harris (MD)	Miller (WV)
Comer	Himes	Morrison		NAYS—5		Cohen	Harris (NC)	Mills
Conaway	Hinson	Moskowitz	Burlison	Greene (GA)	Self	Cole	Harshbarger	Min
Correa	Houchin	Moulton	Gosar	Roy		Collins	Hayes	Moolenaar
Costa	Houlahan	Mrvan				Comer	Hern (OK)	Moore (NC)
Courtney	Hoyer	Murphy		NOT VOTING—30		Conaway	Higgins (LA)	Moore (UT)
Crane	Hoyle (OR)	Nadler	Biggs (AZ)	Larson (CT)	Ramirez	Correa	Hill (AR)	Moore (WI)
Crank	Huffman	Neal	Craig	Lee (FL)	Salazar	Costa	Himes	Moore (WV)
Crawford	Hurd (CO)	Neguse	Gillen	Levin	Scalise	Courtney	Hinson	Moran
Crenshaw	Issa	Nehls	Gottheimer	Mace	Scholten	Craig	Houchin	Morelle
Crockett	Ivey	Newhouse	Horsford	Meng	Sherrill	Crane	Houlahan	Morrison
Crow	Jack	Norman	Hudson	Miller-Meeks	Smith (NJ)	Crank	Hoyer	Moskowitz
Cuellar	Jackson (IL)	Nunn (IA)	Huizenga	Moore (AL)	Spartz	Crawford	Hoyle (OR)	Moulton
Davids (KS)	Jackson (TX)	Obernolte	Hunt	Mullin	Trahan	Crenshaw	Hudson	Mrvan
Davidson	Jacobs	Ocasio-Cortez	Kiggans (VA)	Norcross	Vargas	Crockett	Huffman	Mullin
Davis (IL)	James	Ogles	Larsen (WA)	Peters	Wilson (FL)	Crow	Hurd (CO)	Murphy
Davis (NC)	Jayapal	Olsewski				Cuellar	Issa	Nadler
De La Cruz	Jeffries	Omar		□ 1851		Davids (KS)	Ivey	Neal
Dean (PA)	Johnson (GA)	Onder				Davidson	Jack	Neguse
DeGette	Johnson (SD)	Owens				Davis (IL)	Jackson (IL)	Nehls
DeLauro	Johnson (TX)	Pallone				Davis (NC)	Jackson (TX)	Newhouse
DelBene	Jordan	Palmer				De La Cruz	Jacobs	Norman
Deluzio	Joyce (OH)	Panetta				Dean (PA)	James	Nunn (IA)
DeSaulnier	Joyce (PA)	Pappas				DeGette	Jayapal	Obernolte
DesJarlais	Kamlager-Dove	Patronis				DeLauro	Jeffries	Ocasio-Cortez
Dexter	Kaptur	Pelosi				DelBene	Johnson (GA)	Ogles
Diaz-Balart	Kean	Perez				Deluzio	Johnson (LA)	Olsewski
Dingell	Keating	Perry				DeSaulnier	Johnson (SD)	Omar
Doggett	Kelly (IL)	Pettersen				DesJarlais	Johnson (TX)	Onder
Donalds	Kelly (MS)	Pfuger				Dexter	Jordan	Owens
Downing	Kelly (PA)	Pingree				Diaz-Balart	Joyce (OH)	Pallone
Dunn (FL)	Kennedy (NY)	Pocan				Dingell	Joyce (PA)	Palmer
Edwards	Kennedy (UT)	Pou				Doggett	Kamlager-Dove	Panetta
Elfreth	Khanna	Pressley				Donalds	Kaptur	Pappas
Ellzey	Kiley (CA)	Quigley				Downing	Kean	Patronis
Emmer	Kim	Randall				Dunn (FL)	Keating	Pelosi
Escobar	Knott	Raskin				Edwards	Kelly (IL)	Perez
Espallat	Krishnamoorthi	Reschenthaler				Elfreth	Kelly (MS)	Perry
Estes	Kustoff	Riley (NY)				Ellzey	Kelly (PA)	Pettersen
Evans (CO)	LaHood	Rivas				Emmer	Kennedy (NY)	Pfuger
Evans (PA)	LaLota	Rogers (AL)				Escobar	Kennedy (UT)	Pingree
Ezell	LaMalfa	Rogers (KY)				Espallat	Khanna	Pocan
Fallon	Landsman	Rose				Estes	Kiley (CA)	Pou
Fedorchak	Langworthy	Ross				Evans (CO)	Kim	Quigley
Feenstra	Latimer	Rouzer				Evans (PA)	Knott	Randall
Fields	Latta	Ruiz				Ezell	Krishnamoorthi	Raskin
Figures	Lawler	Rulli				Fallon	Kustoff	Reschenthaler
Fine	Lee (NV)	Rutherford				Fedorchak	LaHood	Riley (NY)
Finstad	Lee (PA)	Ryan				Feenstra	LaLota	Rivas
Fischbach	Leger Fernandez	Salinas				Fields	LaMalfa	Rogers (AL)
Fitzgerald	Letlow	Sánchez				Figures	Landsman	Rogers (KY)
Fitzpatrick	Liccardo	Scanlon				Fine	Langworthy	Rose
Fleischmann	Lieu	Schakowsky				Finstad	Larson (CT)	Ross
Fletcher	Lofgren	Schmidt				Fischbach	Latimer	Rouzer
Flood	Loudermilk	Schneider				Fitzgerald	Latta	Ruiz
Fong	Lucas	Schrier				Fitzpatrick	Lawler	Rulli
Foster	Luna	Schweikert				Fleischmann	Lee (NV)	Rutherford
Foushee	Luttrell	Scott (VA)				Fletcher	Lee (PA)	Ryan
Fox	Lynch	Scott, Austin				Flood	Leger Fernandez	Salazar
Fox	Mackenzie	Scott, David				Fong	Letlow	Salinas
Frankel, Lois	Magaziner	Sessions				Foster	Levin	Sánchez
Franklin, Scott	Malliotakis	Sewell				Foushee	Liccardo	Scanlon
Friedman	Maloy	Sherman				Fox	Lieu	Schakowsky
Frost	Mann	Shreve				Frankel, Lois	Loudermilk	Schmidt
Fry	Mannion	Simon				Franklin, Scott	Lucas	Schneider
Fulcher	Massie	Simpson				Friedman	Luna	Schrier
Garamendi	Mast	Smith (MO)				Frost	Luttrell	Schweikert
Garbarino	Matsui	Smith (NE)				Fry	Lynch	Scott (VA)
Garcia (CA)	McBath	Smith (WA)				Fulcher	Mackenzie	Scott, Austin
Garcia (IL)	McBride	Smucker				Garamendi	Magaziner	Scott, David
Garcia (TX)	McCaul	Sorensen				Garbarino	Malliotakis	Self
Gill (TX)	McClain	Soto				Garcia (CA)	Maloy	Sessions
Gienez	McClain Delaney	Stansbury				Garcia (IL)	Mann	Sewell
Golden (ME)	McClellan	Stanton				Garcia (TX)	Mannion	Sherman
Goldman (NY)	McClintock	Stauber				Gill (TX)	Massie	Shreve
Goldman (TX)	McCollum	Stefanik				Gienez	Mast	Simpson
Gomez	McCormick	Steil				Golden (ME)	Matsui	Smith (MO)
Gonzales, Tony	McDonald Rivet	Steube				Goldman (NY)	McBath	Smith (NE)
Gonzalez, V.	McDowell	Stevens				Goldman (TX)	McBride	Smith (WA)
Gooden	McGarvey	Strickland				Gomez	McCaul	Smucker
Goodlander	McGovern	Strong				Gonzales, Tony	McClain	Sorensen
Graves	McGuire	Stutzman				Gonzalez, V.	McClain Delaney	Soto
Gray	McIver	Subramanyam				Gooden	McClellan	Spartz

Ms. LEE of Nevada changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 146.

#### 7(a) LOAN AGENT OVERSIGHT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1804) to amend the Small Business Act to require a report on 7(a) agents, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 405, nays 3, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 147]

YEAS—405

Adams	Barrett	Boyle (PA)
Aderholt	Baumgartner	Brecheen
Aguilar	Bean (FL)	Bresnahan
Alford	Beatty	Brown
Allen	Begich	Brownley
Amo	Bell	Buchanan
Amodei (NV)	Bentz	Budzinski
Ansari	Bera	Burchett
Arrington	Bergman	Bynum
Auchincloss	Beyer	Calvert
Babin	Bice	Cammack
Bacon	Biggs (SC)	Carbajal
Baird	Billirakis	Carey
Balderson	Bishop	Carson
Balint	Boebert	Carter (GA)
Barr	Bonamici	Carter (LA)
Barragán	Bost	Carter (TX)

Stansbury	Thompson (PA)	Vindman
Stanton	Tiffany	Wagner
Stauber	Timmons	Walberg
Stefanik	Titus	Wasserman
Steil	Tlaib	Schultz
Steube	Tokuda	Waters
Stevens	Tonko	Watson Coleman
Strickland	Torres (CA)	Weber (TX)
Strong	Torres (NY)	Webster (FL)
Stutzman	Tran	Westerman
Subramanyam	Turner (OH)	Whitesides
Suozzi	Underwood	Wied
Swalwell	Valadao	Williams (GA)
Sykes	Van Drew	Williams (TX)
Takano	Van Duyn	Wilson (SC)
Taylor	Van Orden	Wittman
Tenney	Vargas	Womack
Thanedar	Vasquez	Yakym
Thompson (CA)	Veasey	Zinke
Thompson (MS)	Velázquez	

## NAYS—3

Burlison	Lofgren	Roy
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## NOT VOTING—24

Biggs (AZ)	Lee (FL)	Ramirez
Gillen	Mace	Scalise
Gotthelmer	Meng	Scholten
Horsford	Miller-Meeks	Sherrill
Huizenga	Moore (AL)	Simon
Hunt	Norcross	Smith (NJ)
Kiggans (VA)	Peters	Trahan
Larsen (WA)	Pressley	Wilson (FL)

## □ 1858

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 147.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. GILLEN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 146 and YEA on Roll Call No. 147.

## IN MEMORY OF RECENT GUN VIOLENCE VICTIMS

(Mr. NEGUSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, 2 days ago a heinous and horrific act of terror took place in the district that I represent in Boulder, Colorado.

As families gathered on the idyllic Pearl Street Mall, a group of my constituents, Jewish members of our community, took part in a peaceful walk and vigil to call for the release of Israeli hostages in Gaza as they have done every week for the past 2 years.

As they gathered, they were viciously targeted, ambushed, and attacked by a man who attempted to burn them alive with Molotov cocktails and incendiary devices.

We are praying hard for the 12 victims, several of whom I know personally. It shocks the conscience that on the eve of the holiday of Shavuot, our Jewish brothers and sisters were subjected to yet another brutal, horrific, and anti-Semitic act of violence.

The scourge of anti-Semitism has metastasized across our country, and we have to do more now to stop this hatred and violence.

We continue to stand with the Jewish community today and always and will

be united in supporting the victims and their families in the weeks and the months ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS).

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the lives of Sarah Milgrim and her partner, Yaron Lischinsky, who were tragically killed in an anti-Semitic attack outside the Capital Jewish Museum here in D.C.

Sarah grew up in Prairie Village, Kansas, a community that I have the honor of serving in Congress. She graduated from Shawnee Mission East High School and the University of Kansas.

She was a devoted member of Congregation B'nai Jehudah and was dedicated to building understanding and connection between Israel and the United States. Her partner, Yaron, also shared that commitment.

This hateful and targeted violence is not only heartbreaking, but it is unacceptable. Anti-Semitism has no place in our country, and yet we are seeing a deeply disturbing rise in acts of hate.

To Sarah and Yaron, may their memories be a blessing.

To the Jewish community in Kansas, Colorado, and across the Nation, we want them to know that we are all standing with them. We mourn with them. We recommit to creating a world where no one fears for their safety because of who they are. Mr. Speaker, I can tell you that Sarah was committed to that.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask my colleagues to please rise and join me in a moment of silence to honor the lives that we have lost.

## REMOVAL OF NAMES OF MEMBERS AS COSPONSORS OF H.R. 3614

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. MOORE), the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD), and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. IVEY) be removed as cosponsors of H.R. 3614, the Fairness, Inclusion, Rehabilitation, and Expungement for Firefighters Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCQUIRE). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

## HONORING CORPORAL GLENN HODAK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Corporal Glenn Hodak of Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania.

Corporal Hodak served as a tail gunner with the 93rd Bombardment Squadron, 19th Bombardment Group during World War II. On March 10, 1945, his B-

29 Superfortress was shot down during a mission to Tokyo.

Initially reported missing in action, he was later found to have been captured and tragically perished in the Tokyo prison fire on May 26, 1945. His remains were not identified after the war and were interred as an unknown in the Manila American Cemetery.

In 2022, Corporal Hodak and 38 others who died in the prison fire were disinterred and transferred to the Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

On September 25, 2024, Corporal Hodak was positively identified through dental and anthropological analysis.

On May 16, his remains were finally returned home and laid to rest in Youngsville with full military honors.

Mr. Speaker, we continue to mourn those lost in past conflicts and remain forever grateful for their service and sacrifice. My prayers are with Corporal Hodak's family during this solemn time.

## □ 1910

## GROWING TRAVEL INDUSTRY JOBS

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, during Small Business Week here in the House, it is timely that we speak about what we need to do to help American businesses increase their revenues, hire more workers, and grow profits that support our economy.

The travel industry is an economic powerhouse in the United States, with nearly \$2.9 trillion annually in economic activity. The U.S. ranks behind Spain and France in global competition for travel. China, India, and Saudi Arabia are gaining on us. Our market share is 9.1 percent, but we can generate 127 million new additional visitors over the next decade and \$478 billion in additional revenue, which translates into \$55 billion in tax revenue, creating 140,000 new jobs.

With upcoming marquee events like the Ryder Cup, the FIFA World Cup, and the Summer Olympics, we need to be investing in systems to make the experience seamless. This means updating airplane screening technology, modernizing TSA, full-strength staffing at Customs and Border Protection, and extensive marketing efforts. New York City, which I represent in part, is a major worldwide tourist destination.

There is still time to build this industry to make us the best in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the U.S. Travel Association for leading the way.

## MOURNING THE LOSS OF CHRIS LANE GAY

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the



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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of Chris Lane Gay of Pooler, Georgia.

Chris started his career in the grocery industry in Garden City Piggly Wiggly, playing a key role in developing Red & White Food Stores in Savannah. He owned Midtown Market on 37th Street, Claxton Supermarket, and Food Fresh in Claxton, Georgia.

Beyond his profession, Chris was a member of the Claxton community, serving on the Claxton-Evans County Chamber of Commerce board of directors for over 25 years. He played an instrumental role in forming the Chamber Junior Board, served on the Claxton Downtown Development Authority and the Georgia Food Industry Association, and was a past member of the Claxton Rotary.

It is clear that Chris would go above and beyond for the community he cared so deeply about. He was the kind of supporter and cheerleader everyone would be lucky to have.

Chris, a talented storyteller and comedian, made connections wherever he went, creating valuable memories for his friends and loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in prayers for his family and all privileged enough to know him and to love him.

#### FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

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

Ms. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I got this message from an Oregonian named Donna. She says: "Please fight to protect Federal employee retirement benefits. They should not be slashed. Federal employees are currently putting up with so much to keep this country running.

"Immediately reducing our pay and benefits on top of everything else is a kick in the teeth. It is also a bait and switch. It should not be legal. I was promised certain benefits when I started, and they should not be taken away from me when I am less than 2 years from retirement.

"Who is going to run the government? You know, provide services that keep the planes in the sky, the power flowing, the food safe, and warn of pending major life-threatening events, events like hurricanes and infectious diseases? Who will want to work for the American people after this latest attack? Stop abusing us."

Mr. Speaker, I challenge you to explain these cuts to Donna.

#### CELEBRATING SAVANNAH RIVER SITE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, President Harry Truman pro-

posed in 1950 the Savannah River Site for the development of nuclear weapons in support of American defense.

Succeeding in the goal of peace through strength with victory over communism, the end of the Cold War resulted in a drawdown of nuclear weapon processing, shifting focus to missions and environmental cleanup.

Mr. Speaker, 75 years later, South Carolina recognizes the positive impact the Savannah River Site has made for American national security and families, creating jobs.

I am grateful the Savannah River Site is ensuring national security and communities are safe. I wish them a happy 75th anniversary.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting and mocking Trump with record drone attacks, murdering civilians as the Putin incompetent Air Force is destroyed by talented Ukrainians.

#### REPUBLICAN BUDGET WILL MAKE US SICKER

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

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, it is hard not to feel like this administration is trying to kill us.

The Republican budget slashes billions of dollars from Medicaid and food assistance programs. Millions will lose their health insurance and will be hungrier and sicker.

It gets worse. In his 2026 budget, Trump has called for a 40 percent cut to the National Institutes of Health. He wants a 44 percent cut to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and he is urging Republicans to cut billions of dollars from the National Cancer Institute.

For over 50 years, every major medical breakthrough that has happened in the treatment of cancer has been linked to our Federal investments. Americans are not demanding that we cut money to fund cancer research, Mr. Speaker, I promise you that. They are not calling for these cuts.

Of course, as the irrepressibly cheerful JONI ERNST reminded Americans last week, that is okay because we all are going to die. I just don't think Americans thought the Trump administration would be actively trying to speed up our deaths, but here we are.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO BILL LAYTON

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bill Layton, a devoted father, a sharp political mind, and a respected leader in New Jersey Republican politics.

Having served as a strategist before coming to Congress, I understand firsthand how demanding yet rewarding the work was that Bill dedicated his life to.

Bill wasn't just effective. He was principled. He believed in earning trust, building coalitions, and doing the hard work behind the scenes that helps good people win and serve their communities well. He shaped a generation of leaders in south Jersey, and he did it with a steadiness and clarity that many of us, as politicians, aspire to.

Furthermore, I am proud to have his son, Will, now serving in my office as part of my legislative team.

Will carries his father's same intellect and quiet strength. It is a daily reminder of the example Bill set, not just the politics, but in being a true mentor for anyone who actually is paying attention.

To the Layton family: Bill's legacy lives on in the work being done today in New Jersey, in this Chamber, and beyond.

#### SUPPORTING CTE

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

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank my colleague, Chairman WILLIAMS, for his leadership on a bipartisan bill that we passed earlier today to ensure that small businesses have access to information about career and technical education programs and that helps them, more importantly, hire both accomplished and competent CTE graduates.

I am proud to co-lead this effort as someone who prioritized workforce development as well as career and technical education in my prior roles. As Baltimore County executive, I helped implement a \$3.3 billion school improvement plan with a strong emphasis on CTE. I created the Public Health Pathways Program, connecting residents with high-demand nursing jobs. As a State legislator, I helped create the Maryland Employment Advancement Right Now Program, addressing the needs of workers by creating formal career pathways to good jobs.

These efforts work. Countless Americans are hungry for employment and are seeking opportunities to improve their livelihoods by pursuing their passions.

This bill is just one of many steps we need to take to build a strong pipeline of skilled workers in high-need industries.

CTE graduates have the skills and dedication that Maryland and American small businesses need, and I thank my colleagues for supporting this commonsense bill.

□ 1920

### CALLING ON CONGRESS TO CODIFY THE DOGE CUTS

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

Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina. What do you call it when the world's wealthiest man, leading some of the most innovative companies in history, offers his unmatched genius to save American taxpayers billions?

You call it a blessing, Mr. Speaker.

I rise today to urge my colleagues to not let this opportunity slip through our fingers.

For 5 months, Elon Musk and the DOGE team have toiled relentlessly, far outpacing this Congress, to deliver bold results for the hardworking Americans back home. They have crushed Social Security fraud, exposed wasteful government agencies, and stopped USAID's disturbing pet projects. These are meaningless if we as Congress fail to codify these reforms into law.

No excuses. No delays. We must vote on the DOGE cuts this week. Republicans have abundantly praised DOGE efforts. Americans are expecting it. Now is the time to stop talking and start acting.

### OPPOSING MEDICAID CUTS

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound opposition to the callous cuts to Medicaid included in the House majority's reconciliation legislation.

Throughout my career, I have worked to support all individuals when they need emergency assistance or encounter a setback in the economy. I have seen the tangible value of the Medicaid program in northwest Indiana and how it predominantly assists seniors, individuals with disabilities, and children.

It is deeply regrettable that this misguided legislation will not only strip away these healthcare benefits, but it also increases private healthcare costs and reduces services for everyone.

Take Jake, a high school student who uses a wheelchair. He relies on a Medicaid waiver for school support and depends on our healthcare system to move, thrive, and survive. Cutting his Medicaid isn't just wrong, it is cruel.

This legislation amounts to the largest transfer of wealth from the pockets of the most vulnerable and working families to the richest among us.

I urge my Senate colleagues to reject this harmful legislation.

### RECOGNIZING LYNDSEY GRAY

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

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished Brevard County resident and Army veteran, Lyndsay Gray.

Enlisting in 2006, Ms. Gray served over a decade as a radiology technologist.

After training at Fort Sam Houston and Fort Leonard Wood, she was stationed at Walter Reed, where she led the mammography department and was selected as a cadre for the Combat Medical Badge course.

She later deployed to Afghanistan, where she trained over 200 coalition troops and American troops in combat lifesaver skills.

Lyndsay medically retired in 2017 after service-connected injuries, but today, Lyndsay is pursuing her Ph.D. and continues to serve fellow veterans in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Lyndsay Gray for outstanding service and her lasting contribution to Floridians and all Americans.

### CONGRATULATING BAPS CHARITIES AND BAPS TEMPLE WALKATHONS

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

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate BAPS Charities and the BAPS Temple in Chantilly for hosting its annual walkathon at One Loudoun in Ashburn.

The walk, which I was proud to join, was a huge success and raised money for Mobile Hope which serves at-risk youth in Loudoun County. BAPS Charities is a global charity, active across the country and in nine other countries, and its efforts are volunteer-led.

BAPS Charities aims to express a spirit of selfless service through five key areas: health awareness, educational services, humanitarian relief, environmental protection and preservation, and community empowerment. Events and walks like the one this past week happen all over the country and make a huge difference.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate BAPS Charities on a great event and all of its great work.

### BOULDER TERRORIST ATTACK

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

Mr. CRANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the unspeakable tragedy that happened in Boulder, Colorado, in my home State of Colorado.

The person who perpetrated that crime obtained a visa in August of 2022. Their visa expired in February of 2023, and my home State of Colorado issued them a driver's license in July of 2024.

Mr. Speaker, Colorado lawmakers and our Governor gave him a sanctuary pass. This tragedy could have been

avoided. He also was blocked from buying a gun in 2024, and the Biden FBI and the Polis Colorado Bureau of Investigation were on notice and didn't do anything.

Let's pray for the victims and for our Jewish community.

### SOUTH KOREA ELECTION

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

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the free people of South Korea for their commitment to democracy following today's election of Lee Jae-myung.

Like us, the people of South Korea have witnessed the mortal danger to democracy posed by lies, by corruption, and by illegal actions directed by those at the very top.

The Korean people responded with courage and defended their democracy through peaceful civil disobedience, through lawful impeachment, and, now, through a free and fair election.

They have shown strength, unity, and a dedication to the rule of law in a way that the rest of the world could do well to emulate.

Mr. Speaker, I say to the citizens of South Korea, the people of the free world salute you.

### RECOGNIZING EDDY HAYNES

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the inspiring career of Eddy Haynes who recently retired from Putnam County, Tennessee, Emergency Medical Services. For 37 years, he faithfully served his community as an advanced emergency medical technician.

Over the years, he endured long shifts and countless challenges but never lost sight of the mission: Helping people when they needed it most. Those who worked alongside Eddy described him as dedicated, a professional, and committed to the health and safety of others.

According to his coworkers, Eddy not only helped save lives, he shaped them by mentoring young EMTs. They noted that his calm demeanor under pressure instilled confidence in his team, and his intense sense of duty set a high standard for all who worked with him.

Mr. Speaker, Eddy's legacy of commitment to service in Putnam County will long endure. I congratulate Eddy. May he enjoy this well-deserved time off.

□ 1930

### REMEMBERING HOPE MAKRIS

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

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Hope Makris, a pioneering businesswoman and community leader from Laconia, New Hampshire.

The matriarch of the NASWA Resort, Hope helped run one of the Lakes Region's most iconic establishments for more than 80 years as it grew from a few cabins to one of the region's major destinations. Countless visitors experienced her hospitality and generosity firsthand over the years, and they likely tried some of her signature baked goods, too.

Along with her late husband, Peter, Hope made her mark on the community by supporting veterans, helping the fire department acquire new equipment, and being a leader in New Hampshire's tourist economy.

New Hampshire owes Hope and the entire Makris family a debt of gratitude for the ways they have bettered our communities, particularly in the Lakes Region. Hope leaves a profound legacy after a century of life and hard work. I know that others will continue to be inspired by her dedication and compassion to all of those around her.

Mr. Speaker, may her memory be eternal.

#### GIRLS' SPORTS ARE UNDER THREAT IN CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, it keeps on happening. Girls' and women's sports are under threat. In my home State of California, in just the last few days, a male won in a division in State track championships for CIF.

A male athlete competing in the girls' divisions took top finishes, taking opportunities away from the girls in sports and women in sports.

Only afterward in this case did CIF revise the results and hand out medals to the girls who were pushed off the podium, which really tells you all you need to know.

Now, the Department of Justice is stepping in. Assistant Attorney General Harmeet Dhillon has given more than 1,600 California schools a deadline: Reject this bylaw that allows athletes to compete based on gender identity rather than their biological sex, or they will face legal consequences. There is, indeed, a physiological difference between the two.

We have seen this disadvantage in the Olympics, in boxing, volleyball. Mr. Speaker, there are so many examples in sports where girls who have trained hard have had their dream of getting to the Olympics or playing in college taken away because of these crazy policies.

We need to stop this and have that ruling take place to reverse that trend. The Equal Protection Clause is what we need.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL EGG DAY

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, as Representative of the Ohio region that produces the most eggs in our Nation, I rise to say happy National Egg Day: Easter eggs, chocolate eggs, egg yolks, egg whites, egg souffle, meringue pie, egg salad, and so much more.

Egg prices still cost 25 percent more at the grocery store. The answer is: Don't ignore the devastating impact of bird flu decimating flocks across our district and Nation. Meanwhile, the big egg conglomerates like Cal-Maine are posting record profits, tripling them, while millions of Americans struggle to afford basic staples. Can't they pack six eggs per pack to help buyers afford some eggs rather than no eggs at all?

Our district is home to millions of egg-laying hens and countless family-run poultry operations. Ohio families and farmers deserve better than price gouging and political spin.

If we want to protect our food supply and keep our family farms alive, we must accelerate development of a safe and effective vaccine and flu remedy as well as coop control and sanitary protocols. Farmers can't afford to have their flocks wiped out time and again.

On this National Egg Day, I stand with the people who make our breakfast, not the ones making excuses and delaying scientific progress.

#### EDESIA NUTRITION

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the 14th time to demand restoration of funding for global food aid for malnourished children.

It has been 1 month since I began speaking on this floor every legislative day and 4 months since this aid was frozen, when the Trump administration began.

Since then, hundreds of thousands of children around the world have not been able to get the lifesaving food aid that they need because the funding has been cut off.

During a normal year, Edesia Nutrition in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, produces enough of this nutritional paste to save the lives of 400,000 children in a single month. Yet, those production lines have slowed to a near halt. Warehouses are full of this product when they should be getting shipped to the children who need it.

We have heard enough excuses from the administration. They keep saying that they intend to restore emergency food aid, but they have yet to actually do so. They need to act instead of just giving us hollow words.

#### HONORING SHARPE JAMES

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

Mrs. McIVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the legacy of Sharpe James, the former mayor of Newark, the largest city in New Jersey and my hometown.

Through his life of leadership, Mayor James transformed Newark's skyline and spirit. He was a proud son of the city, bold, unflinching, and committed to its renaissance. From his time as a State senator to his tenure as mayor, he never stopped fighting for Newark's future. Sharpe believed in Newark when few others did, and he worked every day to lift it higher.

Today, I ask this body to recognize not just his accomplishments but his enduring impact and mind for service. His story is part of Newark's DNA, woven into its past, present, and future.

#### ZOMBIE OF DOGE LURCHES ON

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, Elon Musk has left the building. Yet, unfortunately, his legacy of chaos and corruption lives on. The zombie of DOGE lurches on here in the House with the delivery of a \$9.4 billion rescission package to make those cuts permanent, a fiscal year 2026 budget delivered in front of the Committee on Appropriations to eviscerate Federal programs, and, yes, the disgusting abomination of reconciliation that is in front of the Senate right now.

Though Elon Musk has exited the building, a new villain has entered the chat with OMB.

Let's evaluate the legacy that leaves behind thousands fired, agencies dismantled, shattered lives, starving children, over 200 lawsuits, and a gift for the ages as Musk stole data, primed the pump for billions in contracts, and set our agencies on a path for privatization.

Yet, let me be clear, Mr. Speaker. No one is above the law; not Elon Musk; not the OMB Director; not Donald Trump; not the grifter in chief. We will hold them accountable.

#### ACTUAL SOLUTIONS

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

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I am going to try to just do a couple of very simple things here. I will walk through that. I believe there are actual solutions. The problem is they are hard, and it is one of those occasions where I think we play this game. We talk around each other because we talk

our book. We talk what gets us elected. We talk what raises us money. We talk what enrages our base so that they are more politically involved. The fact of the matter is a substantial amount of that is just a boldface lie.

For anyone who is really interested just in sort of the academics of what goes on here, I talked about this a couple of weeks ago. If you have your search engine, look up “AI Review of Congressional Speeches.” There is an academic group.

This is in like Nature, so it is a peer-reviewed article going back over 140 years of congressional speeches. It basically says that the use of facts has absolutely crashed. If you actually read it, it has crashed. We now talk about our feelings and intuition because that is how we manipulate people.

Mr. Speaker, it is in Nature publication right now. Go pull up the academic article. That is what goes on behind these microphones day after day after day, is we have people who tell stories. We tell about our feelings, but we don't seem to actually bother doing something called math. The family slogan is: The math will always eventually win.

I am going to do this a couple of times here.

□ 1940

We are in the middle of the reconciliation budget battles, the propaganda, the things that get said that are true or not true. My argument for everyone here is that there is a way to pay for lots of this. It still doesn't save us.

As a country, we borrow about \$6 billion a day right now. Next year, we are going to borrow about \$7 billion. I am going to show you some charts. In 9 budget years, we are borrowing about \$10 billion a day. The vast majority of that is demographics. Turns out it is not Republican, not Democratic.

One of the great lies here—and I have done entire presentations here where I took a whole hour a while back where I did every tax hike that the left has proposed and the scores and its economic factors. Actually, we did a bunch of the cuts in spending and those things, Republicans.

These tax hikes came out to 1.5 percent of GDP. Our cuts came out to about 1 percent of GDP, a big 2.5 percent. Looks like we are going to borrow 7.3 percent of the economy this year. And in 9 budget years, Moody's says—I am going to show this board a couple of times—we will be borrowing 9 percent of GDP.

Now, I am sorry. Most people—DAVID, we don't know GDP. What do you mean by that? Just understand the scale is—so often, the solutions are never meant to hit you with a dopamine hit. They are meant to manipulate you. When I say “you,” I mean the voting public, often our staff, trying to even manipulate each other. We have spreadsheet after spreadsheet around us talking about what is going on.

My point I am going to come back to, Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation to fix what MedPAC has talked about now for years, back when the Democrats controlled all this place, now that the Republicans control this, but we are all too scared to actually read something that is in a big binder that actually has math in it that would be hard and difficult because, let's be honest, it is really hard putting a couple of hundred pages of facts and details in a tweet.

The fact of the matter is that MedPAC, The Wall Street Journal series, and the ProPublica series have gone over Medicare Advantage. If any of you have your phone and like tracking stories, put in “Medicare Advantage fraud” right now. You will see at least five major articles from The Wall Street Journal, ProPublica, and some of the others. In some of those articles, if you actually add it up, it is \$100-plus billion a year in fraud.

We have introduced a piece of legislation. The preliminary number is around \$1.7 trillion to \$1.84 trillion, making it the single-biggest reduction bill, I believe, in modern history—actually, in history at all.

So, I just got you \$1.8 trillion. We have also introduced a talent-based immigration bill. If you want to hit the GDP growth numbers that we keep talking about, that the left has even talked about, and that the President has talked about, you can't do it without a talent-based immigration system. Read the literature.

As even the President has said, it is insane. We educate people, and then we send them home to compete with us. Are we out of our minds? Do a talent-based immigration. Keep people.

I am going to show you another chart in a moment that is saying that we have to deal with the reality. If the primary driver of debt in America is demographics, it is functionally Medicare; in a few years, Social Security, when the trust fund is gone; and interest.

If you go back 20 years ago, the number of 18-year-olds we had then compared to the number of 18-year-olds today is almost identical. The number of our brothers and sisters who are 65 and up has almost doubled in that 20 years.

Are we allowed to tell the truth about our brothers and sisters? Those of us who are baby boomers with gray hair have changed the math in our country. When I was a kid in the 1970s, for every dollar that was spent on people 65 and up, there was \$7 spent on young people. Today, that is reversed. Today, we spend \$1 on young people and \$7 on those over 65. It is the deal. It is part of our societal commitment.

Fine. Keep our promises. The way you keep your promises is to know your math because, at some point, you have to finance it.

So, Medicare, Medicare Advantage, Part C, deal with the waste and fraud issue from the insurance companies

managing it. Make it so the incentive is to help our brothers and sisters be healthier instead of making billions and billions of dollars scoring people as sicker. Read the articles.

Turns out, I think this bill the Democrats would like, the Republicans would like, and people who do math will really like. Talent-based immigration is great for long-run economic growth. It actually fulfills even things the President talked about on the campaign trail.

The third one is functionally our bill that I have done for years and years around here. It is called the forgotten funds bill. Now, in some ways—got to be honest—this isn't new money. It is cash we have borrowed and have given to agencies, but they haven't been authorized or haven't spent it.

Mr. Speaker, off the top of your head, will you raise your eyebrows a little bit if we call this SF 133, so it is money that has been appropriated, sitting in their accounts, so it is cash. We are paying interest on it because that money was borrowed. We estimate that it is over \$1.5 trillion.

If you grab that cash and realize you don't have to pay interest on it anymore, talent-based, MA reform, you just paid for our reconciliation bill and put some more money in the bank.

My point is that if we would actually think about policy, the modernization, doing things better, faster, cheaper—next week we are going to do a—I think one of our Democratic colleagues a couple of moments ago was attacking some of the—we will call it the DOGE cuts. Last year, for every dollar we took in in tax receipts, we spent \$1.39.

When I go home, people say, DAVID, I need you to balance the budget. Great. Tell me what 40-plus percent—because you have to deal with the economic effects—of government you want us to cut.

The fact is, with just the movements in interest rates this year, it is approaching a couple of trillion dollars in additional interest over the next 10 years.

Look, no one needs another speech from me doing interest rate fragility, but the fact of the matter is the bond market is on the cusp of running this country, except that is really hard to explain to our voters. If you are a Democrat, you don't want to explain that because you want to keep handing things out and doing the lie that we are going to tax rich people. Then, you show the charts saying, okay, it just takes care of weeks of borrowing, and that is it for an entire year.

Those of us who run around saying we are going to just cut waste and fraud, got to cut waste and fraud—I am going to show you some charts. We need to redefine, redesign, modernize, and use technology on how we deliver services.

Let's walk through a couple of things. What is the real reason we are doing the reconciliation budget? It comes down to one thing, at least for

me. Our taxes are all going up next year.

In my district, it is over a couple of thousand dollars for an average family. In some of my ZIP Codes—look, I represent a fairly prosperous district; I represent Scottsdale and Phoenix—it is over \$3,000. For my average, it is a \$2,062 tax increase next year.

I have been really happy to hear how many of my brothers and sisters on the other side have gotten behind the microphone and talked about how they don't want—small businesses in my district will be hit with a 43 percent tax hike, and that is the law. That is already coming. They are going to give us ideas on how we keep this from happening?

If you think like an economist, this is sort of maintaining today's policy instead of what is in the law, where everyone's taxes go up. It maintains consumption, but you don't get the same type of economic pop of doing things that create investments in productivity and those things.

□ 1950

This is your reason that we have to battle through this, and the absolute absurdity I get from some of our brothers and sisters out there, you can't cut—this is just heresy. It is brutal.

We are baseline going to spend \$86 trillion over the next 10 years, or we are talking about reducing. It looks like we are not going to hit the number which will enrage me. It is \$2 trillion. You see the stack of coins there. That is \$86 trillion over the next 10 years. That was baseline spending. All we are talking about cutting is functionally 2.2, 2.3 percent of it.

Then I think of the rage, of the theater, of the protests, and of the nasty text messages. You don't realize that just a couple ticks in interest—I think I can almost do the speed math in my head. If I had 70, 75 basis points, it is more than all those cuts.

If we went back to the interest rates we had in the early 2000s, I think that would add another \$3 trillion, \$4 trillion over 10 years of just interest. The theater around here is about telling stories. It is emoting the emotion, but damn it, does anyone own a calculator?

Mr. Speaker, what was it, 10 days ago, 2 weeks ago, Moody's downgraded the United States and part of the point—because I know we all read it because it was such a big deal. You subscribe to Moody's, you downloaded the report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for letting me have a Bloomberg Terminal. I chair the Joint Economic Committee so we bathe in the math.

In 9 budget years, we are spending—9 percent of the entire economy is borrowed, and that is based on our baseline. I said that twice. In 9 years, the borrow will be \$3.8 trillion.

Mr. Speaker, most of that growth is interest and healthcare. I am sure we are all around here trying to revolutionize the cost of healthcare by curing people, by using technology, doing it

better, faster, cheaper, helping our brothers and sisters live healthier, instead of in misery with their chronic conditions. So often the debates behind these microphones are about needing to spend more money to help you maintain your misery instead of curing it.

The complete lack of vision around here of the morality—when you realize couple of the great studies from a few years ago is the number one contributor to income inequality in America wasn't education; it was healthcare. It was the health of the population.

What happens when your brothers and sisters have diabetes, when they are crashing repeatedly? It turns out if 33 percent of all American healthcare is just diabetes, if 47 percent of all American healthcare is obesity, why wouldn't we take those on?

Yeah, it means doing some very difficult things. It means having a brutal discussion about agriculture policy, nutrition support, and how we are going to deliver healthcare through our clinics and other things. It is really great economics, and the morality of having people live longer, be healthier, be able to have families, family formation.

We are going to show a couple numbers here. If you have 7 million prime-age males missing from the economy, and one of the datasets says it is not drugs; it is actually obesity and other things, what do we do incentive-wise to help our brothers and sisters, particularly those prime-age males, get back into the economy and participate in the society?

In 9 budget years, we will go from borrowing \$6 billion a day to borrowing \$10 billion a day. Why doesn't this just set people up saying, okay. I don't want to raise my brothers' and sisters' taxes. We need to do some things to get the economy to continue growing and get investment back in productivity.

That is why you do expensing, research and development expensing, and other things of that nature because you need the investments and productivity because we have got to raise wages.

Now, we are going to do a little economic geekdom. Remember the previous few years where we had high inflation? Most of America is poorer today than they were 4 years ago, and that is basically inflation. Your dollars, your salary became worth less.

In my district today, if you don't make about 27-plus percent more than you did 4, 5 years ago, you are poorer today. You are not magically going to make the cost of everything in your life go down, particularly in an environment where interest rates are going to be higher because we are borrowing so damn much money. It is not just us. Germany is backing the debt markets. The world is bingeing on debts. If you think interest rates are going to come crashing back down you are delusional. The world has only so much savings.

What do we do, Mr. Speaker? Well, you do things so you invest to create

productivity. The incentives within the tax code, regulatory code to invest in things so you can raise wages.

Remember after 2017, one of the datasets we had, I think it was 68 percent of all the corporate tax cuts that enraged the left went to workers' wages.

It turns out that the way you make our brothers and sisters whole from the years of inflation is you have got to get the growth. You have got to get productivity stepped up.

In this chart—and please understand, this one upsets both Republicans and Democrats. I have even had people in my own party saying, DAVID, you have got to stop telling people the truth.

Even just a little beyond baseline, that is if we had no legislation at all, what took us 240 years, we are almost going to double in the next 10.

Let's think of that. The day we were all re-elected or elected last November, public sold debt, so this is debt that is auctioned off—the Japanese own some, the Chinese own some, but we own most of it—was around \$28 trillion. We will almost double that in the next 10 years.

We have to deal with reality. If you are going to rage at me because I said the bond market is going to be running our country soon, don't rage at me. Crack open an article about bonds and the stress and bond vigilantes and term premiums and what all these things mean and what happens when just clicks of interest rate consume every available dollar that you and I might want to invest in medical research or the left wants to do whatever the hell they want to do and it is going to be consumed by paying interest.

Demographics, which is the primary driver of our debt, is not Democrat or Republican; it is just who we are. We have a shortage of young people. There are lots of us who are baby boomers and we are going to continue to lie our backsides off. If you keep looking at the charts and just understand, the 65 population has nearly doubled in 20 years, while the number of 18 year olds is basically the same.

You would think these would be the types of data that we could all get together and say, all right. That is math. It is what we are. It is indisputable. It is math. It is Census Bureau. It is from census data from the Biden administration, so as a Republican using it, it isn't partisan, it is just math.

How do we keep our promises as a society, as a country, as a population that used to, at least, make an attempt to be moral? How do we keep our promises in—what is it—7 years now, the Social Security trust fund is empty.

Basically, meaning, if Social Security follows the law, my math a couple weeks ago was a 21 percent cut in Social Security checks across America. So 2033, it is gone. Mr. Speaker, 2034 is the first year with the 21 percent cut meaning we double senior poverty in America.

□ 2000

We are going to double senior poverty in America. How many Members have you seen come behind these microphones and talk about the morality of, guys, 7 years from now, let's double senior poverty, and then, let's do everything we can to talk about it. By the way, the solution you get is to just raise the cap. Okay, raise the cap. Do you realize just eliminating the cap on Social Security at that time covers only 38 percent of the shortfall?

The first full year, our math last year we did was \$609 billion or \$608 billion. It is almost two-thirds of what the entire defense budget is. That is 7 years.

We should have been working on this 15, 20 years ago, but the fact that an idiot like me gets behind the microphone and even uses the word, it will be an attack ad next week because, God forbid—this place cares more about winning the next election than doing what is right, doing what is moral, owning a calculator. This place is absolutely perverse.

Here is another thing. Let me enrage my brothers and sisters because so much of what we are having to deal with in this reconciliation budget—look, I hope the scorekeepers are wrong. I hope the Joint Committee on Taxation economists are wrong. I hope the Ph.D.s over at CBO are wrong. Because much of it is extending current tax policy—what we get today—instead of what is in the law, where just individual taxes go up—what?—\$3.1 trillion over the next 10 years, and add in the passthroughs to small businesses and those things, add in another several hundred billion dollars.

That is the law. It is coming. Just extending that, you don't get a huge pop in growth, but you do maintain consumption. Where you get the growth is some of the other things—the expensing, the research and development, those types of things, a couple of the tweaks we are trying to do, and also the incentives to invest.

If our brothers and sisters are going to say we are magically going to grow at these sorts of rates, I wish they would actually give me a reference, give me a credible economist, maybe a guy, a gal, someone with a Ph.D. in actual economics.

I chair the Joint Economic Committee. I have a handful of Ph.D.s. These are the numbers they come up with.

Back to solutions, we have introduced a bill. Our first number was \$1.76 trillion in savings just reorganizing and redesigning the incentives within Medicare Part C, Medicare Advantage, as everyone knows it, where you are incentivized to keep your brothers and sisters who are on the program, you make money by helping them be healthier instead of scoring them as sicker.

Our preliminary number from CBO wasn't \$1.706 trillion over 10 years. It turns out they gave us \$1.84 trillion as

a preliminary guess. Hopefully, in the next couple of weeks, we will get an official score.

Is this Republican or Democrat? It is just fixing the waste, fraud, and misalignment in the program.

Look, I fully expect within minutes I will have attack ads in my home district beating the crap out of me, and I am in a 50/50 district. Maybe it is an occasion where a few more of our brothers and sisters here take a risk, particularly those in overwhelmingly partisan districts. They can afford to tell the truth. Try it. If an idiot like me in a 50/50 district will get up and tell the truth about the math, why will no one else here?

Do the charts. These charts aren't magic and secret. They have been in the MedPAC report for most of the last decade if someone would just bother to open it up, crack the binder, and read it. You can see the savings and alignment. The model that comes back is that seniors on Medicare Advantage will be healthier because the incentive is to keep them healthier.

We have to do some designs. We have to say that you should be within one plan for maybe 3 years, so there is an investment in helping you be healthier. There are things we did in there to make it work. The bill has been introduced. Yet, if you look at the total spend over the next 10 years, it is still \$14.67 trillion as the baseline spending over the next 10 years.

We are just trying to deal with what article after article has basically said, that this is fraud. If anyone else has their phone in their hand and wants to look up something, look up the number of criminal cases that are open right now. The Wall Street Journal—the Justice Department, I guess, has been leaking. It is no longer civil suits. It is criminal suits, saying people are going to go to jail.

Has there ever been a moment where particularly the left and the right can get together and say that we need to fix the incentives in this program? Also, it is great economics, good healthcare, and great vision for the future. No, DAVID. You see, we care too much about winning the next election and beating the crap out of the other side.

Then, you hear some of the brilliant things that are said about Medicaid. Now, I need to disclose that it has been many, many years. As a child, I spent two terms in the State legislature. I was never going to run for office again. Because I was so tall, smart, and good-looking, I got to—well, it had nothing to do with the fact that I was the vice chair and my chairwoman actually had a brain aneurysm. Also, they had just indicted 10 percent of my State legislature.

Remember, the fastest way, Mr. Speaker, to move up in an organization is to have 10 percent of the people go to jail.

I was a 28-year-old kid in my State legislature, and I was chairing the

health committee. Arizona does something very unique in our Medicaid system. We were the last State to enter Medicaid. We didn't enter it until the mid-1980s. I was actually a part-time page during the negotiations.

In Arizona, we do something odd. We buy managed care policies, so we functionally buy HMO policies for—the technical term is our indigent population. We actually do it really well. We were the first ones to do pharmaceutical benefit management and those sorts of things.

It is an interesting intellectual argument, and I wish we could actually have a little more highbrow discussion here. Should a State like Arizona be rewarded for how efficiently we deliver and the quality of our services compared to so many other States that are just ripped with fraud?

You start to see cumulative improper Medicaid. This is not Medicare. This is Medicaid. It is supposed to be healthcare for indigents. That is the law. Payments since 2019 are over \$400 billion. If you actually look at the literature, people who have analyzed it—here is a Paragon study, written by a Ph.D. It basically says that Medicaid reported functionally half a trillion dollars over 10 years, but their analysis when you do all of it is \$1.1 trillion of improper payments.

Think about that. If you just fix this, if you just fix this one issue, that covers everything that is being discussed right now in trying to reform Medicaid. This would require work and also reading a hell of a lot of accounting documents.

Look, I am going to run through these boards really quickly because I have already gone, Mr. Speaker, longer than I want. People forget that we actually had a time slot here where, functionally, we sort of stopped some of the measurements and some of the enrollment criteria. If you look at the overall rate of improper Medicaid payments, if you have a multitrillion-dollar system and it is 5 percent, it turns out that pretty much pays for what E&C did a couple of weeks ago. Are we willing to invest in the technology to go fix it?

Look, remember how I was just telling you in a previous life I actually helped—I was not there during expansion, but I was county treasurer years later where I managed some of the dispro share moneys. That is sort of the geeky talk.

This is a chart from The Wall Street Journal, and they just happened to pick out my State. I love Arizona. Look, if you get to represent Phoenix and Scottsdale, you are one of the most blessed human beings in life, but the point that The Wall Street Journal was trying to make in putting up this chart is that, in Arizona, we put money—\$363 million—back in the general fund because of the way they do their provider tax. They are actually making money from the Federal Government.

We idiots—excuse me, this fine august body, we borrow the money. We



are borrowing money. A State is doing a provider tax. It covers their match, and then, they are sticking money in their general fund from our borrowed money. Why is this good?

□ 2010

Mr. Speaker, I am just going to skip to the last one because we need to tell the truth. With our great financial burden, we are elected. We are functionally the board of directors of the biggest enterprise in the world. We represent a quarter of the world's economy.

Does this body act like a board of directors? Do we pay attention to the math? Do we pay attention to how we take care of our customers, the American citizens? Do we pay attention to the reality?

Social Security, Medicare, and net interest account for 80 percent of the spending growth over the next nine budget years. If we do the 30 years, it is everything. If we do the 30 years, military and nondefense discretionary are scheduled to grow slower than tax receipts.

Are we even allowed to talk about these? Are we even allowed to tell the truth about the math?

Mr. Speaker, we have been collecting every article we can that talks about—and some of these are Republicans. Some of these are Democrats. Some of these are Conservatives. Some of these are just academic economists.

Here is one that talks about the growth of males of prime age in Medicaid. What is fascinating about this particular study is they spent an average of 6.1 hours per day, or 184 hours a month, on all socializing, relaxing, and leisure activities.

We get attacked for saying we are asking for work requirements. Understand how many States—my State already has an application in for work requirements. I think we already have work requirements—forgive me if I get this wrong—in ten others.

If we take a look at the chart, a number of the States had applications in. The applications were approved. Then the Biden administration took over, and something happened either through court or action here. They started rolling them back.

If I say right now there are 7 million males of prime age missing from the labor force, Mr. Speaker, if I come to you and say we want tax receipts to grow, that means we need participation in the economy.

If anyone wants to geek out, probably about 5 years ago the University of Chicago did an amazing study on what work requirements do in benefit programs. At the end of the decade, the participants are wealthier because they may get the benefit, but the work requirements changed their participation in the economy. It raised their skill set. They moved up in the economy.

In many ways, if we read the academic literature, those who oppose things like work requirements have to

read the literature. They are crushing people. They are destroying their economic futures, their ability to learn skill sets, and how to participate in the economy.

Maybe we have people around here that permanent poverty—that level of cruelty—is what is built into their political manifesto. I refuse to believe that. I believe we all want the right things.

Page after page of this data is here. We will have these trite debates and arguments based on feelings. Then we will wonder why tomorrow is no better than it was today and the day after that will be no better than the next day.

There is hope. There are ways to make this work. There are ways to stabilize the debt. There are ways to make this society much more prosperous. Prosperity is moral. I am wondering if we are intellectually capable of actually doing the work.

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

#### NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. McCLELLAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.)

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to co-anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour, along with my distinguished colleague from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER).

For the next 60 minutes, members of CBC have the opportunity to speak directly to the American people on Gun Violence Awareness Month. It is an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, and the constituents we represent.

Mr. Speaker, on March 7, 2023, I stood in the well and took my oath of office into this body. My children stood with me. My then 13-year-old son, who was very excited, impressed some people with his dance moves.

Less than a week later, my son, Jackson, showed up at school to find out one of his classmates was dead. He had killed himself accidentally using a loaded gun as a prop to film a music video. My son was devastated.

He was devastated again when 2 months later the school year abruptly came to an end when Shawn Jackson was shot and killed minutes after receiving his high school diploma.

These are 2 of the 46,728 people who died from gun-related injuries in 2023

alone. They were among the average 13,300 Black Americans who die of gun violence every single year.

Sierra Jenkins, Jahiem Dickerson, Devon Harris, Samiyah Yellardy, Tyshawn White, Jaiden Carter, Kenneth Cooper, Markiya Dickson, and Lorenzo Smith are just some of the names of people whose lives were ended by gun violence. Some were on purpose. Some were by their own hand. Some were accidental.

Too many of our communities are disproportionately impacted by this violence. We cannot allow this violence to become normalized. We must stand together to advance commonsense gun safety legislation, invest in community violence intervention programs, and address the root causes of gun violence.

Year after year, we go back to our districts. We go to vigils. We watch the news. We see tragedies. We come back here. We stand for a moment of silence. We give our thoughts and prayers. Nothing changes. The overwhelming consensus of the American people is that we have to do something.

As a State legislator, I focused on addressing the root causes of gun violence. I thought there would be bipartisan support for that. To a certain extent, there was.

□ 2020

I championed investment in the creation of a Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund with Delegate Marcia Price from Newport News when I was in the State senate. This program and fund would provide a pathway to research demographics and trends and implement evidence-based solutions to address the root causes of gun violence.

That is because gun violence in Richmond, Virginia, is different from gun violence in New Orleans, Louisiana. It is different from gun violence in New York City. It is different from gun violence in Newark, New Jersey. We need to get at the root causes.

For too many of our young people, the root causes are that access to guns is very easy and that they weren't taught to regulate emotions. Things that in my age were settled on the playground with a fist are now settled with a gun. Mr. Speaker, you can call someone a name on social media, and the next thing you know, you are shot dead. We need to do something to address that gun violence.

I was proud to come to Congress to try to continue to work on that, but in April, the Trump administration terminated nearly 400 grants from the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs that support everything from victim services to substance use, from mental health treatment to juvenile justice and child protection.

These are grants that were used to address the root causes of gun violence in our communities. There have been deep cuts to the Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative, the largest source of Federal funding

for community violence intervention, funding authorized by Congress in 2022 that has invested \$300 million in community violence programming and research. Now, about one-half of those investments have been cut.

All this does is invite tragedy back into our communities. We can't let it happen.

As far as Black people and the communities that we represent, we are only 14 percent of the U.S. population, but we represent 60 percent of all firearm homicide victims. A Black person in America is 11.5 times more likely to die from gun violence.

While gun violence became the leading cause of death of all children for the first time in 2020, it has been the leading cause of death for Black children since 2006.

We must do more. We must do more because I can't tell you, Mr. Speaker, how difficult it is when every time there is a mass shooting, every time someone is shot going to the grocery store, playing in a park, going to the movie theater, turning in the wrong driveway, showing up at school after graduation, on and on, every time it happens, my son and my daughter look at me, and they ask: Am I next?

Do you know how difficult that is, Mr. Speaker? Do you know how hard it is, Mr. Speaker, when your children who know someone who has died from gun violence have to spend their days in school in active shooter drills rather than learning?

Enough is enough, Mr. Speaker. We must do more. Thoughts and prayers are not enough.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER), my colleague from New Orleans.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to be here to co-anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour for the month of June. I thank my esteemed colleague and dear friend, Congresswoman JENNIFER MCCLELLAN, a Democrat from Virginia's Fourth District, for her outstanding leadership and for leading this incredible hour.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight during National Gun Violence Awareness Month not just with sorrow but with a sense of urgency. I rise tonight during the National Gun Violence Awareness Month to shake the core of our very beings.

I want to be abundantly clear that this is not about taking away anyone's Second Amendment right to bear arms. Mr. Speaker, don't be fooled by the gun manufacturers that want to continue to put profits over people, over children, and over people's lives.

I am from the South. I am a gun enthusiast. I do believe in the Second Amendment, but I am a responsible gun owner. I am trained to use my firearm. I understand the importance of proper storage, protection, and training. I understand the importance of having reasonable waiting periods and the importance of being familiar with

your weapon and making sure it is never left where children or untrained people can gain access.

Yes, the Second Amendment stands, but our common sense stands, too. We must protect communities and make sure that firearms never find their way into the hands of people who are ill-trained, who have ill intent, and who seek to cause the damage that we have seen with our mass shootings.

For far too long, our Nation has tolerated an epidemic that is killing our children, our friends, and our future. Gun violence has ravaged this country. While every American feels the impact, Black communities bear the brunt. Black communities die from gun violence at 2.7 times the rate of our White counterparts. Let me say that again: 2.7 times the rate.

Over 13,300 Black lives are lost every year to gun violence. That is not a statistic. That is our sons, our daughters, our neighbors, and our church members. That is an entire generation lost.

In 2023 alone, firearm homicides in Black communities rose by over 23 percent, suicides by 50 percent, and unintentional shootings by 11 percent. These are not isolated tragedies. This is a pattern, a crisis, an epidemic.

Yet, this Congress remains stuck in neutral. It has been 3 years since the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act was signed into law by President Biden.

Did I say bipartisan? Yes, it was bipartisan. I voted for it. I stood proudly with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to take this important step.

Let's be honest. It was just that, one step. It was a step that needs to be followed up with more steps, more action, more help, and more signals that we are bigger and better than the gun lobby.

Since then, since that one step, mass shootings have surged. Right now, families are afraid to go to the mall, the movie theater, schools, grocery stores, concerts, and places of worship. No one feels safe because, oftentimes, nowhere is safe.

The Gun Violence Archive has already reported that 133 mass shootings have happened this year, and it is only the first week of June.

Every shooting leaves behind a shattered family, a traumatized community, and a ripple effect that lasts generations.

Let's be clear. Black Americans are not just victims of community violence. We are also disproportionately impacted by rogue police violence, police shootings, and shootings of unarmed men and women, often young people.

The truth can't be ignored when we talk about gun violence in our country. Accountability must be a part of our reform.

We know that thoughts and prayers after these tragedies are important and powerful, too, but words alone can't do it. We must put our well-wishes and our prayers into action.

I recognize that at this moment, we demand action because words alone

won't stop a bullet. I know that being silent wouldn't stop a bullet. I know being complicit won't stop a bullet. I know pointing fingers won't stop a bullet. I know running from the scoring of the NRA won't stop a bullet.

I know what can stop a bullet. It is men and women in this body standing up together and saying that enough is enough. That is because these lives are not just Black, not just White, not just Democrat, not just Independent, and not just Republican. They are Americans. They are our children, our seniors, and our neighbors. They are our friends, and they are our colleagues.

Wake up. This is not about us against them. This is about us fighting an epidemic. It is an epidemic that is literally killing our community.

□ 2030

Today, I said to my colleagues across the aisle, do not look away. Come to the table. Work with us. The cost of inaction is measured in lives lost in our neighborhoods, in our classrooms, and in our communities across the country.

To my Republican colleagues, do not look away. Do not wait until the next shooting is in your neighborhood. Do not wait until it is your constituent, your relative, your friend, your fraternity brother, your sorority sister, your neighbor, your colleague, your loved one.

Mass shooters don't care about your party. They don't care about your socioeconomic status. Unfortunately, they often think of hate based by race, based by who you are, by who you choose to love, by who you choose to worship.

This is America, and these are all things that are a part of our strength. Let's not allow them to push us into the corner and fight against each other. We should not live like this. Gun violence is not a political issue. It is a human issue.

The time for reform is not tomorrow. The time for reform is not next year. The time for reform is now, and the people who must do it are us.

Let's rise to this moment. Let's demonstrate to the American people that while Republicans and Democrats may disagree philosophically on many things, let us agree that gun violence is no way for Americans to have to live.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, Claudia Quatey, a 16-year-old who dreamed of becoming a nurse, killed by gun violence.

Cecilia Thomas, a 5-month-old, shot and killed in Chicago, a 5-month old.

I now yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY).

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative MCCLELLAN and Representative CARTER for inviting me to speak tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because there is a gun violence epidemic in America.

I have spoken loudly and clearly on gun safety again and again and again, shooting after shooting. Moments of silence have never been enough.

Thoughts and prayers have never been enough.

Americans need real action by Congress to end gun violence. That means universal background checks, funding and support for community violence intervention organizations, safe storage laws to prevent unintentional shootings, and an assault weapons ban.

We know the solution is to end gun violence, and yet the Trump administration and this legislative body refuses to act. Instead, President Trump and Republicans reversed the progress we have made these past few years.

On day one in the Oval Office, President Trump shut the doors of the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention. Since then, he continues to pour salt into injury after injury.

The Department of Justice terminated over \$66 million in grants that were already designated by Congress to community violence intervention programs.

CVI organizations are led by trusted community members who offer job training, mental health resources, de-escalation tactics, and more to keep our neighborhoods safe.

CVI strategies are proven, evidence-based solutions to gun violence, and yet the Trump administration decided they are inefficient.

House Republicans are complicit in the Trump agenda to endanger public safety. In the dead of night, Republicans added a provision to their budget that would deregulate gun silencers, allowing any and all private sales of silencers. The deregulation of gun silencers is reckless and outrageous. Silencers are not something out of a movie. They cause real pain in our communities.

In 2019, a gunman attached a silencer to a handgun that he used to kill 12 people in Virginia Beach. Survivors of the shooting said they did not flee because they didn't identify the muffled sounds as gunshots.

If the cost of American lives does not move my colleagues across the aisle, then perhaps they will be attentive to the fact that the deregulation of silencers will cost American taxpayers nearly \$3 billion. Americans cannot afford the cost of gun violence, not in dollars, in pain, or in grief. Black Americans, in particular, bear a disproportionate weight of that grief.

This past weekend, I joined survivors of gun violence in an environmentally-friendly balloon release to honor the 46,000 lives lost to gun violence every year. They have lost daughters and sons, nephews and nieces, siblings, mothers and fathers to gun violence.

One daughter's name is Hadiya Pendleton. Hadiya was a bright student involved in marching band and volleyball. She was on top of the world when she led her marching band in President Obama's second inauguration. Just one week later, she was shot and killed in a park in Chicago.

Hadiya should have turned 28 years old yesterday. Hadiya's friends and

family started the Wear Orange movement to raise awareness of gun violence. Now the orange color has become a beacon for activity and advocacy against gun violence.

Since they started the Wear Orange movement in 2015, I have introduced the Wear Orange Resolution every year to honor Hadiya.

I ran for office because I couldn't stand by and watch as Congress did nothing as children like Hadiya were ripped away from families. While gun violence became the leading cause of death for all children and teenagers in 2020, it has been the leading cause of death for Black children since 2006.

I swore my first oath of office just 3 months after Hadiya was shot in the Second District. Since then, I have never, ever stopped fighting for her, and I will never stop until we end gun violence once and for all.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. T'Yonna Major, a 9-year-old gymnast until gun violence cut her life short.

Kingston Campbell, a 6-year-old killed when shooters were firing into his home.

They can't speak for themselves. We speak for them.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE), Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman JENNIFER MCCLELLAN and Congressman TROY CARTER for anchoring the Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour.

I rise tonight with my colleagues of the CBC to recognize Gun Violence Awareness Month and to bring attention to the impact of gun violence on Black communities around our Nation.

For decades, gun violence has been an epidemic that has had disproportionate and devastating impacts on Black communities. In fact, the facts are sobering and clear. On average, more than 13,000 Black people die from gun violence each year. In the United States, Black Americans die from gun violence at nearly three times the rate of White Americans.

In 2023, firearm homicides against Black Americans rose over 23 percent. In that same year, firearm suicides in Black communities increased 50 percent, and unintentional shooting deaths rose 11 percent. In the 5 years since the police murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, police shootings of Black Americans have continued to rise.

These are not simply statistics. These are the heartbreaking stories of tragedy and loss that should shake our collective conscience as Americans of goodwill.

From the racist murder of nine parishioners at the Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, to the racist mass shooting at the Tops grocery store in Buffalo, New York, that claimed the lives of 10 people, to countless police shootings of unarmed

Black men, women, and children, our Nation has, unfortunately, bore witness to far too many horrific acts of gun violence against Black communities.

This crisis of gun violence requires action, not thoughts and prayers as the American people have become far too accustomed to hearing from many of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle. Instead of working to pass legislation to keep our communities safe from gun violence, the Republicans included in their reconciliation package a provision that calls for the elimination of registration and ownership requirements for silencers that have been in place since the National Firearms Act went into effect in 1934.

□ 2040

By contrast, when House Democrats were in the majority in the 117th Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus was instrumental in passing the most significant piece of gun reform legislation in nearly 30 years with the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, which was signed into law by President Joe Biden.

With that historic legislation, we took meaningful steps to protect our children, keep our schools safe, and reduce the overall threat of gun violence around our country by extending background checks for firearm purchases, clarifying licensing requirements, funding red flag laws and crisis intervention programs, and weakening the boyfriend loophole.

While we have made strides toward commonsense gun reform, more needs to be done to keep our communities safe. During this National Gun Violence Awareness Month and throughout the year, the Congressional Black Caucus recognizes the critical need for reforming our gun safety laws to protect all of our communities.

Our caucus remains committed to meeting this crisis with the urgency of now to end the senseless acts of violence that take thousands of innocent lives every year. That time for reform is now.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. De'Evan McFall, he dreamed of being an NFL player until gun violence took his life at 11.

Zahmire Lopez, he had dance moves and rap skills until gun violence took his life at 8.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN).

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for co-anchoring this very important Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, every 7 hours, a child is killed by gunfire in the United States. Thus far in 2025, nearly 100 American children did not make it to their 12th birthday because they were killed by gunfire.

Every single child lost is an unfathomable tragedy. Families are destroyed, and communities are left in anguish, but the cycle of death and

grief is far more prolific in the Black community. Black Americans die by gun violence at a rate 2.7 times greater than their White peers, including a 50 percent increase in firearm suicides in 2023.

Communities across our country face this daily reality, but too many powerful people here in Washington, D.C., feel too comfortably removed from it. They will call for a moment of silence and then move on, and nothing will happen. Rather than committing to fight this uniquely American terror, they will find any excuse to do nothing. It is video games. It is mental health. It is anything but guns.

Congress has the power to act to keep our young people safe from their leading cause of death: gun violence. We also have a moral obligation to act to free our society from the fear that comes with dropping our children and grandchildren off at school or the mall or the movies or even a house party.

Enough moments of silence. These moments of silence don't save a single, solitary life.

Now is the moment in time that we must act to save our generations.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Sir Antonio Brown, a 6-year-old killed near his Kansas City home by guns.

King, a Georgia 9-year-old killed by another child handling an unsecured gun.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. FOUSHEE).

Mrs. FOUSHEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman MCCLELLAN and Congressman CARTER for anchoring this Special Order hour to bring attention to one of the most pressing and pervasive challenges confronting our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today with urgency, grief, and determination during National Gun Violence Awareness Month, a time for us to recognize the heartbreaking toll that gun violence continues to take on communities across the country.

I am deeply saddened that this past Sunday in my home State of North Carolina, there was a mass shooting where at least 80 shots were fired, killing 1 person and injuring 11 others.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident. Gun violence is a public health epidemic that affects Americans and ravages communities in every ZIP Code in every State. Yet, year after year, we see the same devastating trend: Black Americans are dying from gun violence at nearly three times the rate of White Americans.

Each year, more than 13,000 Black lives are lost to this epidemic. They are mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, friends, and neighbors whose futures are stolen, whose communities are left grieving, and whose absence is deeply felt every single day.

Tragically, the violence does not end there. For years, Black Americans have faced a persistent and disproportionate risk of being killed in police encounters involving firearms. Let me

be clear: No one in America should have to fear for their lives in our schools, our stores, our places of worship, our streets, or anywhere in our communities.

Yet, while this crisis and disparity continues to grow across the country, some in Congress are moving in the wrong direction. Again, my colleagues just shared that, just a couple of weeks ago House Republicans voted along party lines to pass the so-called One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which included a provision to deregulate silencers. Due to the dangers they pose, these devices have been highly regulated for nearly 100 years, and this provision would make it easier for individuals to use firearms with less risk of detection, further endangering our communities already suffering from gun violence.

This is not the type of comprehensive gun reform legislation that the American people need or deserve. A majority of Americans support universal background checks, closing loopholes in gun sales, red flag laws, and safe storage legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: What are we waiting for? The oath of office that all Members of Congress took demands that we protect the American people. Yet, every day that we delay, lives are lost.

I urge my Republican colleagues to join House Democrats, the Congressional Black Caucus, and the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force in advancing meaningful, commonsense reforms that will save lives, reduce violence, and protect all Americans.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Jakobe Fanning, a 16-year-old killed in a South Carolina shooting.

Izaiah, a 16-year-old in Maryland shot near his high school.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. MCIVER).

Mrs. MCIVER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on an issue that has devastated families and communities across this country: gun violence.

For years, gun violence has been an unchecked epidemic. In the Black community, the toll has been heartbreaking and more deadly. Still, very little meaningful action has been taken to stop the hurt.

Our communities continue to be ravaged, while too many remain silent. We cannot continue to treat this as normal. There is nothing normal about burying children. There is nothing normal about the weapons that turn schools, churches, and neighborhoods into battlegrounds. I am here for the next generation to say: They deserve better than this.

□ 2050

They deserve a future where they never have to say enough is enough because we will have already done what is necessary.

I, along with my CBC colleagues, will not stay silent. We will continue to demand comprehensive gun reform, background checks, closing loopholes, and a ban on assault weapons because our lives and our children's lives depend on it.

The time for reform is now. Let's do what is right. Let's do what is just. Let's do what is necessary before another name is added to another list.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, Serabi Medina lost her mother to gun violence, and then at 9, she was killed on her way home with ice cream for her father, cut down by gun violence by a neighbor.

Mr. Speaker, how many more? How many more children on the way to school, at school, at the bus stop, at the grocery store, in the park, in front of their house, in bed? How many more? How many more children have to die before we act?

How many more women stuck in domestic violence situations who try to get out, who get protective orders against their partner only to have that partner go get a gun and kill them? How many more?

How many more people, desperate, take their own life because getting a gun is so easy, much easier than getting the mental health treatment that they need? How many more?

How many more thoughts are we going to need? How many more prayers? Mr. Speaker, enough is enough.

When I was a kid in the late 1970s and early 1980s, I think the biggest thing that my mom worried about when I went to school was whether I would eat the lunch that they served. Do you know what it is like to put your child on a bus and wonder if they are going to come home?

Do you know what it is like to go to a park to celebrate a birthday, and your child doesn't come home? Too many people do. Too many Black people do. Too many people in our communities are disproportionately impacted by this public health crisis.

Even when we find bipartisan agreement—I was able to find bipartisan agreement to get a fund created in the Virginia government, a gun violence prevention grant fund, yet the Federal funding that was available to fund the programs that are proven to address the root causes of gun violence are being cut. It makes no sense.

Every day, our children see this. They are traumatized by the mass shooter drills. They are traumatized by the friends who are there one day and gone the next.

Every single time my son sees a story of someone dying because of a gun, he asks me, "Am I next?" I say to him, "Jackson, I am doing everything in my power to make sure you are not."

I can't do it alone. The Congressional Black Caucus can't do it alone. We need 218 people in the House and 60 in the Senate who are willing to do something more than thoughts and prayers.

We need a President and an administration that says enough is enough.

If you don't want to do anything to actually take the guns off the street, then at least invest in the root causes of violence because it is too easy for someone desperate enough to take their life to get a gun and do it. It is too easy for somebody who wants to start a race war to get a gun and walk into a church where people pray with him, and he shoots them dead. Enough is enough.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your attention. I thank the Members of the Congressional Black Caucus who joined me tonight.

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

#### 151 DAYS WITHOUT A VOTE TO LOWER COSTS

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

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous material into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. McDOWELL). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues of the Congressional Black Caucus for their remarks on an issue that is pressing and timely for all of us. I really appreciate the ways in which so many of you have lifted your voices on the scourge that is gun violence in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I rise for this Special Order because here we are, now 151 days since the beginning of this 119th Congress, and American families have seen zero relief. Nothing has been done to help them as costs continue to rise, despite promises from the administration and the GOP congressional majority to lower prices on day one. Instead, this Republican majority is poised to make things worse through the reconciliation process.

Just one awful and cruel example is pushing \$300 billion of cuts to food supports. In doing so, congressional Republicans will make groceries even more expensive for the 42 million households already struggling to put food on the table every day. Twenty thousand of those families live in my district. Eighty percent of those households include a child, a senior, a disabled person, or a veteran. Let that sink in.

SNAP isn't a luxury. It is essential. It provides \$6 a day in food assistance to hungry Americans, just \$6. It is a small amount, but it is enough to lift up millions out of poverty and create a foundation of health and well-being. Just \$6 can create a pathway to opportunity.

Instead, Republicans want to take away food from hungry people, not to balance the budget, because we know this bill actually increases the deficit by nearly \$3 trillion, and not to better serve our veterans, because this bill actually reduces funding for our vets. Republicans in Congress are doing this in order to fund tax breaks for the wealthiest of individuals and big corporations.

Early in my career, I was a public school teacher. I know that a hungry kid cannot learn. That is why, when I became Baltimore County executive managing a \$5 billion budget that I had to balance every year, I prioritized food security and especially prioritized food security for our children.

We leveraged our very modest SNAP dollars and braided it with additional State and local funding to ensure that all kids in Baltimore County, regardless of income level, could now receive a free breakfast or lunch at every single public school—no stigma, no strident rules. We just feed hungry kids.

We feed them in the summer, too, having expanded the summer SNAP program to keep kids fed even when school isn't in session.

As a result, behaviors improved, and test scores went up, too. That was no surprise because research has proven time and time again that kids who receive SNAP benefits in school have higher graduation rates. Access to healthy foods helps develop memory, social skills, and emotional stability. All of these are critical to academic success.

A quality education is the key to opportunity. It empowers our SNAP recipients to lift themselves out of the cycle of poverty.

Under these Republican cuts, Maryland and our counties would take on 50 to 75 percent of the administrative costs of SNAP.

□ 2100

The types of expansions we made in Baltimore County and expansions that have happened across this country will likely vanish overnight.

In fact, the Urban Institute says that as many as 18.3 million children will lose access to free school meals under these cuts.

Food banks will be overwhelmed. Children will go hungry, and it will have a domino effect: a domino effect on their education, a domino effect on healthcare costs and healthcare outcomes, and a domino effect on our economy.

A Department of Agriculture report called SNAP an economic stabilizer. One billion in new SNAP benefits would lead to an increase of 1.54 billion GDP. In other words, 54 percent above and beyond the new benefits. That seems like a much better investment to me than borrowing \$4 trillion to finance tax cuts for the ultrawealthy.

I am so grateful to all of my colleagues who are joining me tonight who are speaking about the importance

of SNAP and feeding our young people. We represent rural districts and urban districts, communities of means and communities without. There isn't a single Member of Congress who does not represent families who rely on SNAP's food supports to make ends meet.

We all represent families that are getting squeezed by higher costs, who are too scared to check their retirement accounts, who are putting off having prescriptions filled, or who are falling behind on rent. It is simple: These cuts will lead to suffering and we must stop them.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. McCLELLAN), who just co-anchored an incredible Special Order hour herself.

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, my father-in-law was a teacher and he talked about how in the morning when he would come into work, he could tell the kids that hadn't eaten at home and for them often the first meal they would get was the free or reduced breakfast and lunch.

He would say: You can't learn if you are hungry. When you get the sugar high of eating some of what they serve in schools as your first meal and then you crash around 2 o'clock in the afternoon when it is time for the history lesson, you are not going to learn much.

The SNAP cuts in the big, billionaire bonus bill are literally going to take food off of the table for 42 million Americans, a third of them children. For the first time ever, it is going to force States to pay up to, I think it is, 25 percent of the cost.

In Virginia alone, that is going to be \$450 million. That in and of itself may not sound like a lot, but Virginia is also facing a hole blown in its budget through cuts to Medicaid.

Virginia now is being forced to implement work requirements it decided not to implement because when it looked at the other States that did, the administrative costs of the work requirements cost more than the cost to provide care.

These States are facing significant cuts to rental assistance and affordable housing funding. Oh, by the way, these are the same people who are now going to get their healthcare stripped away, who get their food benefits stripped away, who are going to get their rental assistance stripped away.

I did a little math—and I lost my sheet, so I am going on memory for this math, which is dangerous for me—I found it. To qualify for SNAP, a household's gross monthly income must be below 130 percent of the Federal poverty line and their net monthly income below 100 percent. What is that?

For a household of one, that is net \$1,255. For a household of four, that is net \$2,600 a month. The average rent in Creighton Court in the city of Richmond, which is public housing, for a two-bedroom unit is \$1,103. For Gilpin

Court, it is \$1,396. The same group of people under this bill will be forced to pay a copay for the first time up to \$35. In the Energy and Commerce Committee, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle said: Well, they need skin in the game, so what is the big deal? I pay a copay.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle make a little bit more than \$1,255 of which they need to pay a little over a thousand in rent. Now, they have to choose between putting food on the table or paying that copay to go to the doctor to get preventive care and screenings.

What do you think they are going to do? They are not going to the doctor; I will tell you that.

Mr. Speaker, I have talked a lot today, so I am going to be a little briefer than I intended, but I am a preacher's kid, and as I listened to the debate on the billionaire bonus bill, I couldn't help but think of Matthew 25:31–46 where Jesus said that when He came into His glory in Heaven and all the nations of the Earth would come and be divided and He would turn to the righteous and say: Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you cared for me, I was in prison and you visited me.

And the righteous will say: Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or you needing clothes and we clothed you? When did we see you sick or in prison and take care of you or visit you?

And the King will reply: Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for the least of these, my brothers and sisters, you did for me.

And he will say to the others: Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for you. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me. They will say: When did we do this? I am paraphrasing a little bit. Truly, I tell you, whatever you did not do for the least of these, you did not do for me.

Mr. Speaker, I hear some of my friends on the other side of the aisle, including Mr. Speaker who says if you want to know my political philosophy read the Bible. I did. I did. I grew up reading it, and that is the verse that has been sticking in my mind for the last 2 weeks, particularly when we dealt with the Medicaid cuts and the SNAP cuts.

If you think the States are going to be able to make up the difference, you

are wrong. We are going to have a whole lot of people who are hungry, who are sick, who are unhoused, who need help. Are we going to do something for them or not?

I ran for office to help people and solve problems. That is not what this bill does.

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Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Mr. Speaker, for I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat; for I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.

What will this House do? How will we be remembered when our service here is done? I thank the gentlewoman for her comments.

Before I yield to my next colleague, I wanted to point out one other interesting provision of this big, beautiful bill.

Currently, anyone caring for a dependent child is exempt from SNAP work requirements. Under the proposed legislation passed out of this House, that exemption would apply to those responsible only for those caring for children 6 years and younger. That means that parents or a single parent with children aged 7 or older who are currently exempt would have to meet the work requirement in order to receive SNAP benefits.

Is that how we want to treat our children, Mr. Speaker?

As we ponder that, I yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN).

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Maryland for anchoring this important Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, the bill that the House Republicans sent to the Senate would create the largest transfer of wealth from the working class to the well-off in our Nation's history. Folks who were already doing everything they can to make ends meet, working several jobs to put food on the table, and keep their kids healthy. The honest, hopeful, hardworking Americans who just want a fair shot at a better future, these are the people who stand to lose the most under the Republican bill.

These are the folks who rely on basic needs programs like SNAP and Medicaid. These folks aren't lazy. They don't want something for nothing. They just want to feed their families and to take care of their kids.

However, the Republican plan is to drown them in red tape, to kick them off of their health insurance, and force them to choose between feeding their families or paying their rent. They are waging a war of attrition on the working people and those who are most in need.

As if this outcome wasn't bad enough, what may be worse is the reason that they are doing all of this: To pay for huge tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans.

In an attempt to cover the cost of tax write-offs for private jets and yachts and multiple houses, Republicans are

cutting back on food assistance for hungry children. I don't know how else you would describe this, but for me I think it is cruel, ugly, and evil.

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for her remarks tonight. At this point, it is my privilege to yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. DEXTER).

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, I echo my colleague's thanks to our colleague from Maryland for anchoring this incredibly important hour.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to defend food assistance, not just in my district, but for millions of Americans across this country.

Republicans passed a bill out of this Chamber enacting the largest ever cut to food assistance in our Nation's history. This ploy will put extreme pressure on our food banks, leave millions of Americans hungry, and force families to make impossible choices.

Let me be clear: Hunger is not inevitable. Letting people be hungry is a policy choice. Republicans are choosing to rip the food out of hungry people, hungry families' mouths. For what? To give tax breaks to billionaires.

I want to share a story from Rita, a woman in Portland who wrote to my office claiming if Federal food assistance was cut, she will have to choose between buying groceries and paying rent, buying groceries or paying the electric bill.

This is not an unfamiliar story for me as a physician, who heard my patients struggling with similar choices. The cruelty of this bill is not just unconscionable, it is heartless. We are talking about real people battling hunger. In the wealthiest country in the world, Americans shouldn't have to struggle so much just to get by. People deserve to thrive.

Republicans are choosing, again, to give tax breaks for the wealthiest on the backs of working Americans.

One in six community members in my district rely on SNAP. Seniors, children, veterans, and people with disabilities will go hungry. Food stamps aren't a handout. SNAP helps veterans who served our country and neighbors with disabilities. It feeds seniors on fixed incomes and families with young children. Most of these people have faced unimaginable odds and have nowhere else to turn.

We cannot turn our backs on those who need us most. This is a moment for moral clarity. Not one person in this country should go hungry, not one person should be left behind, and certainly not just so billionaires can line their pockets even further.

We have time to stop it, but only if we speak up. Stay loud.

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Representative and my friend from Oregon for her remarks tonight, Mr. Speaker, reminding us that, in fact, hunger is a choice.

We are choosing to prioritize the ultrawealthy of this country over our



seniors and our veterans, over those who have sacrificed so much for this country, and over the future of this country, over our children.

We are not willing to spend \$6 a day to lift up the most vulnerable among us, to spend \$6 a day to feed people who are hungry and provide real opportunities for fellow Americans.

I think it is time that all of us in this Chamber take a moment to reflect about what we are doing here and what our true priorities are.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to elevate this important issue. I thank my colleagues who have added their voice to this issue. I hope that as the Senate considers this reconciliation package, particularly around the issue of food security and hunger and feeding our fellow Americans, that we take a hard look in the mirror and think about what we are doing here.

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

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-1028. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1029. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to North Korea that was declared in Executive Order 13466 of June 26, 2008, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1030. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Nicaragua that was declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1031. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT case 25-10931, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1032. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 25-048, Report of Proposed Exports, pursuant to section 40(g)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(g)(2)); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1033. A letter from the Acting Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, transmitting a notification of a federal vacancy, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-1034. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of a federal vacancy and nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-1035. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the semiannual reports to Congress from the Treasury Inspector General and the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration covering the reporting period of October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-1036. A letter from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a notification of a federal vacancy and designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-1037. A letter from the Chairwoman, Board of Governors, United States Postal Service, transmitting the Board's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress for the period October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-1038. A letter from the Acting Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting a report that includes data on all Federal Government procurement contract awards, without exclusions, made in 2024, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 644(h)(3)(A)(ii); Public Law 85-536, Sec. 15(h)(3)(A)(ii) (as amended by Public Law 114-328, Sec. 1802); (130 Stat. 2650); jointly to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and Small Business.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3394. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to codify certain qualifications of individuals as accredited investors for purposes of the securities laws, with an amendment (Rept. 119-115). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3381. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to expand the ability to use testing the waters and confidential draft registration submissions, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-116). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3422. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to re-

quire the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation to provide educational resources and host events to promote capital raising options for traditionally underrepresented small businesses, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-117). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3351. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify that actions of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation are not a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act, with an amendment (Rept. 119-118, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3343. A bill to amend the Federal securities laws to specify the periods for which financial statements are required to be provided by an emerging growth company, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-119). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3357. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require issuers with a multi-class stock structure to make certain disclosures in any proxy or consent solicitation material, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-120). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3301. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify certain registration statement contents for emerging growth companies, to permit issuers to file draft registration statements with the Securities and Exchange Commission for confidential review, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-121). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1190. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to expand access to capital for rural-area small businesses, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-122). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3352. A bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise rules relating to general solicitation or general advertising to allow for presentations or other communication made by or on behalf of an issuer at certain events, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-123). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1469. A bill to create an interdivisional taskforce at the Securities and Exchange Commission for senior investors, with an amendment (Rept. 119-124). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3382. A bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study and rulemaking on the definition of the term "small entity" under the securities laws for purposes of chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-125). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 2225. A bill to permit a registered investment company to omit certain fees from the calculation of Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-126). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3339. A bill to require certification examinations for accredited investors, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-127). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 3395. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study of the costs associated with small- and medium-sized companies to undertake initial public offerings, with an amendment (Rept. 119-128). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1713. A bill to amend the Defense Production Act of 1950 to include the Secretary of Agriculture as a member of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-129, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mrs. FISCHBACH: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 458. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2483) to reauthorize certain programs that provide for opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2931) to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to relocate certain offices of the Small Business Administration in sanctuary jurisdictions, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2966) to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to require an applicant for certain loans of the Administration to provide certain citizenship status documentation, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2987) to amend the Small Business Act to require a limit on the number of small business lending companies, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-130). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. COMER: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 2056. A bill to require the District of Columbia to comply with federal immigration laws, with an amendment (Rept. 119-131). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3351 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Foreign Affairs discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1713 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BARR (for himself and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 3673. A bill to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to increase the exemption from registration threshold for certain investment advisers of private funds to reflect the change in inflation; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BERA (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mrs. KIM):

H.R. 3674. A bill to authorize United States participation in the Davos Alzheimer's Collaborative; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BURCHETT (for himself and Mrs. LUNA):

H.R. 3675. A bill to codify Executive Order 14290 (relating to ending taxpayer subsidization of biased media); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BURCHETT (for himself and Mrs. LUNA):

H.R. 3676. A bill to codify Executive Order 14293, relating to regulatory relief to promote domestic production of critical medicines; 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 Mr. BURCHETT (for himself and Mrs. LUNA):

H.R. 3677. A bill to codify Executive Order 14292 relating to Improving the Safety and Security of Biological Research; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, and Mr. LAWLER):

H.R. 3678. A bill to provide for the treatment of the Caribbean Community as an international organization for purposes of the International Organizations Immunities Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. COLLINS (for himself and Ms. STEVENS):

H.R. 3679. A bill to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to develop resources for small businesses in utilizing artificial intelligence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. DELUZIO (for himself, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. RYAN, Mrs. SYKES, Ms. CRAIG, and Ms. SCHOLTEN):

H.R. 3680. A bill to prohibit chief executive officers convicted of covered crimes from serving in the executive branch, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. EDWARDS):

H.R. 3681. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to award grants to certain entities to establish workforce training programs; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself and Mr. HUIZENGA):

H.R. 3682. A bill to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to require the Financial Stability Oversight Council to consider alternative approaches before determining that a U.S. nonbank financial company shall be supervised by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS):

H.R. 3683. A bill to establish an Animal Cruelty Crimes Taskforce within the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAVES (for himself and Ms. BUDZINSKI):

H.R. 3684. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for enhanced payments to rural health care providers under the Medicare and Medicaid pro-

grams, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JACKSON of Illinois (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 3685. A bill to enhance civil rights accountability and enforcement in the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Ms. ROSS):

H.R. 3686. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve the regulatory review process to determine the safety and effectiveness of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3687. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to renew and enhance opportunity zones, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LAMALFA (for himself, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. NEHLS, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. BOEBERT, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. PALMER, and Mr. BOST):

H.R. 3688. A bill to amend chapter 110 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit gender transition procedures on minors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEE of Nevada (for herself and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 3689. A bill to amend the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act to reauthorize a youth prevention and recovery initiative; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on 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. LUCAS:

H.R. 3690. A bill to codify the Office of the Strategic Hub for Innovation and Financial Technology of the Securities and Exchange Commission and LabCFTC of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Ms. SALAZAR):

H.R. 3691. A bill to establish the Commission to Study Acts of Antisemitism in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. TOKUDA, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Mr. GOLDEN of Maine):

H.R. 3692. A bill to reauthorize the Young Fishermen's Development Act; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. OGLES:

H.R. 3693. A bill to prohibit the Federal Government from establishing or maintaining a database that contains data collected through, or facilitates, the biometric identity verification of a citizen of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. PETTERSEN (for herself, Ms. HAGEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mrs. KIM):

H.R. 3694. A bill to amend the National Housing Act and the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 to include information regarding VA home loans in the Informed Consumer Choice Disclosure required to be provided to prospective FHA borrowers and to require a military service question on the Uniform Residential Loan Application, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. RILEY of New York (for himself and Mr. VAN DREW):

H.R. 3695. A bill to require the Commissioner of Social Security to ensure that individuals can access the services of the Social Security Administration through a telephone service, an internet portal, and an in-person visit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. KEATING, Mr. TONKO, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 3696. A bill to extend the protections of the Fair Housing Act to persons suffering discrimination on the basis of sex or sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia:

H.R. 3697. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study, and publish guidance, on the conversion of rural abandoned factories, space centers, and military bases into space-related manufacturing facilities and space complexes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 3698. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a refundable credit to individuals who donate certain life-saving organs; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. CLINE, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. CLYDE, and Mr. SHREVE):

H.J. Res. 98. A joint resolution supporting the designation of the month of June as "Life Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. CARSON (for himself, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mr. TIFFANY):

H. Res. 459. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "National Poppy Day"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas:

H. Res. 460. A resolution commemorating and celebrating the extraordinary contributions of the late Honorable Raúl Grijalva, honoring his legacy of service, dedication, and unwavering advocacy for the people of Arizona and indigenous communities across the country; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. KILEY of California, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr.

LAMALFA, Mr. KEAN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. CARTER of Georgia):

H. Res. 461. A resolution recognizing the contributions of independent workers and contractors to the American economy; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. MEEKS:

H. Res. 462. A resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 91) relating to a national emergency by the President on April 2, 2025; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. MOYLAN (for himself, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. CASE, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN):

H. Res. 463. A resolution condemning the illegal, international use of flag-of-convenience practices; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa (for himself and Ms. PETTERSEN):

H. Res. 464. A resolution expressing support for the designation of June as "National Annuity Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. FROST, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MENG, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TONKO, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. CHU, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. NADLER):

H. Res. 465. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Congress should enact the Older Americans Bill of Rights to establish that older Americans should have the right to live with dignity and with independence; to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HUIZENGA, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois):

H. Res. 466. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the first Tuesday in June as "National Cancer Survivor Beauty and Support Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mrs. TORRES of California (for herself, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. OBERNOLTE):

H. Res. 467. A resolution designating May 2025 as "National Wildfire Preparedness Month"; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. YAKYM (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. BURCHETT, and Mr. PAPPAS):

H. Res. 468. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of June 1 through June 7, 2025, as "National Trailer Safety Week" in the United States, and supporting the goals and ideals of National Trailer Safety Week to educate American motorists about the importance of proper towing techniques and maintenance; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

## 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. BARR:

H.R. 3673.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BERA:

H.R. 3674.

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

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

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 3675.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 3676.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 3677.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 3678.

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

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

By Mr. COLLINS:

H.R. 3679.

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

U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

"The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Mr. DELUZIO:

H.R. 3680.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3681.

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

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 3682.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER:

H.R. 3683.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. GRAVES:

H.R. 3684.

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

Section 8 of Article I the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JACKSON of Illinois:

H.R. 3685.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 3

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3686.

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

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: [The Congress shall have Power] To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3687.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. LAMALFA:

H.R. 3688.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 1

By Ms. LEE of Nevada:

H.R. 3689.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 provides Congress with the power to “lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises”

By Mr. LUCAS:

H.R. 3690.

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

Article 1 Section 8

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 3691.

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

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. MOULTON:

H.R. 3692.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3: “To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes”

By Mr. OGLES:

H.R. 3693.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. PETERSEN:

H.R. 3694.

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

Article 1; Section 8

By Mr. RILEY of New York:

H.R. 3695.

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

Article I, Section VIII

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 3696.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia:

H.R. 3697.

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

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 3698.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.J. Res. 98.

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

Section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution

## ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 40: Mr. MFUME.  
H.R. 142: Mr. BRESNAHAN, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. KNOTT.

H.R. 148: Mr. BEGICH.  
H.R. 255: Mr. WEBER of Texas.  
H.R. 260: Mr. PFLUGER.  
H.R. 309: Mr. SCHMIDT.  
H.R. 346: Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.  
H.R. 425: Mr. JORDAN.  
H.R. 436: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.  
H.R. 507: Mr. CISNEROS.  
H.R. 556: Mr. CRENSHAW.  
H.R. 575: Mr. TAYLOR.  
H.R. 583: Mr. HUFFMAN.  
H.R. 605: Mr. NEGUSE.  
H.R. 621: Ms. BYNUM.  
H.R. 624: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.  
H.R. 628: Mr. TONKO.  
H.R. 703: Mr. JORDAN.  
H.R. 718: Ms. BYNUM.  
H.R. 733: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 842: Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. SMUCKER, and Ms. PETERSEN.

H.R. 879: Mr. VEASEY, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. LICCARDO, and Ms. BYNUM.  
H.R. 909: Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. ROSE, Mr. GARBARINO, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.  
H.R. 929: Ms. DEXTER.  
H.R. 956: Mr. LAMALFA.  
H.R. 979: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Ms. OMAR, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. CAREY, Mr. BARRETT, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BYNUM, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, and Mr. MURPHY.  
H.R. 989: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. ANSARI.  
H.R. 1004: Mr. BARRETT, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. FIGURES.

H.R. 1013: Mr. LAWLER.  
H.R. 1046: Mrs. KIM and Mr. CRAWFORD.  
H.R. 1078: Mr. EVANS of Colorado.  
H.R. 1094: Mr. RULLI.  
H.R. 1103: Mr. VINDMAN.  
H.R. 1151: Mr. HILL of Arkansas.  
H.R. 1175: Mr. POCAN and Mr. CISCOMANI.  
H.R. 1189: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 1196: Mr. MFUME.  
H.R. 1207: Mr. TURNER of Ohio, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. SELF, and Mr. BOST.  
H.R. 1227: Mr. MANN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. WOMACK, and Ms. SALINAS.  
H.R. 1229: Mr. HOYER.  
H.R. 1236: Mr. NEGUSE.  
H.R. 1246: Mr. WITTMAN and Mr. VINDMAN.  
H.R. 1262: Mrs. BICE, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. FIELDS, Mr. FROST, Mr. SWALWELL, and Mr. TONKO.  
H.R. 1267: Mr. CALVERT.  
H.R. 1319: Mr. ALLEN.  
H.R. 1329: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. MCGUIRE.  
H.R. 1330: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
H.R. 1340: Ms. CRAIG, Ms. SEWELL, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 1383: Mr. SOTO, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. BEGICH.  
H.R. 1410: Mr. CROW.  
H.R. 1421: Mr. NORMAN and Mr. HARDER of California.  
H.R. 1448: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
H.R. 1461: Mr. PERRY.  
H.R. 1464: Ms. FRIEDMAN.  
H.R. 1476: Mr. KNOTT.  
H.R. 1505: Ms. CHU.  
H.R. 1517: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Mr. VINDMAN.  
H.R. 1518: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.  
H.R. 1530: Mr. TRAN, Ms. LEE of Florida, Ms. SHERRILL, and Mr. MILLER of Ohio.

H.R. 1564: Ms. STRICKLAND.  
H.R. 1569: Ms. TENNEY and Mr. McDOWELL.  
H.R. 1615: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 1676: Mr. JAMES.  
H.R. 1679: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 1695: Mr. MOORE of Utah.  
H.R. 1698: Mr. CRENSHAW and Mrs. HARSHBARGER.  
H.R. 1699: Mr. BACON and Mrs. KIM.  
H.R. 1735: Mr. VINDMAN.  
H.R. 1793: Ms. BYNUM.  
H.R. 1799: Mr. BEGICH.  
H.R. 1818: Mr. MRVAN.  
H.R. 1822: Mr. WESTERMAN.  
H.R. 1827: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 1835: Mr. LIEU, Mr. MFUME, and Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 1845: Mr. CORREA.  
H.R. 1897: Mr. RULLI.  
H.R. 1931: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.  
H.R. 1933: Mr. STANTON and Mrs. MCIVER.  
H.R. 1939: Ms. STANSBURY and Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1949: Mr. BEAN of Florida and Mr. LAWLER.  
H.R. 1989: Mr. LIEU.  
H.R. 2033: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.  
H.R. 2045: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 2055: Mr. KEAN, Mr. AMO, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mrs. DINGELL, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. OMAR, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, and Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 2059: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.  
H.R. 2095: Mr. NEGUSE.  
H.R. 2103: Mr. NEGUSE.  
H.R. 2123: Mr. BEGICH.  
H.R. 2147: Mr. GOSAR and Mr. SELF.  
H.R. 2149: Ms. BYNUM.  
H.R. 2152: Mr. BEGICH.  
H.R. 2153: Mr. STAUBER.  
H.R. 2192: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. MATSUI, and Ms. MENG.

H.R. 2202: Mr. TAYLOR and Mr. MCGUIRE.  
H.R. 2220: Ms. BYNUM.  
H.R. 2222: Mr. MESSMER.  
H.R. 2225: Ms. MENG.  
H.R. 2257: Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. MCCORMICK, and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.

H.R. 2290: Ms. BUDZINSKI.  
H.R. 2294: Ms. DELBENE.  
H.R. 2311: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.  
H.R. 2323: Mr. ELLZEY.

H.R. 2335: Mr. BELL.  
H.R. 2360: Mr. MANN.  
H.R. 2362: Mr. BEGICH.  
H.R. 2369: Mr. ONDER.  
H.R. 2370: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 2385: Mr. DELUZIO.  
H.R. 2422: Mr. BILIRAKIS.  
H.R. 2443: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.  
H.R. 2477: Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Mr. VINDMAN.

H.R. 2478: Mr. VINDMAN.  
H.R. 2484: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
H.R. 2485: Ms. ROSS.  
H.R. 2489: Mr. POCAN.  
H.R. 2501: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.  
H.R. 2510: Mr. BILIRAKIS.  
H.R. 2548: Mr. LAHOOD, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. VINDMAN, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. RILEY of New York, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, and Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2551: Mrs. HINSON.  
H.R. 2585: Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CASTEN, and Mrs. BEATTY.  
H.R. 2594: Mr. FINSTAD.  
H.R. 2605: Ms. BYNUM.  
H.R. 2636: Mr. DELUZIO.  
H.R. 2666: Mr. FINSTAD.  
H.R. 2701: Ms. SALAZAR and Ms. BUDZINSKI.  
H.R. 2715: Mr. WEBER of Texas.  
H.R. 2725: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 2753: Mr. MENENDEZ.  
H.R. 2756: Mr. MORELLE.  
H.R. 2766: Mr. RUIZ.  
H.R. 2767: Ms. BUDZINSKI and Mrs. KIM.  
H.R. 2776: Mr. WEBER of Texas.  
H.R. 2781: Mr. CISNEROS.  
H.R. 2819: Mr. MANN.  
H.R. 2823: Mr. LEVIN.  
H.R. 2833: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. STAUBER.  
H.R. 2836: Mrs. CAMMACK.  
H.R. 2853: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. OBERNOLTE.  
H.R. 2854: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
H.R. 2864: Mr. VINDMAN.  
H.R. 2896: Mr. CLINE and Mr. MANN.  
H.R. 2905: Mr. LIEU.  
H.R. 2906: Mr. LIEU.  
H.R. 2910: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. NORTON, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. WHITESIDES, and Mr. CASTEN.  
H.R. 2911: Mrs. WAGNER.  
H.R. 2913: Mr. KENNEDY of New York.  
H.R. 2920: Mr. LUTTRELL and Mr. HARDER of California.  
H.R. 2939: Mr. CISNEROS.  
H.R. 2941: Ms. CRAIG.  
H.R. 2947: Mr. CASE.  
H.R. 2948: Mr. CLEAVER.  
H.R. 3042: Ms. TENNEY.  
H.R. 3045: Ms. DeLAURO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. TONKO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. CHU, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, and Mr. MCGOVERN.  
H.R. 3093: Mr. LIEU.  
H.R. 3094: Mr. LIEU.  
H.R. 3107: Mr. CISNEROS.  
H.R. 3112: Ms. BROWNLEY.  
H.R. 3113: Mr. PFLUGER.  
H.R. 3117: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.  
H.R. 3131: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.  
H.R. 3137: Mr. MANN.  
H.R. 3139: Ms. CHU.  
H.R. 3148: Mr. VINDMAN.  
H.R. 3151: Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mrs. HINSON, and Ms. SIMON.  
H.R. 3164: Mr. TONKO, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. MOORE of Utah, and Mr. VINDMAN.  
H.R. 3172: Ms. TLAIB and Mr. KEATING.  
H.R. 3184: Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. STEVENS, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.  
H.R. 3190: Mrs. KIM, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. SHREVE, and Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 3200: Mr. SWALWELL.  
H.R. 3204: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.  
H.R. 3220: Mr. KHANNA.  
H.R. 3241: Mr. LaLOTA and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
H.R. 3246: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 3270: Mr. LAWLER.  
H.R. 3285: Mr. DOWNING.  
H.R. 3287: Mr. MCQUIRE.  
H.R. 3291: Mrs. KIM.  
H.R. 3296: Ms. KING-HINDS and Mr. MFUME.  
H.R. 3299: Mrs. RAMIREZ.  
H.R. 3302: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.  
H.R. 3304: Mr. BACON, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.  
H.R. 3335: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Mrs. FOUSHEE.  
H.R. 3349: Mr. HUFFMAN.  
H.R. 3351: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 3373: Ms. SEWELL.  
H.R. 3380: Mr. DOWNING.  
H.R. 3382: Mr. LAWLER.  
H.R. 3385: Mr. OBERNOLTE.  
H.R. 3392: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama and Mr. VINDMAN.  
H.R. 3395: Mr. LAWLER.  
H.R. 3396: Mr. OBERNOLTE.  
H.R. 3397: Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. DUNN of Florida, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
H.R. 3400: Ms. TLAIB and Ms. TOKUDA.  
H.R. 3427: Mr. FIGURES.  
H.R. 3429: Ms. KING-HINDS and Mr. MOYLAN.  
H.R. 3443: Ms. TENNEY.  
H.R. 3449: Mr. MRVAN and Mr. PALLONE.  
H.R. 3463: Mr. HILL of Arkansas and Mr. VAN ORDEN.  
H.R. 3474: Mr. LAWLER and Ms. SCHOLTEN.  
H.R. 3476: Mr. LAWLER.  
H.R. 3486: Mr. GILL of Texas and Mrs. LUNA.  
H.R. 3493: Mr. CRANE.  
H.R. 3495: Mr. CARBAJAL.  
H.R. 3503: Mr. VINDMAN and Mr. MANN.  
H.R. 3506: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. McIVER, Ms. SCHOLTEN, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.  
H.R. 3509: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 3513: Mr. THANEDAR, Mrs. McIVER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.  
H.R. 3514: Mr. AMO, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. ONDER, Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. FLOOD.  
H.R. 3523: Mr. SELF.  
H.R. 3531: Mr. PFLUGER.  
H.R. 3538: Ms. ELFRETH.  
H.R. 3543: Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
H.R. 3546: Ms. OMAR.  
H.R. 3553: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 3555: Mr. VARGAS.  
H.R. 3559: Mr. VARGAS.  
H.R. 3566: Mr. TURNER of Ohio and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 3569: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Ms. CRAIG.  
H.R. 3575: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.

H.R. 3577: Mr. PFLUGER.  
H.R. 3592: Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. CLOUD, and Mr. GILL of Texas.  
H.R. 3598: Mr. HUNT and Mr. RUTHERFORD.  
H.R. 3600: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 3607: Mr. COHEN, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. SCANLON.  
H.R. 3608: Mr. GILL of Texas.  
H.R. 3613: Mr. ADERHOLT.  
H.R. 3614: Ms. CHU, Mr. LIEU, Ms. WATERS, Mr. FIELDS, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. GARAMENDI.  
H.R. 3619: Mr. EVANS of Colorado and Mr. MCCORMICK.  
H.R. 3624: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 3625: Mr. GILL of Texas.  
H.R. 3634: Mr. MANN.  
H.R. 3644: Ms. SHERRILL.  
H.R. 3652: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.  
H.R. 3654: Mr. NEGUSE.  
H.J. Res. 28: Mr. VALADAO.  
H.J. Res. 54: Ms. DEXTER and Mr. SWALWELL.  
H.J. Res. 67: Mr. TONKO.  
H.J. Res. 80: Mr. LIEU.  
H. Con. Res. 12: Ms. PLASKETT.  
H. Res. 70: Mr. LICCARDO.  
H. Res. 120: Ms. ROSS.  
H. Res. 168: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.  
H. Res. 410: Mr. IVEY, Mr. TONKO, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. MIN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. LICCARDO, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CONAWAY, Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. FRIEDMAN, Mr. VINDMAN, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BROWN, and Mr. QUIGLEY.  
H. Res. 413: Mr. YAKYM, Mr. KUSTOFF, and Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.  
H. Res. 444: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. LATTA, Mr. RILEY of New York, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. SOTO, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BARRETT, Mr. PFLUGER, and Mr. MIN.  
H. Res. 446: Mr. HARDER of California.  
H. Res. 447: Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. YAKYM, and Mr. FLOOD.  
H. Res. 448: Mr. STAUBER, Ms. TENNEY, and Ms. BOEBERT.  
H. Res. 450: Mr. LATIMER.  
H. Res. 453: Ms. TLAIB, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Ms. JAYAPAL.

#### DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

H.R. 3614: Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. IVEY.



United States  
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# Congressional Record

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

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## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, use our lawmakers today as Your instruments. Give them Your wisdom so that they can find solutions to the complex problems that beset our Nation and world.

Lord, strengthen them to serve and honor You by transforming dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows. Keep them from fear and frustration, as You equip and empower them to accomplish Your will on Earth.

May they find Your guidance throughout this day by seeking You in personal prayer. When they call, answer their petitions. Replenish their resources with Your peace that passes all understanding.

We pray in Your omnipotent 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. MORENO). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

#### NATIONAL CANCER SURVIVORS DAY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, the first Sunday in June is National Cancer Survivors Day. According to the National Cancer Institute, there are 18.1 million cancer survivors in the United States.

We have made great strides in recent decades to prevent and to battle cancer. The disease is the second leading cause of death in our country.

I know how a cancer diagnosis impacts a family, as a result of my wife Barbara's own diagnosis and victory over breast cancer 38 years ago. For sure, early detection and access to treatment saved Barbara's life.

Now, Iowa is a rural State. A majority of our States are rural States, and every State in the United States has rural areas in it.

Of course, it is difficult to deliver quality healthcare in rural America, but it is being delivered. To accomplish that, I have championed policies to keep the delivery of healthcare services accessible in rural America.

Access to quality healthcare should not be determined by your ZIP Code. Keeping rural and community clinics open and telehealth services available is a lifeline for cancer patients.

This day, National Cancer Survivors Day, is dedicated to celebrating cancer survivors and acknowledging the struggle and strength it took to overcome the disease.

We stand with you.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive 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.

#### TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, we are entering the sixth month of Republican leadership in Washington. We have already delivered some significant wins for the American people, and there is so much more on the way. When this Congress began, we got right to work getting President Trump's Cabinet in place. We confirmed 21 Cabinet positions at a faster pace than any administration since George W. Bush.

The Republican Senate has confirmed 68 civilian nominees so far this year, the most since the Obama administration—Secretaries, Administrators, Deputies, Under Secretaries, 11 Ambassadors to postings around the globe—the most diplomats confirmed at this point since 2001.

And our committees continue to work hard to refer additional nominees to the floor.

The Senate has also passed a number of bills already this year. In the first few weeks of this year, we took up the Laken Riley Act, a bill to require that law enforcement detain an illegal immigrant caught shoplifting or stealing. We had an amendment process on the floor, a process that made the bill stronger. And the bill that the Senate ultimately passed and President Trump signed into law requires detention for illegal immigrants who assault law enforcement or seriously injure or kill a person, as well as for those caught stealing like the illegal immigrant who murdered Laken Riley last year.

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



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We also passed the HALT Fentanyl Act to permanently schedule fentanyl-related substances as the most deadly type of drug and give law enforcement a critical tool to prosecute those who bring these deadly substances into our country and peddle them in our communities.

Last month, President Trump signed Senator CRUZ's TAKE IT DOWN Act into law to combat nonconsensual explicit images made with AI and shared online.

And the Senate is continuing consideration of the GENIUS Act this week so that the United States can continue to be a leader in financial innovation and Americans can exercise financial freedom with confidence.

The Senate has also been working to repeal burdensome Biden-era regulations. We have now passed 18 Congressional Review Act resolutions targeting regulations that would raise costs, destroy jobs, and reduce choice for the American people. That includes resolutions to block President Biden's natural gas tax, eliminate burdensome new standards for appliances, and block the California electric vehicle mandate that would drive up prices and reduce consumer choice across the country.

I am grateful to my Republican colleagues for all the hard work they have put in over these past 5 months. We have made excellent progress, but needless to say, there is still a lot more to do starting with the reconciliation bill we have been working on now for months. This bill is critical to delivering on President Trump's priorities and the promises that we have made to the American people. It will prevent trillions in tax hikes for hard-working families and small businesses. It will invest in our border security to safeguard the progress the Trump administration has already made, and it will strengthen our military and unleash American energy for a stronger and safer America.

And as I said yesterday, the Senate will consider the bill on the floor this work period with the goal of getting it on the President's desk before July 4.

Appropriations season is also upon us, and we will be working to consider as many appropriations bills as possible under regular order. Work on the annual National Defense Authorization Act is also underway, and I hope Democrats will work with us to move the NDAA and appropriations bills through committee and consider them on the Senate floor.

When the American people elected President Trump and a Republican Congress last November, they expected us to deliver. We have worked hard to deliver on our mandate, and we are not taking our foot off the gas. There is too much to do.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### REPUBLICAN AGENDA

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, just yesterday, I heard the minority leader once again misrepresent the Republican agenda. With respect, once again, he is wrong.

Let me set the record straight because the Republican agenda is actually very popular. The latest Rasmussen poll was very clear. A majority—a majority—of Americans believe our country is finally heading in the right direction. This is the highest number of Americans who have graded our country heading in the right direction basically this century. Why? Because Americans are done with the painful Democrat years of high prices and open borders.

The contrast is significant. They are witnessing firsthand the Trump turnaround, and they are actually happy that Republicans are delivering for them after what they have been through for the previous 4 years.

Let's take a look at gas prices. Gas prices were 50 cents a gallon cheaper this year than they were Memorial Day last year. Families now save about \$10 every time they fill up, and they are going to feel this relief all summer long.

Senate Republicans are adding to the success. We are working on the bold agenda to make America stronger, safer, more prosperous, more affordable. Let me outline why we are doing this and why it is so urgent.

Our mission is to stop a \$4 trillion tax increase. That would be the highest, biggest tax increase in the history of our country. Every one of the Democrats supports this all-out assault on our wallets, on our pocketbooks, on the purses of the people all across the country. We are talking about the largest tax increases in America's history. Our goal is to make these tax cuts permanent.

Ignore the scare tactics that we hear from the other side of the aisle. This is a lifeline for middle-class families and for small businesses. This is about allowing people to keep more of what they earn. It is their hard-earned money.

We are also going to end taxes on tips. In Wyoming, 10,000 workers will benefit from this—hard-working waiters, bartenders, tour guides—all of them. We are also going to make sure that police officers and firefighters will owe no taxes on overtime. Seniors will keep more of their Social Security. Small business owners will keep more of their earnings. We will also relieve them of these incredible paperwork burdens that are a drag on their ability to build their businesses.

Republicans will also strengthen and preserve Medicaid for the Americans who need it the most. This means 1.4 million illegal immigrants will stop re-

ceiving taxpayer-funded Medicaid benefits. It was never intended for them. It is wrong. Benefits like that don't belong to them. These people are in the country illegally. They should not be benefiting from the work of hard-working Americans. Democrats want to keep all these benefits flowing to all these illegal immigrants. Well, that makes it harder for the American medical patients to get to see a doctor. I know; I practiced medicine for a long time and took care of a lot of Medicaid patients. What the Democrats have done to Medicaid—and now illegal immigrants receiving it, over 1 million—is making it harder for the American public to get to see a doctor.

To bring prices down, we are actually focusing much, much more on American energy and producing American energy—American energy that was under attack in the last administration by Biden and the Democrats. Affordable, reliable American energy is going to lower costs for people, will bring down the cost of heating your home, will bring down the cost of filling the tank.

With all the artificial intelligence breakthroughs, we need more energy to power those data centers. This is going to be done with American manufacturing. To win the AI race we are now in against China, we need more energy, not less. Republican policies will make America energy dominant once again.

Republican policies will also invite the world to build and invest right here at home in America. No more outsourcing our energy or our innovation or our destiny—Americans will be in charge.

On border security, Republicans are resolute. We will finish the wall, deport illegal immigrants, and stop the flood of illegal fentanyl that is destroying and killing communities around our country. Border Patrol agents will get the tools and the backup they need as well as the pay they deserve. These are strong measures, and they will secure the border.

Sunday, just 2 days ago, there was a terrorist attack in Boulder, CO. It is a sad reminder of the stakes. The terrorist was in the country illegally. He was here because of the open border policy in the Biden administration—one the Democrats want to continue. Every Senate Democrat right now in this body has voted to keep the borders open and opposed securing the borders.

This terrorist overstayed his visa. Joe Biden and the Democrats never kicked him out. Actually, they gave him a work permit, and even that has expired.

What do we know now? We know that investigators have found that he planned his hateful, anti-Semitic attack and was planning it for over a year, and he targeted Jews. He screamed "Free Palestine." Twelve people were injured. Eight were hospitalized. Among the victims was an 88-year-old Holocaust survivor. This is the human cost of dangerous Democrat policies.

Republicans will make our cities sanctuaries of safety, not sanctuary cities, not dens of crime and chaos, which is what Democrats have welcomed.

Republicans are also rebuilding our military might. Our bold legislation will make our military the strongest fighting force in the world. Our military will be lethal, intimidating, and ready to fight. We are also investing in the Golden Dome for America. This revolutionary missile shield is vital for our Nation's security. It is going to stop deadly threats from adversaries who want to threaten the American people and our Nation as a whole. That is deterrence. That is restoring peace through strength.

This is the bold Republican agenda that we are fighting for: cutting taxes on tips and overtime and Social Security, stopping the largest tax increase in history, strengthening and preserving Medicaid, ending taxpayer-funded benefits for illegal immigrants, securing our borders, creating safer communities, providing for a strong national defense, and once again making America energy dominant.

Democrats oppose all of these improvements to our Nation. Why are Democrats for open borders? I wish they would come down and explain it. Why are Democrats for a \$4 trillion tax increase? I am waiting for them to speak up. Why are Democrats for taxpayer-funded healthcare for 1.4 million illegal immigrants? I will tell you why. It is because they are absolutely out of touch with the American people.

Americans voted to get the country back on track. Senate Republicans are getting it done, and we are building a future of safety and prosperity for all Americans.

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 Democratic leader is recognized.

#### ANTI-SEMITISM

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on anti-Semitism, the attack in Colorado, the shooting in Washington, and the arson in Pennsylvania have one thing in common: The assailants have cited anti-Israel sentiment as justification for their violence. They have, in other words, used the actions of the Israeli Government they don't like to justify violence against Jewish Americans here at home. This is unfortunately a growing trend since October 7.

As the highest ranking Jewish elected official in American history, I have watched with growing alarm as a poisonous ideology—ancient in its roots but modern in its mutations—has spread across our country. We are wit-

nessing in real time the resurgence of collective blame against the Jewish people. If we do not confront it clearly, unequivocally, and together, we risk opening the door to even darker days.

I have said that it is legitimate and not anti-Semitic to peacefully protest and criticize the actions of any government, including the Israeli Government, but there is a profound and dangerous difference between criticizing a government and condemning an entire people. The idea that Jews everywhere bear responsibility for the policies of the Israeli Government is not only false, it plays on one of the oldest forms of anti-Semitism out there: blaming the Jews collectively for the world's problems.

Whether it is blaming the Jews for the death of Christ, blaming Jews for bringing in immigrants as part of the conspiracy theory of great replacement, or blaming the Jews for actions of the Israeli Government that one may not like, it is all the same: a pretext for hate.

I have long warned that if we aren't careful, what starts as legitimate critiques against the Israeli Government can easily slip into something far more sinister. If disagreements are allowed to morph into intolerance, if intolerance is permitted to spread and linger, if bigoted voices are allowed to take over legitimate debates, history shows that the threat of violence is never too far away. I fear history is beginning to whisper its warnings once again.

Our Nation has been strongest when it has stood against bigotry in all forms. Let us summon that strength again. The way forward is very clear: All Americans of good will must stand together to condemn anti-Semitism and all forms of intolerance, no matter where it rears its ugly head. Let us remember what America is all about and who we are.

#### HEALTHCARE

Mr. President, on healthcare, Donald Trump and his so-called Big Beautiful Bill is ugly to its very core. Behind the smoke and mirrors lies a cruel and draconian truth: tax breaks for the ultrawealthy, paid for by gutting healthcare for millions of Americans.

Over the past few days, Donald Trump has tried to sell this bill to Republican Senators with a new lie. He has been telling Republican Senators and the American people that no one will lose coverage; that no benefits will be slashed; that the bill won't harm recipients. Let's call it what it is: a lie. People will lose coverage. Millions will. Donald Trump is lying to the American people when he says no one will lose coverage under this ugly bill. There is no way for Republicans to seek the cuts they want without removing millions of people off their healthcare in one way or another.

I warn my Republican colleagues: Do not buy Donald Trump's snake oil sales pitch.

Republicans want to cut out waste, fraud, and abuse. Good. We will help

them do it. This bill certainly isn't that.

Make no mistake, this Big Beautiful Bill is, in reality, repeal and replace by another name. This is a healthcare bill to its core.

To cut through their lies, let's talk facts. Fact: 20 million Americans will see their healthcare costs go up. Fact: 14 million Americans, including children and seniors, will lose their coverage entirely. Fact: Adult Medicaid recipients—the vast majority, the overwhelming majority—already work. Many of them will be thrown off coverage anyway. Fact: This bill has millions losing healthcare.

If Donald Trump wants to talk fraud, if Republicans want to talk fraud, fine. The fraud we actually see in Medicaid isn't coming from families making ends meet; it is coming from the top—from large providers, unscrupulous bigwigs. The reality is that most fraud in Medicaid happens not with individual enrollees but at the level of healthcare providers—not all of them, not most of them, but a handful who do fraud. It is more than a handful, but it is not all of them at all.

But Donald Trump is doing nothing to hold them accountable. Just the opposite. The other day, he pardoned a nursing home executive who skimmed \$10 million from the paychecks of nurses, doctors, and other employees. Hear that, folks? Donald Trump, who says he wants to reduce fraud, just pardoned a nursing home executive who skimmed \$10 million from the paychecks of his employees.

The reality is simple: There is not enough fraud in Medicaid and ACA to make Republicans' math work. They know it. Republicans may not want to admit it publicly, but they know that, under their current proposal, millions of Americans, including millions who are employed, who have families will lose their healthcare coverage.

Republicans want to shorten the enrollment period. They want to bury families in redtape. They want to drown States in new administrative hurdles. The Republicans' strategy, in large part, is to make it so difficult for people to sign up for healthcare and so easy to fall through the cracks that tens of millions of Americans will simply lose coverage, and it would be by design. Just ask Vought. Just look at 2025. Senate Republicans can make jokes all they want that we are going to die anyway, but for many working-class Americans, healthcare is the difference between life and death.

Let me be clear: Democrats are ready. When Republicans finally release the full text of their so-called Big Beautiful Bill, the American people will see the truth. They will see how ugly it is, and we will fight it with facts, with urgency, and with the voices of millions of Americans who deserve better than this cruel, cynical attack on their healthcare and on their dignity.

## CLEAN ENERGY

Mr. President, on clean energy, Donald Trump's so-called Big Beautiful Bill should really be called one big, ugly energy killer. With this monstrosity of a bill, Donald Trump and Republicans seem ready to kill clean energy in its tracks and raise people's energy costs in the process. The only people celebrating the Republican bill's energy policies are the fossil fuel industry because it will be the fossil fuel industry whose pockets are lined. The fossil fuel industry simply has blind hatred of clean energy. Do you know why? They know it is the future. They know it is cheaper. They know it is where we are going, that America needs clean energy in order to meet our demands moving forward.

We all know America has a huge and growing demand for new energy. We are going to need 10 times as much electricity to continue powering breakthroughs in artificial intelligence, which isn't going away anytime soon; but with their bill, Republicans want to cut off one of the major ways—the newest, cheapest, and fastest growing way—to produce new energy because they want to tax new, clean electricity, stifling the supply of new energy and putting us at risk of falling behind in AI to countries like China.

And what would the Republicans' plan mean for an average American family or a small business? Simple: higher energy costs.

To the American people, I say: If this bill passes, your electricity costs are going up.

Look at the facts: The Republican plan will increase average national electricity prices by about 10 percent. The Republican plan will increase total household energy costs by \$32 billion. That means American families will pay \$32 billion more—all to please the ideological blindness of the fossil fuel industry. And that is not to mention that the Republican plan would cost America about 800,000 jobs by 2030, all across America in red States and in blue States. What a terrible price to pay just to lower taxes for the ultrarich, just to line the pockets of the fossil fuel industry, to satisfy the ideological hatred that the fossil fuel industry has for clean energy, and to lose out on American energy dominance.

## IRAN

Mr. President, on Iran, yesterday, I called out President Trump for, on the one hand, telling the public his goal is to fully dismantle Iran's nuclear facilities but then, on the other hand, secretly negotiating a side deal that will allow the Iranian regime to keep enriching.

Well, it looks like we got his attention, because he followed up by denying this report in an all caps tweet storm. The old saying is trust but verify. In this case, Congress must verify. The administration must clarify what they might be hiding from the American people in this secret side deal. Steve Witkoff and those negotiating this deal

should testify before Congress and answer a simple question: Is there a secret side deal that will allow the Iranian regime to continue enriching uranium and that empowers the regime's nefarious activity or not? Any deal between the United States and Iran must be one Congress can fully and transparently evaluate.

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. 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.

## GENIUS ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last month, the Senate voted to proceed to the GENIUS Act, a bill that would regulate the type of cryptocurrency called stablecoins. Stablecoins are supposed to tie the value of crypto to the value of a dollar, but in 2023 alone, stablecoins differed from the value of the dollar more than 600 times.

Not only are stablecoins and cryptocurrencies volatile but the industry has a reputation for scams and fraud. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the FBI, recently reported that last year, 2024, crypto-related crime was up 66 percent, and Americans lost—now get this—\$9.3 billion to crypto's scammers. Nearly 150,000 complaints were filed following crypto fraud, including more than 6,000 in my home State of Illinois.

How does it work?

Your mom's at home, and in comes a phone call, and the person on the phone call says: Mrs. D, I work for "so-and-so"—usually a government Agency—and I am calling you to alert you that you missed your jury duty this month. You were supposed to show up to the courthouse to serve on a jury, and you didn't show up.

Of course, your mom knows nothing about that, and says: I didn't see that I was supposed to be there.

Yes. The legal notice was sent to you, and now a fine is going to be imposed on you for your failure to show up for jury duty.

Oh, my. How much?

Five thousand dollars. You can pay that fine, and you don't have to go to trial.

Well, how am I going to pay that fine?

You are going to go to the local grocery store—at the exit—to an ATM, a crypto ATM machine.

How many of those do we have in the United States? We have 30,000 crypto ATM machines. You may not have noticed them in the store, but as you are checking out many times, there they sit. And what is your mom supposed to do when she goes to this grocery store, to the crypto ATM machine? She is supposed to deposit \$5,000—and sometimes much, much more—into this ma-

chine so that she is buying a stablecoin, but she doesn't get the stablecoin. She directs it to the wallet of the scammer. So she is out \$5,000 or more, thinking that she is paying a fine to avoid a trial and because she didn't show up for jury duty she didn't know anything about.

Does that sound preposterous? It is not. It happens over and over and over again. These crypto ATM machines are the vehicles that are used for defrauding people—primarily, senior citizens—to put in thousands and thousands of dollars, and you never get any pennies back because it is all phony; it is all a scam. More than a third of all filed complaints involving crypto fraud were filed by Americans over the age of 50. Many of these scams were facilitated using these crypto ATM machines.

You may be wondering what a crypto ATM is. You pass by them at the store, your place of business, and you may not have noticed them, but they are there. They are located at a local grocery store or a gas station and look like a normal ATM machine except they allow customers to deposit cash to purchase cryptocurrency, including stablecoins. They can ruin someone's life in an instant. Many times you don't hear about it because your mother, having been scammed over the phone and deposited thousands of dollars of her life savings, is too embarrassed to tell you.

In fact, seven of the largest crypto ATM operators sell these stablecoins. These crypto ATMs become a favorite tool of scammers because, once a victim purchases crypto and transfers it to the criminal's digital wallet, it can be virtually impossible to trace or to retrieve. These scammers follow the same playbook. They call up an unsuspecting victim, pretending to be from the victim's bank, tech support, or some government Agency. They impersonate government officials.

Just fair warning—and I say this because we receive a lot of calls in the office about scammers on the phone—major Agencies of the Federal Government are never going to call you on the phone—the IRS, Social Security, and such. They send written notices, and they should. So, if it is a fast-talking person on the telephone who says they are from a Federal Agency, be careful.

They may tell the victim they owe money for skipping jury duty or need to pay bail to get their child or grandchild out of jail. It happened in my family—exactly that scenario. Or they may tell the victim there is fraudulent activity on their bank account or computer. It happened to me one night. My cell phone starts ringing. I answer it, and this fellow says he is from my credit union. He wanted to question a transaction, and I am thinking: I have never had my credit union call me ever. What is that all about? Well, after a while, I was dubious, and he hung up on me. The victim, however, often doesn't realize fraudulent activity is even occurring. Meanwhile, they

scramble to figure out what to do, and the scammer tells them: You can just pay the fine at the crypto machine, and here is where to go to use that service.

Through it all, the scammer runs them through everything they need to know to take their life savings, thousands and thousands of dollars, and to insert it as cash into this machine—this crypto ATM machine—sometimes hundreds of thousands of dollars. They purchase cryptocurrency and send it off to the scammers' digital wallet, never to be seen again.

Once that happens, the money is gone. There is no way to get it back, and there is little hope in tracing the transaction to the actual scammer.

These types of scams led to nearly \$247 million in losses last year, a 31-percent increase over the previous year, and the crypto ATM companies know their kiosks facilitate this fraud.

I am not a big fan of vaping, but I do want to say this. There is a vaping store in my hometown of Springfield, IL, that finally despaired of all of the older people who came in in tears, shoveling money into the crypto ATM machine. The owner of the premises was given \$300 a month for allowing crypto ATM machines in his business, but he couldn't take it anymore. Too many people were clearly being scammed, and he was party to it. And he had it removed.

A large crypto ATM operator, Bitcoin Depot, wrote in its filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission exactly what I have said. They said:

Our products and services may be exploited to facilitate illegal activity, such as fraud, money laundering, gambling, tax evasion, and scams.

That is as close to a confession as you can get.

The SEC filing, though revealing, doesn't give the whole picture. It doesn't tell the actual human story.

Imagine a person who is retired, up in years, worried day to day whether their Social Security check is going to stretch far enough, and now loses thousands of dollars in their life savings to the scam.

In Illinois, an elderly woman with MS lost \$40,000, her entire life savings, to a government grant imposter scheme facilitated by a crypto ATM. Since the woman can't get around very well—listen to this—the scammer called an Uber to pick her up and drive her to the local crypto ATM—how kind to drive your victim straight to the crime. They took her personal information as well. She is devastated, since this is all the money she has been able to save in her entire life, and there is no way to recover it from the crypto ATM.

Elaine, a 76-year-old woman from Florida, was a victim of crypto ATM scam after her late husband's death. She looked up the Apple support number to try to secure his Apple accounts, but, unfortunately, the number she called was an imposter. The criminal

convinced her that she was the victim of identity theft and told her to immediately take \$30,000 out of her bank account and deposit it into a crypto ATM. Now she is recovering not only from her financial loss but also from the loss of her husband.

Many States, including Minnesota, Iowa, and North Dakota, have decided to make a move, since Congress has not. They have passed State legislation to try and crack down on those crypto ATM scams. Just a few days ago, I am happy to report, my home State of Illinois passed a similar State law.

Now, it is time for Congress, because 13 States have acted, to learn something from their example. We must act so that all Americans know the risk of crypto ATMs and have proper documentation when seeking help from law enforcement to try to get their hard-earned cash back.

That is why I am pushing for a vote on my amendment to the GENIUS Act, which would create commonsense guardrails to prevent crypto ATM fraud and empower law enforcement to combat these scams. My amendment would require crypto ATM operators to register with the Federal financial regulators, provide warnings to customers about scams, and create daily transaction limits so customers cannot lose their entire life savings in an instant.

With my amendment, crypto ATM operators would not be able to simply turn a blind eye to the fraud that is happening at their crypto ATM machines. We must put an end to these scams.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support my amendment to stop scammers in their tracks and provide protections for people whom they represent.

I want to say a word to the industry. You have 13 States now that are trying to do what we should do on a national basis. Let's establish this national Federal standard that applies in every State in the Nation to protect people from this exploitation that is clearly growing in intensity by the day. Let's protect senior citizens and many others who have been scammed using crypto ATM machines.

Cryptocurrency has its detractors, and it has its champions, but I hope we can all stand together on a bipartisan basis to say that we are not going to help scammers steal money from unsuspecting people.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk called the roll.

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

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

AI CIVIL RIGHTS ACT

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the critical need for regulation of artificial intelligence.

This work period, the Senate is poised to take up the House's reconcili-

ation package, a disastrous proposal that strips healthcare away from tens of millions of Americans and dismantles our country's clean energy revolution, all to deliver tax cuts to billionaires.

But buried nearly 300 pages into this bill is something quite shocking: a blanket, 10-year ban on States and local governments from regulating artificial intelligence. That is right. Rather than proposing any plan to address the risk of this powerful and fast-evolving technology, my Republican colleagues have chosen to block the States and to block local governments from acting. They don't want to do anything, but they want to block anyone else from acting as well.

They would tie the hands of Governors and tie the hands of State legislators who are stepping up to protect their constituents from the unchecked harms of AI, without any plan of their own to regulate these technologies here in Congress.

In fact, just this morning, 260 State lawmakers—half Republicans and half Democrats—from all 50 States, sent a letter to Congress opposing any provision which can block them from acting to protect their citizens. And just a few weeks ago, 40 State attorneys general sent a similar letter to congressional leaders urging Congress to reject the 10-year moratorium.

These State leaders are right. This provision would be devastating for our country.

The broad preemption language could prevent States from prohibiting social media platforms from targeting teenage girls with ads for dangerous weight-loss drugs, enacting commonsense protections against algorithms that unjustly deny a senior citizen medical care, and safeguarding workers from discriminatory hiring practices driven by biased AI tools.

One expert warned that the language is so sweeping that it could undermine contract law and break the internet itself.

Let me be clear. This is a recipe to repeat the failures from the last decade—failures driven by our failure to hold Big Tech accountable for its abuses.

How has that worked out for us? Well, today, thanks to our failure to regulate Big Tech, we have a privacy crisis, a youth mental health crisis, and a teenage mental health crisis in our country, and the Surgeon General of the United States points the finger at social media as a major part of the problem that we have with teenage and youth mental health issues in our country.

Thankfully, in the face of Federal inaction, States have led. States have stood up. They have moved to protect young people online, secure consumer privacy, and confront algorithmic bias.

But this provision that snuck into this bill that we are going to consider over the next month—this provision snuck in the bill—would erase that

progress. It would roll back years of hard-won protections and prevent future action, just when it is needed the most, just when it is becoming very clear to the entire country that there is a sinister side to cyberspace, as well as a good side. Yes, we want it to do wonderful things in our society, but we also know that it can cause great harm as well.

So instead of shutting down State leadership, instead of shutting down State legislators and shutting down Governors across the Nation who want to work on this issue, Congress itself should step up to start to put the protections in place for our entire Nation. We must pass legislation that confronts the real harms of artificial intelligence, while ensuring that the United States remains the leader on this important and promising technology.

We want to reap the benefits of AI. We want to have AI be used across our society, but we also want to protect against the harmful effects of AI if it is put in the wrong hands to be used for the wrong purposes.

That is why I authored the AI Civil Rights Act, the most comprehensive AI legislation introduced in the U.S. Congress, which ensures that artificial intelligence serves the public good, not private profit exclusively. The bill would ensure that the AI age does not supercharge the bias and discrimination already prevalent today.

Specifically, my legislation establishes new rules when companies use algorithms to make decisions on jobs, on housing, on healthcare, on banking, on the criminal justice system, and other important aspects of our lives.

The AI Civil Rights Act is a balanced approach that requires companies to detect and address bias in their algorithmic decisions without stifling innovation.

Make no mistake, we can have an AI revolution while also protecting the civil rights and liberties of everyday Americans. We can support innovation without supercharging the tracking and targeting of young people online. We can promote competition while safeguarding our environment.

But with their blanket, 10-year ban on State AI regulation, Republicans are choosing a sledgehammer over a scalpel. They are choosing Big Tech over kids, families, seniors, and disadvantaged communities across this country.

We cannot allow this to happen. I am committed to fighting this 10-year ban with every tool at my disposal, and that is by ensuring that it is going to be clear that this 10-year ban on State AI regulation is a policy change that has no impact on the Federal budget.

What does that mean if this provision that has been stuck in this bill has no impact on the Federal budget? Here is what it means: It means that that provision cannot be included in a reconciliation bill.

If Senate Republicans keep the House language in their reconciliation bill, I

will raise a point of order against it. I will raise a point of order saying that it is in violation of our rules that this kind of a change can be built into this legislation.

When my Republican colleagues are ready to have a serious conversation about AI regulation, my door is wide open. We should be discussing this on a bipartisan basis. But this backdoor AI moratorium, it is not serious. This backdoor moratorium is not responsible. This backdoor moratorium is not acceptable. There is too much at stake.

We can't say for 10 years there is no regulation at the State level if they can see harms that are being committed. They must have the right to be able to legislate. And there is one way for us to avoid it, of course. We could legislate. We could pass national legislation. But at this point, I still see no appetite on the Republican side for that to even commence as a serious discussion.

So with that, I just want to put the Senate on notice that I am going to raise a point of order if, in fact, this AI moratorium on any State legislation remains in the bill.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HICKENLOOPER. 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. HICKENLOOPER. Mr. President, our Colorado community is reeling from a heinous hate crime against the Jewish community in Boulder, CO.

On Sunday, 12 Coloradans were badly injured after a suspect threw Molotov cocktails, incendiary devices, into a crowd, specifically targeting the Jewish people there—a targeted, anti-Semitic attack.

The 12 individuals were part of a peaceful march in Boulder that happens every week to call for the release of Israeli hostages in Gaza.

The suspect has since told investigators that he planned the terrorist attack for over a year; that he specifically wanted to target the Run for Their Lives group, this group that had been meeting every week lobbying for the release of hostages.

Bottom line, this attack was not random. It was a deliberate hate crime against the Jewish community that was planned for months. The scope of that hatred is unconscionable.

These were men and women who dedicated their time to advocating for innocent hostages who have been now held in captivity for over 600 days. Most importantly, the demonstrators were motivated by a desire for peace and were operating in a peaceful fashion.

Let me repeat that. These men and women wanted peace. Instead, they

were met with horrifying and senseless violence.

The upswing in violence targeting the Jewish community needs to be condemned at every level. And now, anti-Semitism and the hate that comes with it has taken root at home in Colorado. But Colorado is not alone. Our country is still mourning the recent assassination of two Israeli Embassy staff members who were shot as they exited an event at the Capital Jewish Museum just a little over a week ago.

And just this past April, the Pennsylvania Governor's mansion was firebombed as Gov. Josh Shapiro and his family celebrated Passover inside.

These are just a few of the recent and most visible anti-Semitic attacks. According to the Anti-Defamation League, anti-Semitic incidents have reached a record high since the October 7, 2023, attack.

It is absolutely unacceptable for anti-Semitism to exist in our country. And yet, the Jewish community in Colorado and the Jewish community across the United States has to live with the daily fear of targeted terrorist attacks and escalating calls for violence against the Jewish people.

We need to do more to protect the Jewish community in Colorado and across the country and make sure that they feel safe in the aftermath of this horrific attack.

Across the country, Jewish people are angry. They are terrified. Jewish Coloradans woke up this morning feeling unsafe—unsafe to go to school, unsafe to go to work—wondering what and if there is a path forward.

In 1967, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., wrote:

The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it.

Colorado has always been a State that embraces difference and always will be. The answer to this violence is not to turn to the comfort of simple or black-and-white answers, backing into our corners and spreading more fear and more hatred. Now is the time to double down on our commitment to unity in the face of our differences. It is the only way we can guarantee safety and peace for our Jewish community and for every community.

Now, what does that mean in real terms? It means fully investigating this hate crime and making sure the suspect is fully prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. It means zero tolerance for anti-Semitism in Colorado schools, our workplaces, or in our public spaces. It means taking a lesson from the 12 demonstrators who were victims in Sunday's attack. Through peaceful action, they stood up for their beliefs, supported one another, and helped our country take small but meaningful steps forward. They wanted to end this descending spiral of violence. The rest of us should too.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

## WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. CRAPO. I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum calls with respect to the Hooker and Marks nominations.

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

## VOTE ON DUFFEY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Duffey nomination?

Mr. CRAPO. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 283 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—46

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

## NOT VOTING—3

Graham	Ossoff	Sullivan
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

## CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant executive 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. 103, Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs).

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, John Barrasso, Katie Boyd Britt, Rick Scott of Florida, Jim Banks, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Mike Rounds, Joni Ernst, Pete Ricketts, John Boozman, David McCormick, Bernie Moreno, James E. Risch, Bill Cassidy, John R. Curtis, Kevin Cramer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs), shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Florida (Mrs. MOODY), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mrs. MOODY) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 59, nays 37, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 284 Ex.]

## YEAS—59

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

## NAYS—37

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Baldwin	Hirono	Schatz
Bennet	Kim	Schiff
Blumenthal	Klobuchar	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	Lujan	Smith
Booker	Markey	Van Hollen
Cantwell	Merkley	Warnock
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warren
Duckworth	Murray	Welch
Durbin	Padilla	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Peters	Wyden
Gillibrand	Reed	
Heinrich	Rosen	

## NOT VOTING—4

Graham	Ossoff
Moody	Sullivan

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 59, the nays are 37.

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 Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs).

## RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:47 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. BRITT).

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

## VOTE ON HOOKER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hooker nomination?

Mr. CRAPO. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 59, nays 36, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 285 Ex.]

## YEAS—59

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

## NAYS—36

Alsobrooks	Gillibrand	Murray
Baldwin	Heinrich	Padilla
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Peters
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reed
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Rosen
Booker	Klobuchar	Sanders
Cantwell	Lujan	Schatz
Cortez Masto	Markey	Schiff
Duckworth	Merkley	Schumer
Durbin	Murphy	Smith



Van Hollen Warren Whitehouse  
Warnock Welch Wyden

## NOT VOTING—5

Daines Lee Sullivan  
Graham Ossoff

Murkowski  
Paul  
Reed  
Ricketts  
Risch  
Rosen  
Rounds

Schiff  
Schmitt  
Scott (FL)  
Scott (SC)  
Shaheen  
Sheehy  
Slotkin

Thune  
Tillis  
Tuberville  
Warner  
Warnock  
Wicker  
Young

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

## CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

## CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 109, Dale Marks, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

John Thune, Markwayne Mullin, John Barrasso, Katie Boyd Britt, Jim Banks, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Mike Rounds, Joni Ernst, Pete Ricketts, John Boozman, David McCormick, Bernie Moreno, Rick Scott of Florida, James E. Risch, Bill Cassidy, John R. Curtis, Kevin Cramer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Dale Marks, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 66, nays 28, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 286 Ex.]

## YEAS—66

Baldwin	Cruz	Kaine
Banks	Curtis	Kelly
Barrasso	Ernst	Kennedy
Blackburn	Fetterman	Kim
Boozman	Fischer	King
Britt	Grassley	Klobuchar
Budd	Hagerty	Lankford
Capito	Hassan	Lummis
Cassidy	Hawley	Marshall
Collins	Hirono	McConnell
Coons	Hoeben	McCormick
Cornyn	Husted	Moody
Cotton	Hyde-Smith	Moran
Cramer	Johnson	Moreno
Crapo	Justice	Mullin

## NAYS—28

Alsobrooks  
Bennet  
Blumenthal  
Blunt Rochester  
Booker  
Cantwell  
Cortez Masto  
Duckworth  
Durbin  
Gillibrand

Heinrich  
Hickenlooper  
Lujan  
Markey  
Merkeley  
Murphy  
Murray  
Padilla  
Peters  
Sanders

Schatz  
Schumer  
Smith  
Van Hollen  
Warren  
Welch  
Whitehouse  
Wyden

## NOT VOTING—6

Daines  
Gallego

Graham  
Lee

Ossoff  
Sullivan

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). On this vote, the yeas are 66, the nays are 28.

The motion is agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Dale Marks, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

## JOB CORPS

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I rise today to shine a light on Donald Trump's dismantling of yet another critical program that Nevadans and young people across our Nation rely on—the Job Corps Program.

Job Corps was established by Congress to provide young people with the skills training that they need to access good-paying, in-demand jobs. It is the largest residential career training program in the entire country, providing young people—many of whom were previously homeless or at risk—with housing and skills training in fields like manufacturing, construction, and healthcare.

Once they graduate, they enter the workforce and contribute to our communities and our economy. They learn the skills necessary to build their lives, to build their futures. It is truly a great program that has helped more than 3 million people have a chance at the American dream since 1964.

Unfortunately, Job Corps centers across the country received a stop work order at the end of last week that instructed them to close their doors and send all of their students back home, including Nevada's Job Corps campus, the Sierra Nevada Job Corps Center, in Reno, NV. This is going to be devastating—devastating—for the tens of thousands of young people who are currently enrolled in all 50 States.

The Trump administration—well, it claims it supports trade schools and job training, but, frankly, if this administration really knew anything about the Job Corps Program, they would know that they are trade schools. They are centers where students go, where they study, where they

work hard, and where they earn their certifications that allow them access to good-paying jobs. So why is Donald Trump closing down this program and taking away the opportunity for these students to work? It just doesn't make any sense.

Shutting down this program will also immediately evict more than 300 students at the Nevada campus alone, many of whom have nowhere else to go, students like Samuel, who wrote to me, saying:

I am a nineteen-year-old student who attends Sierra Nevada Job Corps. I happen to be a paraplegic who was adopted at the age of seven. Since then, I've had many health issues and trials, which made it very difficult for me to do all of my school classes. . . . Then I came to Job Corps eight months ago and am actually doing very well.

Job Corps has provided me with more than just an education and vocational training; it has offered me a safe haven, a community, and a path forward.

The comprehensive support [allows] me to focus on my personal and professional development without the constant worry of where I will sleep or how I will eat. For individuals like myself, Job Corps is NOT merely a program; it is a LIFELINE. The prospect of its closure is not just a policy issue; it is a PERSONAL CRISIS.

Without Job Corps, I face the grim reality of UNEMPLOYMENT, of HOMELESSNESS, and the continuation of a cycle of POVERTY that has been difficult to break.

When rumors of the Trump administration's cruel plan came out, countless Nevadans who care about Job Corps immediately reached out to my office, many sharing their stories of students this program helps.

Job Corps is life-changing, lifesaving for these young people. Since the stop work order went into effect, those students themselves have been reaching out and speaking out too, students like Selena from Reno, who wrote in, saying:

Since being at Job Corps, I have earned six credits in the three months that I have been here. . . . I also have received my chainsaw certification and respirator certification. . . . If Job Corps closes, I won't have any other chance at an education. I'll leave with an incomplete trade and be unemployable in what I trained in, and I'll leave with no diploma.

And Pamela said:

I worked SO hard to get where I am now. Months ago, I was struggling, trying to figure out life. I didn't know what to do. I was working from warehouse to warehouse until I heard about Job Corps.

That's when I knew if I came here to Job Corps, I could do something with my life and show my son that it is NEVER too late to accomplish your goals. . . . Now, I'm here working with 100 percent of my strength and energy. . . . But if Job Corps closes, I will have no other education opportunities.

These stories are heartbreaking. They are hard to hear. These young people and so many more like them have gained hope and confidence. This administration is going after kids who want to grow, who want to learn, who want to work, who are trying to do the right thing, students who are trying to do what they have been told their whole lives to do: Get an education,

work hard, and get a good-paying job to be able to live the American dream.

This closure is not only going to hurt those kids, this closure is going to hurt those looking to serve our Nation, those young folks who wish to join our military, students like Anthony, who wrote:

I was recommended to go to Job Corps by my older brother, who had graduated from here back in 2013, and he is now working as a contractor for the United States Air Force, and he believes it's all thanks to Job Corps.

If Job Corps closes, I will be at a disadvantage in my pursuit of joining the military, which is my goal. Without Job Corps, I will be unable to earn my diploma and unable to leave with the required certifications for the career that I think will be amazing for my future.

So now just imagine tens of thousands of students just like Samuel, just like Selena, Pamela, and Anthony who are working on building a better life for themselves, working hard. They want to build a better community for everyone. That is who the Trump administration is sacrificing, students like Samuel, Pamela, Selena, and Anthony, kids who want to build a life for themselves. And for what and for whom? Tax cuts for the ultrawealthy—that is who.

As I share these stories, students at Sierra Nevada Job Corps are walking across the stage right now, which could be their final graduation. Meanwhile, sadly, this administration is working overtime to give billionaires like Elon Musk more government contracts, more money, and more tax breaks and putting the American dream out of reach for thousands of students in need. It is putting their future and the future of our communities at risk. Again, I say, for what and for whom is the sacrifice of our kids? It is to give billionaires a bigger tax break.

This program has support from both sides of the aisle. There are Job Corps centers in blue States and red States. Since 1964, this program has helped literally thousands of young folks build a career and build a life. We cannot allow Donald Trump to end Job Corps and kill the dreams and opportunities for young people across our country.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues in both parties to join me in supporting Job Corps and pledging to do everything we can do to fight back against any and all efforts to defund this critical trades program—a critical program for the lives of our young students.

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. 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.

#### Boulder, Colorado Attack

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, on June 1, the Boulder chapter of Run for Their Lives gathered at the Pearl Street Mall

for their solemn weekly routine. Every week since Hamas's October 7, 2023, terrorist attack, they have shown up to march peacefully in solidarity with the hostages that Hamas kidnapped and continues to hold, over 600 days after that fateful day. They come to sing songs, tell stories, and read the names of hostages to affirm for them and for us and for the world that those hostages have not been forgotten, that they never will be forgotten.

June 1 started like any other early-summer Boulder Sunday—cool and clear and promising the kind of bluebird day we love in Colorado.

The group gathered on the eve of the Jewish holiday of Shavuot for their memorial march. One man, however, was thinking only of violence and hate. Amid his yells of “End Zionists,” he unleashed a makeshift flamethrower and launched Molotov cocktails to burn the marchers. He inflicted his terror directly on at least 12 innocent people, including a Holocaust survivor in her late eighties who survived the unfathomable war in Europe only to face anti-Semitic evil once again—only this time in the United States.

If there is any doubt that this was an anti-Semitic hate crime and an act of terror, the attacker has told investigators that “he wanted to kill all Zionist people and wished they were all dead.” He said he specifically targeted this group and that he researched and planned the attack for more than a year.

He did not have some intellectual point that he was trying to make about Israel's politics. He was not trying to improve the lives of Palestinians. He simply wanted to kill Jews by burning them in the most painful way possible, and he knew where to find them—at the Pearl Street Mall, marching peacefully on behalf of hostages a terrorist group stole from their families.

America's Founders built this country on the tenets of religious freedom and tolerance. In 1790, George Washington wrote to Rhode Island's Jewish community that the America he was building would give “to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance.” This letter affirmed that the Jewish people had a place in the United States—a rare refuge amid Europe's thousand-year pogrom.

The United States, like all countries, has never always lived up to our lofty ideals, but it is our commitment to trying, to striving to become the city on the hill we proclaim to be that has long made this country a beacon to the world and different from almost all other countries in the world. That is why my mother immigrated here rather than somewhere else in Europe or the Western Hemisphere. It is why the world's weary dreamers still give up everything they have to seek a better life in the United States rather than crossing the Gobi Desert for China or the Eurasian Steppe for Russia.

But in recent years, American anti-Semitism has reached unprecedented

levels. The Anti-Defamation League tracked over 9,300 anti-Semitic incidents across the United States last year—the highest number in 46 years of tracking. In 2024, anti-Semites made bomb threats against and vandalized synagogues, including in Colorado. They assaulted congregants at Jewish institutions. They targeted Jewish students with anti-Semitic threats. They protested Israeli policy and Zionism at synagogues as if American Jews are responsible for decisions made by a foreign government thousands of miles away.

American anti-Semitism tends to spike when Israeli-Palestinian conflict flares up, such as following Hamas's May 2021 and October 2023 attacks. But we cannot forget that anti-Semitism is the world's oldest hatred. It long predates the Holocaust, let alone the October 7 or the recent DC and Boulder attacks.

As Ukrainian Jewish author Vasily Grossman—the first journalist to see the Nazi death camp Treblinka—wrote in the mid-20th century, “Anti-Semitism has been as strong in the age of atomic reactors and computers as in the age of oil-lamps, sailing-boats, and spinning-wheels.”

Anti-Semitism—even American anti-Semitism—is an ancient prejudice indeed; it is not some kind of knee-jerk response to Israeli policy.

Anti-Semites in America do not aim to make profound points or philosophical points about Israel by throwing Molotov cocktails at elderly Coloradans or gunning down a young couple leaving an event about Middle East peacekeeping in our Nation's Capital. No. These anti-Semites use events in the Middle East as an excuse to express their latent anti-Semitism, their medieval hatred of Jews, who they blame for some swath of society's ills. They want to harm Jews, to add more tragedy to the family histories of the people whose collective chronicle is already overstocked with victims, to say the least.

The Boulder attack, the recent DC shooting, and the thousands of anti-Semitic incidents across the United States over the last few years are a direct result of anti-Semitic rhetoric that has been left unchecked.

Even before this attack, American Jews wondered whether they should hide their Star of David necklaces before leaving the house, whether Friday Shabbat service will be safe, and whether their synagogues will have to hire still more security officials.

This omnipresent fear of anti-Semitic violence makes it impossible for Jews to feel safe in a non-Jewish America and in a non-Jewish world. And this fear produces behaviors like hiding one's Star of David or avoiding Jewish events on a college campus where a dean says the school can't guarantee Jewish students' safety. That amounts to what the historian Simon Schama has called a “passive deprivation of basic civil rights.”

Yet how else are American Jews supposed to react when American anti-Semitism has reached record levels? When a terrorist massacres congregants at a Pittsburgh synagogue? When elderly women in Boulder, CO, can't march on behalf of innocent hostages without being targeted by fire?

It is long past time that all American political and community leaders come together to affirm that this fear is unacceptable and that we must fight together the anti-Semitic hate behind it. We must use our voices and our power, whether in the Halls of Congress or in our own communities, to counter anti-Semitism in both words and action. We must speak up because we know the dangers of failing to do so. We must stand with the Jewish community for freedom of speech and religion and against fear, because as Grossman knew and as he wrote, "life can be defined as freedom. Life is freedom." And "freedom is the fundamental principle of life."

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. 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.

#### GENIUS ACT

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, you never know what you are going to find these days when you are reflecting on the Trump administration and our oversight responsibilities as the Congress.

It is true that things have changed. Some people might call me old-fashioned for thinking this way, but I think we were a lot better off when we had Presidents who took it as a matter of course that they shouldn't use their office to enrich themselves, and they should put behind them conflicts of interest that raise questions about whether or not they are serving their own interests or their families' interests or the interests of the people of the United States.

That is why Ronald Reagan put, I think, his wealth, which was considerable, into a blind trust. Jimmy Carter, I think, sold maybe his farm or put that in a trust.

I realize it is part of Donald Trump's political charm that he wants to wear his corruption on his sleeve, but that doesn't mean that we have to go along with it, even if some people are entertained by it, which I am not.

And we have a great example of thinking about our responsibility versus his complete lack of integrity when it comes to the service of his public duties and his private interests.

That is the bill—the so-called GENIUS Act—that is on the floor of the Senate right now, where we are considering whether or not to regulate stablecoins, which are part of the

cryptocurrency universe that is new to all of us, certainly in this Chamber and across the country.

I believe very strongly that no President and no Vice President, no Member of Congress, no high-ranking official of our government should be in the business of issuing cryptocurrency, including the stablecoin. And they shouldn't be in the business of pumping them up like some sort of speculator, which is what we are seeing happen, sometimes outside the White House or in the White House.

I saw, the other day, that the President was having a dinner at Mar-a-Lago to reward the people who had been bidding up his meme coins, and they even came to dinner, although he apparently didn't really show for that dinner.

But the legislation we have in front of us would be the first regulations of stablecoins that have ever been done. I think, as part of that, it would be very appropriate for us to say that the President should get out of this business and that any President should be out of the business of issuing their own coins.

It is a weird part of the nature of this asset—this new digital asset—that it is very volatile. The meme coins rise and they fall as part of their price, and the stablecoins are used as a way of transacting around that volatility. But the volatility, every single day, is still captured in this market, and it just seems like a crazy moment when we are living in a time when a President could influence his own net worth to the tune of billions of dollars, just based on pumping up the value of digital currency that he has put out there in the world with his name or that somebody else has put out there in the world with his name.

That is why, yesterday, I offered an amendment to the bill, to the GENIUS Act, that would preclude any President—this President or any other President or any Vice President—from issuing stablecoins. I hope we will consider that amendment on the floor of the Senate. I hope we will vote to pass it, if we are, indeed, going to pass this legislation. And I hope we will have other amendments we consider as well.

I think that the questions that are at issue here from an ethics point of view, from a corruption point of view, go far beyond just the stablecoin. They go to cryptocurrency, generally, and what the President is doing to inflate the value of coins that are issued in his name, whether he has issued them or whether he hasn't.

I look forward to the debate that we are going to have. I think this is an opportunity for us to say that we want to elevate the requirements that each one of us has agreed to live under, as Members of this body and people elected to act in the public interest. I believe the President and his Vice President should face the same standard and the same scrutiny. That is why I offered the amendment that I have.

I hope that, as our colleagues consider the debate that we are going to have, that others will come to the floor with their ideas to strengthen this legislation and make sure that people don't abuse their public office for their own personal economic gain.

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

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

#### VOTE ON MARKS NOMINATION

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the nominee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Marks nomination?

Mr. BENNET. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 72, nays 26, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 287 Ex.]

#### YEAS—72

Baldwin	Graham	Moran
Banks	Grassley	Moreno
Barrasso	Hagerty	Mullin
Blackburn	Hassan	Murkowski
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Britt	Hirono	Reed
Budd	Hoeven	Ricketts
Capito	Husted	Risch
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Rosen
Collins	Johnson	Rounds
Coons	Justice	Schiff
Cornyn	Kaine	Schmitt
Cortez Masto	Kelly	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Kim	Shaheen
Crapo	King	Sheehy
Cruz	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Curtis	Lankford	Thune
Daines	Lee	Tillis
Duckworth	Lummis	Tuberville
Ernst	Marshall	Warner
Fetterman	McConnell	Warnock
Fischer	McCormick	Wicker
Gallego	Moody	Young

#### NAYS—26

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Schatz
Bennet	Lujan	Schumer
Blumenthal	Markey	Smith
Blunt Rochester	Merkley	Van Hollen
Booker	Murphy	Warren
Cantwell	Murray	Welch
Durbin	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Sanders	

#### NOT VOTING—2

Ossoff  
Sullivan

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CURTIS). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made

and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. ARMY

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I rise this evening to recognize and celebrate the 250th anniversary of the creation of the U.S. Army. I would yield to the Senator from Rhode Island, my colleague but the cochair of the Senate Army Caucus, Senator REED.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague and friend in Kansas for his partnership in recognizing the Army as the coleaders of the Army Caucus here in the U.S. Senate.

Thank you, Senator, very much.

Mr. President, I rise, along with my colleague from Kansas, to recognize a remarkable moment in our Nation's history. On June 14, 1775, delegates from each of the American Colonies met in Philadelphia to convene the Second Continental Congress.

On that momentous day, Congress voted to establish the Continental Army and tasked it to "provide for the common defense of these colonies."

The following day, the Congress unanimously elected George Washington to be the Commander in Chief of the Continental Army. It was an auspicious start for what would become the greatest fighting force the world has ever known.

Today—or in a few days, certainly—we celebrate the 250th birthday of the U.S. Army.

The Army has a straightforward, but enormously critical, mission: to fight and win the Nation's wars. Today, we take a moment to reflect on that mission and to honor all of the soldiers who have served faithfully in the Army ranks. Whether as volunteers or in response to a draft, millions and millions of men and women have answered the call to serve. They each swore an oath to the Constitution, a unique feature of service to our Nation. By swearing an oath to the Constitution and its ideals, rather than a leader or a party, American soldiers stand apart as patriots, not partisans. And our Nation stands proudly throughout the world.

American soldiers have served on their own soil to break the bonds of tyranny and to keep our Nation united. They have served on foreign soils to defend our allies, uphold humanity, and protect the American people. And they have stepped forward to help in humanitarian crises and natural disasters at home and around the world when needed most.

It is also fitting to acknowledge the contribution of the Department of Army civilians, who take the same oath and who bring their skills and dedication to bear in support of the Army's mission.

And, of course, we also pause to thank all of the families who, over the course of 2½ centuries have stood by

their loved ones in their service—families who supported their soldiers in the earliest days with little or no communication to today, where family witness in real time the challenges their loved ones face. Families have and always will be the true strength of our Army.

The Army's story also is not just one of battles won, but of values upheld, values of leadership, respect, selfless service, integrity, and personal courage—and a value that resonates deeply with me: duty, honor, country.

Finally, we pay tribute to those who gave the last full measure of devotion in service to our Nation. Their sacrifice is woven into the very fabric of our history, and their legacy lives on in every soldier who raises their right hand and takes the oath.

For me personally, the opportunity to serve as an officer in the U.S. Army and to lead American soldiers was the greatest privilege of my life.

I would end by recalling the enduring motto of the Continental Army:

This we'll defend.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Rhode Island, my colleague and friend Senator REED, for cochairing. I am the new one to this duo, and I consider it a privilege as a U.S. Senator to serve side by side with Senator REED as we work together to promote and support the U.S. Army and those who serve in it.

I also would highlight and honor my respect of Senator Jim Inhofe, the Senator of Oklahoma whom I replaced in this capacity after his long tenure with Senator REED in serving in this capacity to support and defend the Army of the United States.

As Senator REED said, 250 years ago—that is the birthday we are celebrating—on June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress authorized what would become the most capable and lethal ground force the world has ever known—the U.S. Army. The creation of General George Washington's Army coincides with the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

Since our Nation gained its independence, our Army has faithfully defended our freedoms. The Warrior Ethos of the Army states:

I will always place the mission first.

This is a calling that American soldiers have answered time and time again without regard to their personal safety, security, or comfort.

My State of Kansas is home to Fort Riley and the 1st Infantry Division, Fort Leavenworth, as well as the Kansas Army National Guard. The men and women who serve in these bases are some of the finest individuals I have ever met, living their lives in accordance with the mission on the Army flag: "This We'll Defend." This short statement is a commitment to defending this Nation, all Americans, and the values we hold dear.

The embodiment of what it means to be an American soldier is symbolized in the Army's values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. Over the years, the servicemembers of the Army have lived up to these ideals, putting their country and fellow citizens above themselves. No matter how daunting the conflict, American soldiers will always carry out the mission entrusted to them. Today, we recognize this valor and celebrate the patriotism that motivates these brave men and women who dedicate their lives to defend the land that they and we love.

The U.S. Army is the largest branch of the U.S. military, with nearly 450,000 Active-Duty personnel and nearly 500,000 in the Reserves.

As we mark the 250 years of the U.S. Army, we express our gratitude to these servicemembers and their loved ones who support them. For two and a half centuries—250 years—the American soldiers have stood strong in the face of conflict.

I am committed to continue supporting our Army so that it remains the strongest lethal force in the world for another 250 years. I hope my colleagues will join me and Senator REED in honoring our soldiers and supporting a resolution to mark the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Army.

Today, in this effort, we are reminded to say to those who serve, have served, and will serve, we tell them—those who served and have served and will serve in the U.S. Army—we say to them that we respect you; we love you; we thank you for your service.

I yield the floor and thank you for the opportunity for making my remarks.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 120.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 120, John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

John Thune, Bernie Moreno, Tim Sheehy, David McCormick, Ted Budd, Roger Marshall, Cynthia M. Lummis, James E. Risch, Joni Ernst, Mike Crapo, John R. Curtis, Markwayne Mullin, John Barrasso, Bill Hagerty, Dan Sullivan, Mike Rounds, Kevin Cramer.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 111.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Brett Shumate, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 111, Brett Shumate, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

John Thune, Tommy Tuberville, Rick Scott of Florida, Mike Lee, Jon A. Husted, Josh Hawley, Ashley B. Moody, Marsha Blackburn, David McCormick, Markwayne Mullin, James Lankford, Bernie Moreno, Steve Daines, Katie Boyd Britt, Lindsey Graham, John R. Curtis, Mike Rounds.

#### ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, that at 11:45 on Wednesday, June 4, the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 119, Michelle Bowman, and if cloture is invoked, all

postcloture time be expired at 6 p.m. and the Senate vote on confirmation of the Bowman nomination; further, following the cloture vote on the Bowman nomination, the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 129, Edward Walsh, and if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time be expired and the Senate vote on confirmation of the Walsh nomination following disposition of the Bowman nomination; further, at 2 p.m., the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 144, James O'Neill, and if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time be expired and on Thursday, June 4, the Senate vote on confirmation of the O'Neill nomination at 11:30 a.m.; finally, if any of the nominations are confirmed during Wednesday and Thursday's sessions 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.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

#### NOMINATIONS FOR THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, on May 19, 2025, I provided a statement for the RECORD of my intent to object to the Senate proceeding to any of the four nominations currently pending on the Senate's Executive Calendar for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA.

Today, I am reaffirming those four objections and stating my intent to object to the Senate proceeding to three additional EPA nominations, if and when they are added to the Senate's Executive Calendar.

I do not raise these objections lightly. I recognize the importance of Federal Agencies having qualified leadership, regardless of which party is in charge. In several cases, I have voted in favor of reporting the current administration's nominees out of committee and to confirm them on the Senate floor, notwithstanding the political and policy differences that we may have. But the Senate's constitutional role to advise and consent regarding executive branch nominations is an important check on Agency leadership's abuse and overreach and raising these objections regarding EPA nominations is my duty on behalf of people of the State of California.

I am objecting to expedited consideration of EPA nominees in response to the Trump Administration EPA's abuse of the Congressional Review Act—CRA—by submitting three waivers issued to the State of California to Congress and claiming they are "rules" under the CRA despite the Government Accountability Office's clear determination they are not.

In May, I stated that I would continue these objections unless the Trump administration's EPA withdrew the waivers it knowingly and falsely submitted as rules or the majority leader committed to not overturning the Senate Parliamentarian's determination that these waivers are not rules entitled to expedited consideration in the Senate under the CRA.

Unfortunately, the Trump administration and the Republican majority plowed ahead with an unprecedented power grab at the expense of the health of millions of children and families in California and many other States. They took advantage of EPA's abuse of the CRA to throw out the rulebook, first overriding the procedural limits in the text of the CRA itself and then by overturning the Parliamentarian's decision, all in their quest to take away California's authority under the Clean Air Act.

This is unacceptable. California has done nearly all it can do to reduce emissions from stationary sources of air pollution within its jurisdiction. Given our unique air quality challenges and the worsening impacts of climate change, it is essential for our State to reduce pollution from mobile sources such as cars and trucks if the Federal Government will not do so itself. That is why Congress has provided this waiver authority to our State for decades, and it has been used over 100 times. But now, as a result of the Trump EPA and Senate Republicans' abuse of the CRA, the people of California will be forced to breathe more toxic air pollution and suffer increasingly devastating impacts of climate change.

To hold the Agency's leadership accountable for their actions, I am reaffirming my objection to proceeding to the four nominations pending on the Senate's Executive Calendar and expanding it to include additional nominations.

As of June 2, there are three additional Trump administration EPA nominations in the committee process, four Senate-confirmed positions for which the President has not yet made a nomination, and the inspector general position, for which the President has yet to make a nomination.

I want to make clear to my colleagues that I intend to object to the Senate proceeding to all nominations for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, except for the vacancy for the EPA Inspector General, unless acceptable accommodations are reached for the State of California's to protect the health of its people.

### TRIBUTE TO GEORGE CASTRO

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize George Castro, who is retiring from the Senate after nearly 40 years on Capitol Hill—a truly incredible contribution to this institution. George first started with the Architect of the Capitol in January of 1985 and has been faithfully contributing to the Senate ever since.

Nowhere is this more true than on the Senate Appropriations Committee, where George has worked since November of 2003, almost 22 years ago. George's immense love for the work of the committee shone through in everything he did. Behind every successful committee hearing, markup, and event, there was George. He kept things running seamlessly, focusing on the details that were easy to forget, but certain to be noticed if missed. He did these things with a genuine and intentional kindness that is often in short supply, amassing a remarkable community of friends and colleagues along the way. Too cold in the hearing room? Emergency ice order for a retirement party? Incorrect name plate at a hearing? George could take care of it. He could count on his network to go out of their way to help him because he has spent a career going out of his way to help them. Staff can attest that when walking down the halls with George, he is often greeted by name from those who pass by—Senators, staff from across the Senate, the nurses from the health center, the sound engineers at the Senate Recording Studio, Capitol Police Officers—I could go on.

My staff and I were lucky enough to have George's steady hand to help show us the ropes when I took over as chair of the committee in 2023, and I know the other chairs he worked for must have felt the same. That includes eight other committee chairs in addition to myself, Republicans and Democrats: Senators Stevens, Cochran, Byrd, Inouye, Mikulski, Shelby, Leahy, and COLLINS.

In addition to his many other contributions, George has been known to regale committee staff with stories and lessons from some of the Senate's most pivotal moments in recent decades. He is also well known among his friends and colleagues for his love of travel and history and excellent taste in books, film, and the fine and performing arts. We will miss his many excellent recommendations along with his steady presence and positive attitude.

On behalf of all of the past Senate Appropriations Committee members, my colleagues, and staff who were lucky enough to work with George, I want to thank him for his immense contributions to the Appropriations Committee and the Senate. He will be greatly missed, but we wish him all the best for the adventures ahead.

### TRIBUTE TO SEAN MOORE

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a remarkable U.S. Sen-

ate staffer Sean Moore for his 30 years of dedicated public service in the U.S. Congress. Sean's path to public service started early in childhood. His father was a longtime staffer at the National Security Agency, and Sean always knew he wanted to follow in his footsteps and dedicate his life to serving the greater good. He wasted no time embarking on his career in public service: immediately after graduating from the University of Delaware with B.A.s in international relations and history, Sean arrived in the Senate, beginning as a legislative correspondent for then-U.S. Senator Joe Biden of Delaware on May 30, 1995.

In 1997, he joined the office of U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer of California, where he worked for 17 years until her retirement in 2016. He was a trusted and invaluable adviser, rising through the ranks all the way from legislative aide to chief of staff. Sean also served as Senator Boxer's legislative director and led her foreign policy team for many years, including during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Though his humility prevents him from admitting so, he was key to some of her incredibly impactful work, including her 2008 efforts to secure visas for Vietnamese adoptees; her advocacy to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, or CEDAW; her work on the Assistance for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children in Developing Countries Act of 2005; and notably, her landmark vote against declaring war on Iraq in 2002.

After Senator Boxer's retirement in 2016, Sean came to the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, where he became staff director under then-Ranking Member JEANNE SHAHEEN. Nine years later, he continues to serve in this role today, having served under three different Democratic leaders of the committee.

Sean embodies what a Senate staffer should be, mastering complex policy, grasping complicated political dynamics, giving studious attention to every detail, understanding the intricacies of the institution, and always working to advance the priorities of the committee and its membership. Sean anticipates every situation and is ready with politically astute and intellectually sound advice on how to approach any challenge.

This was never more apparent than in 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic hit and America's small businesses faced an existential threat unlike anything seen before. Under then-Senator Cardin's leadership, the committee led the effort to save small businesses by creating programs like the Paycheck Protection Program, Restaurant Revitalization Fund, Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program, and other critical relief efforts. Sean rolled up his sleeves and worked tirelessly to help create, enact, and implement multiple bipartisan relief programs. Ultimately, these programs provided over a trillion

dollars to small businesses and helped keep them and the American economy afloat. A staffer to the core, he will never accept credit or recognition for any of his work, but he was truly a key part of our country's monumental response to a once-in-a-lifetime crisis. He not only was a witness to history but played a critical role in it.

Not only is Sean an excellent adviser and staffer, but he is also an exceptional leader. He empowers his staff, draws out their strengths and abilities, and never fails to uplift their work. He believes that part of his public service is mentoring and raising the next generation of staffers, and he takes this responsibility very seriously. He has a unique ability to identify hard-working, talented staffers who rise to the occasion regardless of their years of experience or degrees. This mentality has led him to build smart and effective teams for several U.S. Senators throughout his tenure.

As with many public servants, his career is made possible by the support of his family. The Moores are a force on Capitol Hill. Sean and his wife Shane Moore met while they both worked under then-Senator Boxer. Shane is also a longtime public servant who went on to serve former U.S. House Representative Loretta Sanchez of California for nearly two decades and continues to serve in the House of Representatives today. Sean and Shane raised two children McKenna and Ryan in Bethesda, MD, and together, they have built a life dedicated to serving the American public and this institution. Together, Sean and Shane helped this body navigate some of our country's most challenging moments, including 9/11, the Iraq War, the Great Recession, and, most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic. Careers like theirs do not come without sacrifice. Thirty years of service is as much a milestone for this remarkable family as it is for Sean.

I would like to share quotes from some of my colleagues for whom Sean has worked during his career. I believe his impact on Capitol Hill is best summarized by them:

U.S. Senator Boxer (retired): "Sean is the best of the best: wise, humble, respectful and committed to serving the people. Sean was able to take the toughest issue, break it down and lay out a clear plan to solve the problem, whether it was legislation, a hearing, a letter, a press conference or a simple phone call. He always knew the staff's strengths and weaknesses and put together the right team at the right time. He was always on top of everything which is what a true leader does. I still stay in touch with Sean because I still want to hear his perspective and his ideas. Congratulations on 30 years of outstanding work."

U.S. Senator SHAHEEN: "For thirty years, Sean Moore has been serving families in Delaware, California and, through the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee, every state,



including New Hampshire. Like many of our best public servants, Sean may not be known by most folks in the country, but I can tell you that many families and small businesses certainly know his work. I worked closely with Sean as both Chair and Ranking Member of the committee and his work supporting small businesses through COVID, including with the Paycheck Protection Program, helped so many small businesses get through the pandemic. I know Sean isn't going anywhere right now and hope he continues to serve, but on behalf of the countless Granite State families and businesses that have and will continue to benefit from Sean's work, I join my colleagues in thanking Sean for his thirty years of public service."

U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (retired): "Sean Moore is everything a senator needs and wants in a staff director—or any staff person. He is a consummate professional. He is an honest broker and a calming influence. He knows the Senate and the agencies with which he connects daily. He gets things done and doesn't worry about who gets credit—but he is always quick to uplift and spotlight the quality work of more junior staffers. I was blessed to have Sean as a resource and partner during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to his round-the-clock work and innovative thinking, we quickly created new programs like the Paycheck Protection Program to save jobs and keep small businesses afloat during the most challenging economic crisis in a generation. We saved nonprofits and live entertainment venues. We did all this on a scale never expected. Sean made this possible. The best thing I can say to describe Sean Moore and his 30-year tenure with the Senate is that he is a true public servant. He understands that our work is for the American people, and he fights daily to make people's lives better. I will forever be grateful to Sean for his dedication, kindness and service. He is a legend."

These quotes show the remarkable impact Sean has had and how his tireless work has left the country a better place. I want to thank Sean for his dedication to the institution and to serving the American people. Congratulations on 30 years of service and counting.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. ANSON H. "TUCK" HINES

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant Dr. Anson H. "Tuck" Hines, director of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center SERC. Dr. Hines has served SERC for over 45 years, including as its director since 2005. He has dedicated himself to addressing our world's most pressing ecological challenges, championed conservation efforts, and inspired the next generation of scientists.

Dr. Hines' impact on SERC is remarkable. Under his leadership, SERC

has spearheaded groundbreaking research, grown its research footprint to four continents, and strengthened public engagement through citizen science programs. He also oversaw the restoration of the historic Woodlawn House as a public museum and education center and expanded SERC's landholdings in the Rhode River watershed by 1,100 acres. This growth protected critical habitats for research, conservation, and education.

As a marine ecologist and zoologist, Dr. Hines is an expert in his field. He has published over 150 articles in technical journals and books, contributing to our understanding of long-term ecological change in the Chesapeake Bay, aquaculture, fishery restoration, and countless additional areas of research. I would be remiss to not mention that he has been critical to the conservation efforts to restore my home State's famous blue crabs.

Dr. Hines' unwavering dedication to teaching and inspiring the next generation of scientists is truly admirable. He grew the capacity of SERC's housing capacity to accommodate additional interns and visiting scientists, strengthening the center's ability to attract top talent. As an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland, College Park, Dr. Hines has motivated countless students. He has guided 20 postdoctoral fellows as a major adviser, supported countless Ph.D. and master of science students, and mentored more than 165 undergraduate interns.

I commend Dr. Hines for his dedication to our environment, his scientific expertise, and his commitment to fostering tomorrow's scientists. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him and wishing him a well-earned, enjoyable, and fulfilling retirement.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING B&B GATES & SUPPLY

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize B&B Gates & Supply of Doon, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1996, Barry and Patty Pollema, hog and cattle farmers, started B&B Gates & Supply in an unheated shop on their family farm in Doon, IA. From the start, the couple had a vision for growing the business and providing jobs that support families across the community. B&B Gates & Supply began as a farm-side operation, providing community members with gates to protect all types of livestock, ranging from chickens to cattle.

Today, B&B Gates & Supply is a full-service United States manufacturer of livestock gates, specializing in custom hog and cattle gates and a wide range

of agricultural necessities. Due to its growth, in 2021, B&B Gates & Supply moved its operation into a 50,000-square-foot facility along highway 75 with more enclosed space and greater room to scale. That same year, the Pollemas added a retail supply store. The store offers various items such as hoses, batteries, and other farming necessities—helping customers save time by finding what they need all in one place. In addition, B&B Gates & Supply added a servicing arm to the business, enabling service technicians to visit farms and resolve a wide range of issues found by their clients. The family business now employs over 34 community members. Several of Barry and Patty's children have also taken on key roles. Their sons Jesse, Jacob, and Jason Pollema all work in the family business. Jesse serves as the cattle gates and equipment manager and is now a co-owner. Jacob and Jason work in sales. Their daughter Abby handles social media and marketing.

B&B Gates & Supply plays an active role in its local community, often stepping in to provide critical support when it is needed most. During last year's flood in Rock Valley, the team spent days helping with cleanup and support. In 2021, Lyon County named B&B Gates & Supply an Iowa Master Pork Partner for its service to the hog industry in Lyon and across Iowa. Additionally, in 2023, VAL-CO awarded B&B Gates & Supply with the Gold Dealer Award for sales. That same year, VAL-CO initiated a partnership with B&B Gates & Supply to provide a range of equipment suitable for use in hog or cattle houses. In 2024, VAL-CO opened a warehouse, which is managed by B&B Gates & Supply, to make hog equipment, feed storage and transport systems, and more for customers and dealerships throughout the Midwest. This year, B&B Gates & Supply will celebrate its 29th anniversary in Iowa.

I want to congratulate the Pollema family and the entire team at B&B Gates & Supply for their entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to providing high-quality American-manufactured products and agricultural services to workers and families across northwest Iowa. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success.●

##### RECOGNIZING HUFFMAN'S FARM & HOME

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Huffman's Farm & Home of Fort Madison, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 2002, Bob Huffman and his brothers Mike and Hank founded Huffman's Farm & Home after gaining experience at their father's successful business

Huffman's Welding & Machine, which the Huffman family has kept running for more than 50 years. While working there, the brothers saw an opportunity to expand into the retail industry when clients and contractors not only picked up their finished products but also purchased tools and other small offerings. The business was built and centered around providing families and farmers with great products and customer service. Designed as a one-stop shop, Huffman's Farm & Home offers an extensive selection of brand-name items, from mowers and toys to feeders and electrical repair tools. The business is also pet friendly and even serves Iowa popcorn to its customers while they shop.

Over the years, Huffman's Farm & Home has steadily expanded its customer base, store locations, and physical footprint. In 2004, the business renovated and expanded the store from its original 10,000 square feet to more than 20,000 square feet. Today, the operation spans more than 30,000 square feet. In 2008, the Huffman family opened a second location in West Burlington, IA, and in 2016, they opened a third location in Aledo, IL. In addition to its wide selection of in-store products, Huffman's Farm & Home offers personalized customization options by allowing customers to place special orders. The team works closely with vendors to provide custom items tailored to each client's specific needs. Huffman's Farm & Home has grown to over 60 employees across its three locations. Additionally, Bob's nephew Jason Huffman joined the business after graduating with his degree in engineering. Today, he serves as vice president and manages many aspects of the manufacturing division, as well as project management and assessment.

Huffman's Farm & Home and the entire Huffman family are actively involved with the Fort Madison community. The Huffmans have generously supported the revitalization of Southeast Iowa's vocational school programs. The business is a member of the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce where both Jason and Bob served on the board of directors, and Bob also served a term as president. Additionally, Bob is the president of the Fort Madison Economic Development Board. He is also on the Fort Madison Football Board of Directors and served as the chairman of the Tri-State Rodeo Committee. Jason is a member of the Southeast Iowa Community College Machining Advisory Committee and the Fort Madison Airport Commission. In 2010, Huffman's Farm & Home received the Distinction Award from the Greater Burlington Partnership for their involvement in community events and initiatives. In 2019, the Fort Madison Chamber nominated Bob for the Chamber of Commerce's Ambassador of the Year. Later this year, Huffman's Farm & Home will celebrate its 23rd anniversary.

I want to congratulate the Huffman family and the entire team for their

dedication and support towards their community and for providing vital products and tools to families and farmers across Iowa and the Midwest. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

##### REPORT OF 22 RESCISSIONS OF BUDGET AUTHORITY—PM 28

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975, as amended by the order of April 11, 1986; to the Committees on Appropriations; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and Foreign Relations:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with section 1012(a) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 683(a)), I herewith report 22 rescissions of budget authority, totaling \$9.4 billion.

The proposed rescissions affect programs of the Department of State, as well as the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the United States Agency for International Development, the United States Institute of Peace, and other international assistance programs.

The details of these rescissions are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

DONALD J. TRUMP.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 28, 2025.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-992. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rescission of Recordkeeping on Re-

stricted Use Pesticides by Certified Applications" ((RIN0581-AE31) (Docket No. AMS-AMS-25-0019)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-993. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rescinding Natural Grass Sod Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Referendum Procedures" ((RIN0581-AE18) (Docket No. AMS-LP-21-0028)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-994. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rescission of the Dairy Donation Program" ((RIN0581-AE45) (Docket No. AMS-DA-25-0026)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-995. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tobacco Grading and Inspections Services - Rescission of Tobacco Quota Provisions" ((RIN0581-AE40) (Docket No. AMS-CN-25-0028)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-996. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tobacco Grading and Inspections Services: Rescission of Obsolete Import Grading and Pesticide Testing Provisions" ((RIN0581-AE42) (Docket No. AMS-CN-25-0024)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-997. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tobacco Grading and Inspections Services - Rescission of Designated Tobacco Markets" ((RIN0581-AE43) (Docket No. AMS-CN-25-0025)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-998. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Florylpicoxamid; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 12713-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-999. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13851 with respect to Nicaragua; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1000. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13466 with respect to North Korea; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1001. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on

the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13405 with respect to Belarus; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1002. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 12170 with respect to Iran; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1003. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13219 with respect to the Western Balkans; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1004. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1005. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Maritime Administrator, Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1006. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Groupers Fishery of the South Atlantic; 2025-2026 Recreational Fishing Season for Black Sea Bass” (RIN0648-XE740) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1007. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 60 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Hook-and-Line or Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XE586) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1008. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XE799) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1009. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2025 Recreational Accountability Measure and Closure for Gag in the South Atlantic” (RIN0648-XE741) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1010. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmit-

ting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; 2025 Management Area 1B Possession Limit Adjustment” (RIN0648-XE604) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1011. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; General Category January Through March Quota Transfer” (RIN0648-XE544) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1012. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Closure of the Angling Category Gulf of Maine Area Trophy Fishery for 2023” (RIN0648-XD073) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1013. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modifications of the West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Actions #1-#10” (RIN0648-XD072) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1014. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer From North Carolina to Virginia” (RIN0648-XE732) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1015. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XE592) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1016. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; 2024-2025 Closure of Commercial Run-Around Gilnet Fishery for King Mackerel” (RIN0648-XE727) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1017. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Reallocation of Pollock in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands” (RIN0648-XE802) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1018. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmit-

ting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska; Final 2025 and 2026 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish; 2025 Rockfish Program Cooperative Allocations” (RIN0648-XE818) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1019. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modification of the West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Actions #17 Through #18” (RIN0648-XE743) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1020. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XE583) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1021. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery; Longfin Squid 2023 Trimester II Quota Harvested” (RIN0648-XD211) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1022. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Pacific Cod By Catcher/Processors Using Trawl Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XD154) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1023. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Pacific Halibut Fisheries of the West Coast; Catch Sharing Plan; Inseason Action” (RIN0648-XD129) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1024. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2023-2024 Recreational Closure for Gulf of Mexico Greater Amberjack” (RIN0648-XD100) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1025. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries Off West Coast States; Emergency Action To Temporarily Modify Continuous Transit Limitations for California Recreational Vessels” (RIN0648-BL80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1026. A communication from the Branch Chief, National Marine Fisheries

Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Jig Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XD088) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1027. A communication from the Assistant Division Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Improving the Effectiveness of the Robocall Mitigation Database; Amendment of Part 1 of the Commission's Rules, Concerning Practice and Procedure, Amendment of CORES Registration System" ((FCC 24-135) (WC Docket No. 24-213) (MD Docket No. 10-234)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 21, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1028. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia to Amend Article VIII of the Agreement Regarding the Military Use and Operating Rights of the Government of the United States in the Federated States of Micronesia Concluded Pursuant to Sections 211(b), 321 and 323 of the Compact of Free Association, as amended; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1029. A communication from the Manager of Delisting and Foreign Species, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of Colorado Hookless Cactus From the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants" (RIN1018-BG56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1030. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mississippi: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions" (FRL No. 12213-02-R4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1031. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Alabama: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions" (FRL No. 12697-02-R4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1032. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; California; Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District; Oxides of Nitrogen" (FRL No. 12442-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1033. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emissions Budget and Allowance Allocations for Indiana Under the Revised Cross-State Air Pollution Rule Update" ((RIN2060-AW78) (FRL No. 12724-01-OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 2, 2025; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

## EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. CRAPO for the Committee on Finance.

\*William Long, of Missouri, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the remainder of the term expiring November 12, 2027.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH:

S. 1927. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitation with respect to the aggregate reduction in fair market value of farmland for purposes of application of the estate tax; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. KAINE):

S. 1928. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on esophageal cancer with respect to the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. KIM):

S. 1929. A bill to establish programs to reduce rates of sepsis; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 1930. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to establish a research and development-intensive small biotech manufacturer exemption the Medicare drug price negotiation program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1931. A bill to provide additional funding to States that provide certain rights to sexual assault survivors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 1932. A bill to amend the National Housing Act and the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 to include information regarding VA home loans in the Informed Consumer Choice Disclosure required to be provided to prospective FHA borrowers and to require a military service question on the Uniform Residential Loan Application, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1933. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to regularly promote programs under chapter 31 of such title; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself and Mr. RISCH):

S. 1934. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to identify entities engaged in activities detrimental to the national security, economic security, or foreign policy of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. BARASSO, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 1935. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for the testing of a community-based palliative care model; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. BARASSO, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1936. A bill to require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test allowing blood transfusions to be paid separately from the Medicare hospice all-inclusive per diem payment; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BANKS:

S. 1937. A bill to amend section 275 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to expand penalties for illegal entry and unlawful presence; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BUDD, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Ms. ERNST, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. JUSTICE, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. MORENO):

S.J. Res. 56. A joint resolution designating the month of June as "Life Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 100

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 100, a bill to repeal the Corporate Transparency Act.

S. 205

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 205, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit discrimination by abortion against an unborn child on the basis of Down syndrome.

S. 278

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 278, a bill to prohibit users who are under age 13 from accessing social media platforms, to prohibit the use of personalized recommendation systems on individuals under age 17, and limit the use of social media in schools.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 339, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of multicancer early detection screening tests.

S. 410

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 410, a bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes.

S. 476

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 476, a bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to carry out activities to provide for white oak restoration, and for other purposes.

S. 479

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 479, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 525

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 525, a bill to transfer the functions, duties, responsibilities, assets, liabilities, orders, determinations, rules, regulations, permits, grants, loans, contracts, agreements, certificates, licenses, and privileges of the United States Agency for International Development relating to implementing and administering the Food for Peace Act to the Department of Agriculture.

S. 611

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 611, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and to expand eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation paid to certain survivors of certain veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 739

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 739, a bill to amend title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act with respect to flexibility and funding for the World Trade Center Health Program.

S. 752

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) were added as cosponsors 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. 756

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 756, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain postsecondary credentialing expenses as qualified higher education expenses for purposes of 529 accounts.

S. 847

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Nebraska

(Mr. RICKETTS) 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. 911

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 911, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to include certain retired law enforcement officers in the public safety officers' death benefits program.

S. 930

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 930, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income capital gains from the sale of certain farmland property which are reinvested in individual retirement plans.

S. 1216

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1216, a bill to support Taiwan's international space, and for other purposes.

S. 1232

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1232, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1241

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1241, a bill to impose sanctions and other measures with respect to the Russian Federation if the Government of the Russian Federation refuses to negotiate a peace agreement with Ukraine, violates any such agreement, or initiates another military invasion of Ukraine, and for other purposes.

S. 1289

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1289, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States and to support programs at the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center.

S. 1367

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms.

HIRONO) and the Senator from Florida (Mrs. MOODY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1367, a bill to protect intellectual property rights in the voice and visual likeness of individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1414

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1414, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide that clinical studies required for licensure of biological products as biosimilar shall not be required to include the assessment of immunogenicity, pharmacodynamics, or comparative clinical efficacy.

S. 1486

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1486, a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, North Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas.

S. 1552

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGOS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1552, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 1640

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1640, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase support for physicians and other practitioners in adjusting to Medicare payment changes.

S. 1816

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGOS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1816, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish requirements with respect to the use of prior authorization under Medicare Advantage plans.

S. 1884

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1884, a bill to clarify the Holocaust Expropriated Art Recovery Act of 2016, to appropriately limit the application of defenses based on the passage of time and other non-merits defenses to claims under that Act.

S. 1887

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1887, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to allow all eligible voters to vote by mail in Federal elections, to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to streamline the procedures under which individuals may apply to register to

vote in such elections through State motor vehicle authorities, to permit automatic voter registration through such authorities for eligible citizens of the United States who do not complete voter registration applications, and for other purposes.

S. 1888

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1888, a bill to establish the United States Foundation for International Food Security to leverage private sector investments in order to improve and scale economically viable agricultural production, build food systems to mitigate food shock, reduce malnutrition, and drive economic growth, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 212

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 212, a resolution affirming the acceptable outcome of any nuclear deal between the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 227

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 227, a resolution 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, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2242

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2242 intended to be proposed to S. 1582, a bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2270

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2270 intended to be proposed to S. 1582, a bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2287

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2287 intended to be proposed to S. 1582, a bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself,  
Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. KIM):

S. 1929. A bill to establish programs to reduce rates of sepsis; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1929

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Securing Enhanced Programs, Systems, and Initiatives for Sepsis Act” or the “SEPSIS Act”.

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds as follows:

(1) 1,700,000 individuals in the United States are diagnosed with sepsis annually and 350,000 individuals in the United States are killed by sepsis each year.

(2) There is a need for increased Federal investment in research related to sepsis to build on research supported by the National Institutes of Health, including research with a pediatric focus supported by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

(3) The infectious disease workforce, which plays a key role in reducing the burden of sepsis, needs additional support to recruit and retain health care professionals engaged in infection prevention and related patient care.

(4) Sepsis is one of the most expensive conditions to treat in hospitals in the United States, with high spending compounded by frequent hospital re-admissions, including 1 in 5 patient re-admissions within 30 days of discharge and 1 in 3 patient re-admissions within 180 days of discharge.

(5) According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 80 percent of sepsis cases begin outside of the hospital.

(6) Most sepsis fatalities are preventable with early recognition, diagnosis, and treatment.

(7) The sepsis protocols for hospitals in New York State, called “Rory’s Regulations” for Rory Staunton who died from preventable, treatable sepsis at 12 years of age, have been proven to save lives through rapid identification and treatment of sepsis.

(8) Providers and public health experts should study and learn from Rory’s Regulations to find ways to end preventable deaths from sepsis on a national scale.

#### SEC. 3. SEPSIS PROGRAMS.

Title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 317V the following:

##### “SEC. 317W. SEPSIS PROGRAMS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (referred to in this section as the ‘Director’), shall maintain a sepsis team for purposes of—

“(1) leading an education campaign on best practices for addressing sepsis in hospitals, such as the practices outlined in the Hospital Sepsis Program Core Elements set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

“(2) improving data collection on pediatric sepsis;

“(3) sharing information with the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to inform the development and implementation of sepsis quality measures to improve outcomes for patients;

“(4) updating data elements with respect to sepsis used by the United States Core

Data for Interoperability, in coordination with the heads of other relevant agencies and offices of the Department of Health and Human Services, including the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology and the Director of the Office of Public Health Data, Surveillance, and Technology;

“(5) facilitating efforts across the Department of Health and Human Services to develop outcome measures with respect to sepsis; and

“(6) carrying out other activities related to sepsis, as the Director determines appropriate.

“(b) REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT OF OUTCOME MEASURES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Securing Enhanced Programs, Systems, and Initiatives for Sepsis Act, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the development and implementation of outcome measures for sepsis, for both adult and pediatric populations, that take into consideration the social and clinical factors that affect the likelihood a patient will develop sepsis.

“(c) ANNUAL BRIEFING ON SEPSIS ACTIVITIES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Securing Enhanced Programs, Systems, and Initiatives for Sepsis Act, and annually thereafter, the Director shall present to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a briefing on—

“(1) aggregate data on the adoption by hospitals of sepsis best practices, including the Hospital Sepsis Program Core Elements, as reported by hospitals to the Director, using the hospital sepsis program assessment tool of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and State sepsis reporting requirements;

“(2) rates of pediatric sepsis and efforts to reduce cases of pediatric sepsis, including how the Hospital Sepsis Program Core Elements can be effective at supporting efforts to reduce cases of pediatric sepsis;

“(3) the coordination of sepsis reduction efforts across the Department of Health and Human Services;

“(4) in partnership with the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, an evaluation of the impact of the Hospital Sepsis Program Core Elements on quality of care for patients;

“(5) data sharing from the National Healthcare Safety Network with other agencies and offices of the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to sepsis; and

“(6) a report on the latest datasets on sepsis, as provided to the Director by the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

##### “(d) HONOR ROLL PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish a voluntary program for recognizing hospitals that maintain effective sepsis programs or improve their sepsis programs over time, including in the areas of early detection, effective treatment, and overall progress in the reduction of the burden of sepsis.

“(2) APPLICATIONS; SELECTION.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

“(A) solicit applications from hospitals; and

“(B) establish public benchmarks by which the Secretary will select hospitals for recognition under such paragraph, including with respect to each area described in such paragraph.



“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030.”.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2293. Mr. BUDD 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.

SA 2294. Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2295. Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1582, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2296. Mr. MORAN (for Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mr. COTTON)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 201, to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2293. Mr. BUDD 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 THE USE OF A SELF-HOSTED WALLET.

(a) IN GENERAL.—No covered entity may prohibit, restrict, or otherwise impair the ability of a covered user to—

- (1) use digital assets for such user's own purposes, such as to purchase real or virtual goods and services for the user's own use; or
- (2) self-custody digital assets using a self-hosted wallet or other means to conduct transactions for any lawful purpose.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered entity” means—

- (A) an appropriate Federal banking agency;
- (B) the Board;
- (C) the Comptroller;
- (D) the Corporation; and
- (E) a primary Federal payment stablecoin regulator.

(2) COVERED USER.—The term “covered user” means a person that obtains a digital asset to purchase goods or services on that person's own behalf, without regard to the method in which such covered user obtained such digital asset.

(3) SELF-HOSTED WALLET.—The term “self-hosted wallet” means a digital interface—

- (A) used to secure and transfer digital assets; and
- (B) under which the owner of the digital assets retains independent control over such digital assets that are secured by a digital interface.

SA 2294. Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) 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 2, redesignate paragraphs (27) through (32) as paragraphs (32) through (37), paragraphs (22) through (26) as paragraphs (26) through (30), and paragraphs (10) through (21) as paragraphs (11) through (22).

In section 2, after paragraph (9), insert the following:

(10) EXCLUDED LARGE ONLINE PLATFORM.—The term “excluded large online platform”—

(A) means a social media platform, an online search engine, an online marketplace, or an online communication platform that—

(i) averages more than 25,000,000 unique users on a monthly basis; or

(ii) has more than 25,000,000 user accounts;

(B) includes all parents, subsidiaries, and affiliates of the excluded large online platform; and

(C) does not include a platform that only permits users to interact via a predetermined set of phrases, emoticons, or nonlinguistic symbols.

In section 2, after paragraph (22), as so redesignated, insert the following:

(23) ONLINE COMMUNICATION PLATFORM.—The term “online communication platform” means a service that allows users to communicate, connect, or collaborate via the internet and includes instant messaging, online video conferencing, online discussion forum, and online collaboration services.

(24) ONLINE MARKETPLACE.—The term “online marketplace” has the meaning given that term in section 2(f) of the Integrity, Notification, and Fairness in Online Retail Marketplaces for Consumers Act (15 U.S.C. 45f(f)).

(25) ONLINE SEARCH ENGINE.—The term “online search engine” means an internet intermediary service that allows users to input queries to perform searches of the World Wide Web and, in response, returns information related to the requested content.

In section 2(27)(A)(iii), as so redesignated, strike “and”.

In section 2(27)(B), as so redesignated, strike the period at the end and insert “; and”.

In section 2(27), as so redesignated, add at the end the following:

(C) is not an excluded large online platform.

In section 2, after paragraph (30), as so redesignated, insert the following:

(31) SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.—The term “social media platform” has the meaning given that term in section 124(a) of the Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022 (42 U.S.C. 1862w(a)).

SA 2295. Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) 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 2, redesignate paragraphs (16) through (32) as paragraphs (17) through (33), respectively.

In section 2, insert after paragraph (15) the following:

(16) INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICE.—The term “interactive computer service” means any information service, system, or access software provider that—

(A) provides or enables computer access by multiple users to a computer server, including specifically a service or system that provides access to the Internet and such systems operated or services offered by libraries or educational institutions;

(B) averages more than 25,000,000 unique users on a monthly basis or has 25,000,000 user accounts; and

(C) includes any parent, subsidiary, and affiliate of the information service, system, or access software provider.

At the appropriate place in section 4, insert the following:

(\_\_\_\_) LIABILITY FOR INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICES.—An interactive computer service shall be excepted from the liability protection under section 230(c)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(c)(1)) for the promotion, marketing, or the facilitation of a transaction involving a payment stablecoin if the interactive computer service—

(1) fails to take reasonable steps to prevent material misrepresentation, market manipulation, or unauthorized promotion of such asset;

(2) materially edits or amplifies content relating to digital asset investment, including through algorithmic curation or boosting; or

(3) fails to take reasonable steps to prevent illegal activity transacted using such asset.

SA 2296. Mr. MORAN (for Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mr. COTTON)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 201, to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “ACES Act of 2025”.

##### SEC. 2. NATIONAL ACADEMIES STUDY ON PREVALENCE AND MORTALITY OF CANCER AMONG INDIVIDUALS WHO SERVED AS ACTIVE DUTY AIRCREW IN THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (in this section referred to as the “National Academies”), under which the National Academies shall conduct a study on the prevalence and mortality of cancers among covered individuals.

(2) DEADLINE.—

(A) DATE.—The Secretary shall finalize the agreement under paragraph (1) by not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary enters negotiations with the National Academies with respect to such agreement.

(B) REPORT; BRIEFINGS.—If the Secretary fails to satisfy the requirement under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

(i) submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(I) an explanation of the reasons the Secretary failed to satisfy such requirement; and

(II) an estimate of the date on which the Secretary will finalize the agreement under paragraph (1); and

(ii) not less frequently than once every 60 days after the date on which the Secretary failed to satisfy such requirement, provide to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a briefing on the progress of the Secretary toward finalizing such agreement.

(b) STUDY.—The study required under subsection (a) shall—

(1) identify exposures associated with military occupations of covered individuals, including relating to chemicals, compounds, agents, and other phenomena;

(2) review the literature to determine associations between exposures referred to in paragraph (1) and the incidence or prevalence of overall cancer morbidity, overall cancer mortality, and increased incidence or prevalence of—

- (A) brain cancer;
- (B) colon and rectal cancers;
- (C) kidney cancer;
- (D) lung cancer;
- (E) melanoma skin cancer;
- (F) non-Hodgkin lymphoma;
- (G) pancreatic cancer;
- (H) prostate cancer;
- (I) testicular cancer;
- (J) thyroid cancer;
- (K) urinary bladder cancer; and
- (L) other cancers as determined appropriate by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs,

in consultation with the National Academies; and

(3) determine, to the extent possible, the prevalence of and mortality from the cancers specified in paragraph (2) among covered individuals by using available sources of data, which may include—

(A) health care and other administrative databases of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Defense, and the individual Services, respectively;

(B) the national death index maintained by the National Center for Health Statistics of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

(C) the study conducted under section 750 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283; 134 Stat. 3716).

(c) **REPORT.**—At the conclusion of the study required under subsection (a), the National Academies shall submit to the Secretary, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report containing the results of the study described in subsection (b).

(d) **COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “covered individual” means an individual who served on active duty in the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps as an aircrew member of a fixed-wing aircraft, including as a pilot, navigator, weapons systems operator, aircraft system operator, or any other crew member who regularly flew in a fixed-wing aircraft.

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator ALEX PADILLA intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of John Busterud, of California, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, Environmental Protection Agency, dated June 3, 2025.

I, Senator ALEX PADILLA intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of Usha-Maria Turner, of Oklahoma, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, dated June 3, 2025.

I, Senator ALEX PADILLA intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of Jeffrey Hall, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, dated June 3, 2025.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I have five requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

##### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing and a business meeting.

##### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

##### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

##### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 2:50 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

#### ACES ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 201 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 201) to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MORAN. I ask unanimous consent that the Kelly substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 2296) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “ACES Act of 2025”.

#### SEC. 2. NATIONAL ACADEMIES STUDY ON PREVALENCE AND MORTALITY OF CANCER AMONG INDIVIDUALS WHO SERVED AS ACTIVE DUTY AIRCREW IN THE ARMED FORCES.

##### (a) AGREEMENT.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (in this section referred to as the “National Academies”), under which the National Academies shall conduct a study on the prevalence and mortality of cancers among covered individuals.

##### (2) DEADLINE.—

(A) **DATE.**—The Secretary shall finalize the agreement under paragraph (1) by not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary enters negotiations with the National Academies with respect to such agreement.

(B) **REPORT; BRIEFINGS.**—If the Secretary fails to satisfy the requirement under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

(i) submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(I) an explanation of the reasons the Secretary failed to satisfy such requirement; and

(II) an estimate of the date on which the Secretary will finalize the agreement under paragraph (1); and

(ii) not less frequently than once every 60 days after the date on which the Secretary failed to satisfy such requirement, provide to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a briefing on the progress of the Secretary toward finalizing such agreement.

(b) **STUDY.**—The study required under subsection (a) shall—

(1) identify exposures associated with military occupations of covered individuals, including relating to chemicals, compounds, agents, and other phenomena;

(2) review the literature to determine associations between exposures referred to in paragraph (1) and the incidence or prevalence of overall cancer morbidity, overall cancer mortality, and increased incidence or prevalence of—

- (A) brain cancer;
- (B) colon and rectal cancers;
- (C) kidney cancer;
- (D) lung cancer;
- (E) melanoma skin cancer;
- (F) non-Hodgkin lymphoma;
- (G) pancreatic cancer;
- (H) prostate cancer;
- (I) testicular cancer;
- (J) thyroid cancer;
- (K) urinary bladder cancer; and
- (L) other cancers as determined appropriate by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs,

in consultation with the National Academies; and

(3) determine, to the extent possible, the prevalence of and mortality from the cancers specified in paragraph (2) among covered individuals by using available sources of data, which may include—

(A) health care and other administrative databases of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Defense, and the individual Services, respectively;

(B) the national death index maintained by the National Center for Health Statistics of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

(C) the study conducted under section 750 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National

Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283; 134 Stat. 3716).

(c) REPORT.—At the conclusion of the study required under subsection (a), the National Academies shall submit to the Secretary, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report containing the results of the study described in subsection (b).

(d) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this section, the term "covered individual" means an individual who served on active duty in the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps as an aircrew member of a fixed-wing aircraft, including as a pilot, navigator, weapons systems operator, aircraft system operator, or any other crew member who regularly flew in a fixed-wing aircraft.

The bill (S. 201), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR AN EVENT TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA I

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to H. Con. Res. 24, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 24) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. MORAN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 24) was agreed to.

#### ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4; 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 Calendar No. 119, Michelle Bowman, of Kansas.

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

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:08 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 10 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### *To be general*

LT. GEN. DAGVIN R.M. ANDERSON

##### 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. CHARLES B. COOPER II

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

##### *To be colonel*

CHRISTOPHER L. BLAHA  
AARON W. CHILDERS  
JONATHAN M. CINTRON  
CHAVESO L. COOK  
THOMAS B. EVERETT  
BRIAN HANRAHAN  
MATTHEW J. MESKO  
CASEY D. MILLS  
STUART H. PEEBLES  
STEPHEN J. SAPOI  
AARON T. SCHWENGLER  
ALEX C. TIGNOR  
THOMAS A. WHITEHEAD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

##### *To be lieutenant colonel*

BLAKE A. BUGAJ  
THOMAS J. CROSS  
KEITH R. HARPER  
MICHAEL J. KRANCH  
ANTHONY W. MAMUNES  
MICHAEL D. MASTY  
ARTHUR L. MCINTOSH  
PADRAIC M. MCKENZIE  
JASON E. PARKS  
GINO L. PELLICANO  
STEPHEN S. RUFF  
RICHARD M. TRAN

##### *To be major*

TERESA ALLEN  
JULIAN D. AUSAN  
HENRY R. ETCHBERGER  
BRETT A. GLAESS  
CONNIE P. HO  
AARON D. KNIGHT  
DAVID K. PARK  
THOMAS J. SHANNON  
COURTNEY A. SULLIVAN  
ZACHARY R. THORNE  
TYLER L. VALENTINE  
NICKOLE E. VANKOPP  
KYLE R. VOGT

#### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate June 3, 2025:

##### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MICHAEL DUFFEY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION AND SUSTAINMENT.

##### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ALLISON HOOKER, OF GEORGIA, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE (POLITICAL AFFAIRS).

##### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DALE MARKS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## RECOGNIZING MERCEDES ANDERSON-BRANDO

### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Mercedes Anderson-Brando has made through her volunteerism at Gulf Highlands Elementary School. Mercedes supports the school in so many ways. She is at every School Advisory Council (SAC) meeting, supports all extra-curricular events, and consistently pitches in whenever needed. The students know her and look forward to seeing her around campus.

It is clear Mercedes Anderson-Brando has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

## HONORING SUKI KAHAAULELIO

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Suki Kahaulelio for his lifelong contributions to the preservation of Hawaiian culture and his decades of service as a mentor, teacher, and leader in our Sonoma County community.

Born on June 4, 1957, in Oahu, Hawaii, Mr. Kahaulelio graduated from Kahuku High School in 1975. Shortly after, he moved to California to attend Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC), becoming part of the first wave of Polynesian student-athletes recruited to the school. Mr. Kahaulelio was a standout on the 1977–78 State Championship football team, and his success helped pave the way for other Polynesian student-athletes in our region, including Les Goeas, Tom Ako, and Chauncey Ako to thrive in our region. Though many expected him to return to the Islands after graduation, Mr. Kahaulelio chose instead to build a life, raise a family, and establish a vibrant Polynesian community here in our Sonoma County.

Following his time as a student-athlete, Mr. Kahaulelio remained deeply committed to community building, athletics, and cultural preservation. He was a key figure in the development of the Santa Rosa Rugby Club, helping the team win two National Championships. Mr. Kahaulelio later coached for the Rohnert Park Warriors youth football team, here he mentored young athletes and instilled in them the values of humility, teamwork, and service.

For 46 years, Mr. Kahaulelio served as a kumu (teacher), mental, and Hawaiian cultural bearer. His life's work was rooted in perpetuating core Hawaiian principles such as

kuleana (responsibility), malama 'āina (care for the land), and pono (righteousness). Grounded in the wisdom of his kūpuna (ancestors), Mr. Kahaulelio's teachings emphasized intergenerational learning, cultural sovereignty, and healing through connection. His lifelong commitment to teaching traditional Hawaiian values, mentoring youth, and organizing cultural events helped preserve Hawaiian identity across generations. By creating spaces for language, ceremony, and shared history, Mr. Kahaulelio fostered a sense of pride and belonging among the Hawaiian diaspora and helped raise broader awareness of Hawaiian culture in our Sonoma County community.

While attending SRJC, Mr. Kahaulelio met his first wife, Val, with whom he had two children, Cheylyn and Jacob. He later married Toni Guanella, who passed away in 2018, and they had one son together, Dino. Mr. Kahaulelio passed away on January 14, 2021, due to a stroke. His impact continues to resonate in the lives of those he touched, and his legacy will carry forward through the inaugural Suki Kahaulelio Memorial Golf Tournament, taking place on May 31, 2025, in Rohnert Park. Proceeds from the event will support student-athletes and help preserve Hawaiian culture, continuing Mr. Kahaulelio's life work.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Suki Kahaulelio for his dedicated service to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor his legacy here today.

## RECOGNIZING ARTHUR LANE

### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arthur Lane for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Arthur has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Arthur, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Arthur's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Three Creeks K–8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Arthur Lane on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

## HONORING THE LEGACY OF MR. WILLIAM MURRAY LYLES, III

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the legacy of Mr. William Murray Lyles, III, an ex-

traordinary father, husband, community leader, and philanthropist.

Born in Ohio, to his parents Elizabeth and William Murray Lyles, II, Mr. Lyles grew up in Avenal, California. As a teenager Bill began working with construction crews and was mentored by his uncles Mac and Larry Lyles, who had very successful construction careers. He then went on to attend Purdue University earning a degree in Civil Engineering and later served our country for two years in the Navy. From an early age Bill decided he would continue the legacy of his parents' pipeline business W.M. Lyles Co. established in 1945.

In the 1970's inflation was an obstacle for many businesses; however, Bill understood business cycles, his solution diversification. The first effort of diversification began in the multifamily arena with Jerome Kozlowski. Fifty years later the partnership between these families remains as strong as ever. Additionally, with the support from Bill's brother Gerald, they included development, manufacturing, and agriculture. Today the family business continues to thrive.

Bill wrote a memoir "The Joy of Building" which outlines the successes and failures of his work to expand economic opportunity and promote the Arts. He coined the term the "Apalachian West" to describe the poverty he saw in Fresno in the 1980's. He believed in the theory that the rising tide would lift all. He sought to promote upward mobility especially for minorities with his work at the Chamber of Commerce, The Private Industry Council, The Economic Development Commission, Fresno Boys and Girls Club, San Joaquin College of Law, Fresno City College, and Fresno State.

As a strong patron of the Arts, he was a member of the Purdue Glee Club. He sang for the newly coronated Queen Elizabeth and Maime Eisenhower. Many knew that he would often break out into song. For decades, he attended and supported performances of the Fresno Philharmonic, Fresno Opera, and Good Company Players. He was also a strong supporter of Channel 18, The Fresno Met, and the Fresno Art Museum.

As a longtime member of East Fresno Rotary, he lived the Four Way Test. In later years he found great enjoyment from the Owls. Bill accrued numerous accolades including, among others, an honorary doctorate from Fresno State, Fresno Chamber of Commerce's Leon S. Peters' Award, Purdue Distinguished Engineering Alumni, and Outstanding Philanthropist Award.

Bill leaves behind his beloved wife Anne H. Lyles, whom he met during his freshman year of high school in El Paso and reconnected with later in life. Anne and Bill were married for 36 years. Together they enjoyed the simple pleasures of life and the grand adventures, they traveled the world, regularly attended church, antique collecting, and meals with loved ones. Their relationship showcased the power of enduring love and commitment. Bill is also survived by his sister Marybeth Seay (Lester), brother Gerald Lyles (Nanette), son Will Lyles (Tami), daughters Annarie Lyles

• 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.

(Andy Dobson), and Adriana Hayward (Bill), step daughters Pam Peiffer (Matt) and Trisha Duval (Pat), his first wife Valera Whitford Lyles, mother of Will, Annarie, and Adriana, and grandchildren Allegra, Alistair, Delphinia Kelsey, Tatiana, Venezia, Chloe (Nick), Lauren, William and Hannah.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring the legacy of William "Bill" Murray Lyles, III. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

RECOGNIZING BRITTAMARIE  
GRIFFIN

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brittamarie Griffin for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Brittamarie has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Brittamarie, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Brittamarie's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Warren Tech North and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Brittamarie Griffin on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING MIKA ROTUNDA

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Mika Rotunda has made through her work with Habitat Tampa Bay Gulfside. Born and raised in Brooksville, Mika Rotunda is a dynamic professional with a background in media and real estate. With years of experience in broadcasting and content creation, Mika has developed a unique ability to connect with her audience, community and customers. Her passion for people and the desire to empower others, translates seamlessly into her real estate career. Combining her media expertise and real estate knowledge, Mika has broad a unique perspective to the Habitat Board, which she was voted onto in 2024. Habitat Tampa Bay Gulfside has been working to create lasting relationships in Hernando County. Mika has played a key role in making introductions and working alongside our Hernando Executive Director to provide information and dispel myths about the Habitat mission. Mika has used her social media platform of over 100k followers to help spread Habitat's mission and promote the Habitat program to Hernando County individuals and families. Mika has worked with Habitat's external relations team to create social media videos to promote major events and invite people to apply to the Habitat program. Habitat will cele-

brate the completion of its first home in Hernando this June. When that happens, Mika will be one of the first in line to congratulate the new homeowner and welcome them to the area.

It is clear Mika Rotunda has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

HONORING RIO VISTA CARING AC-  
TIONS REACHING EVERYONE  
(CARE)

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rio Vista Caring Actions Reaching Everyone (CARE) as the organization celebrates 40 years of service to the Delta community. Since 1985, CARE has provided critical mental health and family support services to children, families, and individuals across Rio Vista and other rural communities in our district.

Rio Vista CARE was founded as a grass-roots effort in response to a growing need for professional, low-cost mental health care in the region. Under the leadership of founding Executive Director Araminta Blackwelder, the organization grew into a trusted service provider, offering counseling, in-home visitation, mentoring, and crisis intervention. For over 26 years, Ms. Blackwelder guided CARE through economic challenges and expansion efforts, ensuring it remained a lifeline for families in need. In 2011, she passed the reins to Paul Shane, a seasoned nonprofit leader, and today the organization continues to thrive under the leadership of Executive Director Adriana Bejarano.

In 1995, CARE established the CARE Family Resource Center, expanding its ability to offer wraparound support. The center helps individuals and families access health insurance enrollment, translation services, assistance with unemployment, and connections to local resources. In 2002, CARE launched a home-visiting program to serve families in isolated rural areas. Today, the organization continues to offer school-based counseling from kindergarten through 12th grade, as well as individual and family therapy, grief counseling, support groups, crisis services, and a teen center.

Over the last four decades, CARE has served more than 18,000 children and family units. Seventy percent of its current clients are children. For many families, CARE has become an enduring presence, with parents who once sought help at CARE as children returning to the clinic with their own children, showing how deeply woven CARE is into the fabric of the community.

Rio Vista CARE remains the Delta region's only low-cost professional counseling and family resource center. Its services are provided regardless of a client's ability to pay, ensuring accessibility for those who need it most. CARE's success over the past 40 years reflects the power of community-based service, strong leadership, and an unwavering commitment to the well-being of others.

Mr. Speaker, Rio Vista CARE has stood by our community for four decades, helping families through their most difficult moments and building pathways to resilience and hope. It is fitting and proper that we recognize their invaluable contributions here today.

HONORING PETE VOGT FOR HIS  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL  
FLORIDA

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, born on August 18, 1944, in Wauchula, Florida, to Martha Pearle Mathis and George A. Vogt, Pete Vogt was a true Florida native. His deep-rooted connection to the state's landscapes was deeply influenced by his grandmother, Annabel Mathis, whose parents owned land in rural southwest Florida. Although his father's Air Force career led the family to move extensively around the U.S. during his youth, Pete always knew his roots were firmly planted among the southern palmetto hammocks and swamps.

Pete was back in Florida for his high school years at Oak Ridge High School. He often commented that the opportunity to attend a brand-new high school without established cliques and traditions made forming a wide range of friendships easier and enriched his high school experience. One of these friends, Linda Osborne, would become his wife.

Pete attended the University of South Florida, majoring in economics and developing a lifelong interest in politics, especially civil rights. Linda followed him to USF, and they married on August 21, 1965, while still in college. Pete graduated in 1966 and immediately joined the U.S. Army, as he believed military service was his responsibility as an American citizen. After boot camp, he was accepted into the Army's Officer Candidate School, and upon graduation was commissioned as a second lieutenant. To his delight, he was stationed in Germany. Once Linda graduated from USF, she was able to join him, and they enjoyed traveling in Europe. Their son, Eric, was born in Germany in 1968.

Once he had fulfilled his obligation to the Army, Pete and Linda returned to Orlando. Pete tried on a handful of jobs before finding that joining George A. Vogt Realty, his father's firm in Belle Isle, was the right fit. Pete excelled in building client relationships, sharing an endless supply of jokes, and maintaining connections with past clients. He joined the Orlando Regional Realtors Association and served on the board from 1970 until 2010.

Pete became involved in Democratic Party politics and worked on scores of local, state, and national campaigns over the years. He was deeply committed to civic engagement and women's and minority rights. His civic and political activities were extensive. A short list of boards on which Pete served includes the Mennello Museum of American Art, Guardian Care Nursing Home, Tiger Bay Club, Orange Audubon Society, and the First Unitarian Church of Orlando.

An intellectual at his core, Pete was insatiably curious, and each new interest led him to devour multiple books on the subject. Pete considered any week incomplete without a

visit to a bookstore. His home overflows with books on an incredible range of topics and people, including several books by and about Marcel Proust. Pete maintained that reading Proust had “changed his life” and quoted him endlessly to anyone who would listen. Starting in high school, he continued studying Spanish throughout his life, adding French somewhere along the way. His curiosity about the world led him to travel extensively, with Mexico, Central, and South America his favorite destinations. He scaled mountains, trekked the Amazon and hitch-hiked, and met people and learned about their cultures every chance he got. While he sometimes traveled alone, many of his most memorable adventures were shared with friends with whom he forged lifelong friendships.

After Linda’s death from breast cancer in 2006, his friends connected him with her friend Martha Haynie, and after several very tentative starts, Pete and Marty decided to share their lives. Over the next 19 years they indulged together their love of reading and cooking, theater and concerts, politics, traveling, and being with friends. Their adventures ranged from the mountains of Mexico to the streets of Paris and the Jungles of Ecuador. Pete’s diagnosis of Parkinson’s disease gradually slowed them down, and the COVID epidemic finally brought them home to Belle Isle to stay.

Pete led a rich and full life, surrounded by dear and loyal friends.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF GLENN  
FORSYTH’S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE  
WITH THE NEWTOWN FIRE  
ASSOCIATION

**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with deep pride and gratitude to recognize a truly remarkable individual from my district—Chief Glenn Forsyth of Newtown Township in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

This year, Chief Forsyth is celebrating an incredible milestone—50 years of continuous service with the Newtown Fire Association.

Let me repeat that: Five decades of commitment, sacrifice, and leadership in the name of public safety. Glenn’s journey with the fire service began in 1975 as a junior firefighter. But really, you could say it started even earlier—his family has proudly served in the Newtown Fire Association since 1915. Service is in his blood.

Over the years, Glenn has worn many hats—President, Trustee, Battalion Chief, Safety Officer. At every level, he’s brought steady leadership, tireless work ethic, and a deep love for this community.

But Chief Forsyth’s public service didn’t stop at the firehouse. In 1984, he joined the Newtown Township Police Department, where he served for 28 years, ultimately retiring as a respected Police Lieutenant. That experience made him uniquely qualified to lead when Newtown created its first full-time, paid fire chief position in 2012.

And who better to take on that role than Glenn Forsyth?

Since then, he has guided the department through growth, modernization, and chal-

lenges—building a unified team of career and volunteer firefighters, all committed to protecting the people of Newtown.

Chief Forsyth has given his entire adult life to the safety and well-being of this township. His name is respected, his leadership is trusted, and his example is one we should all strive to follow.

On behalf of a grateful community, I want to thank Chief Glenn Forsyth for 50 years of extraordinary service. May his legacy of courage and commitment inspire the next generation of firefighters and public servants for many years to come.

I congratulate Chief Forsyth. We salute him.

HONORING KATE DILNOTT-COOPER

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable journey and achievement of Kate Dilnott-Cooper, a lifelong learner and family historian whose decades-long travels across the United States have culminated in a personal milestone and a celebration of cultural connection and exploration.

Kate Dilnott-Cooper, a resident of the United Kingdom, has spent much of her life nurturing a deep appreciation for American history and heritage. Guided by a desire to understand the breadth and diversity of this country, she committed herself to the extraordinary goal of visiting and spending meaningful time in all 50 states. In July 2025, she will complete this lifelong dream with a visit to the state of Hawaii—her fiftieth and final state.

Kate’s travels reflect more than personal ambition. They represent a profound respect for the American story in all its complexity—from the majesty of its landscapes to the warmth of its people and the unique identities of its communities. Along the way, she has gathered family stories, local traditions, and historical narratives that bridge the personal with the universal.

Guided by a deep respect for heritage and its role in shaping generations, Kate has gathered family stories and personal histories, including that of her father-in-law—an orphan from Kansas sent to Canada—preserving these narratives as part of a broader cultural tapestry.

Through her curiosity and care, she has woven together the voices of small towns, the majesty of national parks, and the warmth of the people she encountered, reflecting the shared values of compassion, resilience, and the importance of memory.

Kate’s travels have become more than a personal accomplishment—they serve as a model of cultural appreciation, international friendship, and the enduring impact of honoring the past to shape the future.

It is my honor to recognize Kate Dilnott-Cooper for her remarkable achievement in visiting all 50 states of the United States, and commend her for her contributions to history, storytelling, and the strengthening of global understanding.

RECOGNIZING TAMMY MYERS

**HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tireless efforts of my constituent, Tammy Myers, whose commitment to ensuring fairness in Michigan’s surrogacy laws has brought about meaningful change for families across our community and state.

Tammy Myers was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2015, which resulted in procedures that left her unable to have children. In 2021, she and her husband worked with a gestational carrier to have their twin son and daughter. They quickly found themselves facing an unimaginable challenge. Tammy was forced to adopt her own biological twins due to deeply unfair Michigan laws that failed to recognize her as the rightful parent of her children.

Fueled by her personal experience, Tammy became an outspoken advocate for reforming Michigan’s antiquated surrogacy laws. Through her persistence and unwavering determination, Tammy helped bring attention to a loophole in state law that left parents like her in legal limbo, forcing many individuals to jump through hoops to be recognized as their biological children’s parents.

Tammy’s efforts were instrumental in the passage of the Michigan Family Protection Act, which provides legal support and protection for families who have children through surrogacy. Her advocacy shed light on the real-world implications of our outdated legal system and the need for reform as we continue to fight for reproductive freedom across our Nation.

On behalf of Michigan’s Third Congressional District, I am proud to honor Tammy Myers for her advocacy and leadership. We thank her for her tireless work in fighting for her children—Eames, Ellison, and Corryn—and the hard-working Michiganders who now have access to the essential resources they need to start a family.

NEWSLETTER FROM  
CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS

**HON. CHUCK EDWARDS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following newsletter to give an update to my constituents on the town hall:

DEAR FRIEND,

Recently, I held my ninth in-person town hall in Asheville. Hearing from the people of Western North Carolina will continue to be a priority of mine, and I will not shy away from my support of President Trump and our important work renewing the American Dream and fixing how Washington works.

President Trump is doing exactly what he promised to do: comb through our federal agencies to look for inefficiencies. I applaud the fact that he’s doing that, and I appreciate his recognition that I went all 12 rounds to support and defend the America First agenda.

Despite some disruptions, I was able to answer questions from multiple constituents at the town hall and dispel some of the misinformation currently being spread around,



such as about the House's budget plan and DOGE, and I look forward to continuing to do as such.

Being accessible, listening, and answering questions for our mountain folk are among my favorite activities, which is why my office provides several avenues of engagement for constituents:

Stay updated on upcoming in-person and telephone town halls by following me on Facebook and visiting my website at [edwards.house.gov/events](https://edwards.house.gov/events).

Folks can request a one-on-one Chat With Chuck meeting by visiting [edwards.house.gov/chatwithchuck](https://edwards.house.gov/chatwithchuck).

Stop by Carolina Cruiser mobile office hours to ask questions about issues that matter to you or receive assistance with federal agencies, such as FEMA.

The schedule is available on Facebook and X, and at [edwards.house.gov/carolinacruiser](https://edwards.house.gov/carolinacruiser).

With my warmest regards,

CHUCK EDWARDS,  
*Member of Congress.*

#### HONORING BENOVIA WINERY

##### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Benovia Winery on the 20th anniversary of its creation and to recognize the incredible contributions of its founders, Mary Dewane and Joe Anderson, and its winemaker, Mark Sullivan. For two decades, Benovia has produced handcrafted wines with a deep commitment to sustainability, land stewardship, and community support, values that have made it a treasured part of our Sonoma County.

The story of Benovia began with Ms. Dewane and Mr. Anderson, a wife-and-husband team whose shared careers in the healthcare sector focused on expanding access for underserved populations, especially Medicaid recipients. Their passion for service extended into their personal lives when, in 2002, they began exploring California's Wine Country and discovered a mutual love for Pinot Noir. In 2003, they purchased the Cohn Estate Vineyard, the oldest Pinot Noir vineyard in the Russian River Valley. By 2005, their commitment to the craft had grown into a full-fledged winery named "Benovia," a blend of their fathers' names: Ben Dewane and Novian Anderson.

Benovia's first vintage was produced in 2005, followed by its commercial debut in 2006. That same year, Mr. Anderson sold his successful managed care company to focus entirely on the winery. The team also welcomed Sonoma County native and fermentation science graduate Mark Sullivan, who joined as winemaker and has played a vital role in shaping Benovia's signature style ever since.

Over the past twenty years, Benovia Winery has expanded to over 71 acres across the Russian River Valley American Viticultural Area (AVA) and the Sonoma Coast AVA, where it farms at three estate vineyards: Cohn, Martella, and Tilton Hill. The original ranch property has been restored, with an old ranch house converted into a welcoming tasting room, a former horse barn now used as the red wine facility, and the original winery repurposed for white wine production.

Benovia specializes in small-lot, handcrafted Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Zinfandel, most of which is sold directly to consumers. In the vineyard, the team employs numerous sustainable farming techniques, including the use of 171 solar panels, organic composting, and the cultivation of habitats that support beneficial wildlife.

Beyond then work in the vineyard, Ms. Dewane and Mr. Anderson have remained deeply engaged in philanthropic efforts, giving back to the community through support for programs that address food insecurity, literacy, and local journalism. Through Benovia Winery, they have created several charitable wine releases to benefit nonprofit causes. Ms. Dewane and Mr. Anderson also created a wine line in tribute to the life and career of Congressman Ed Pastor, with their 2018 Pastor Adelante Pinot Noir release. Their dedication to service, both in business and beyond, has left a meaningful and lasting impact in our community.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we honor Benovia Winery for twenty years of excellence in winemaking, sustainability, and community engagement. I join the people of our Sonoma County in celebrating this milestone and in recognizing Joe Anderson, Mary Dewane, and Mark Sullivan for their vision, generosity, and leadership.

#### RECOGNIZING RALPH AND STEPHANIE STEVENS

##### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Ralph and Stephanie Stevens have made to our community as volunteers with Hope Services. Ralph and Stephanie have gone above and beyond to support Hope Services as part of the organization's Dream Team. They are always committed to helping others and are a wealth of support to those in need. They give generously of their time, talents and treasure. Their kindness, generosity, and tireless efforts have made a lasting difference with the clients we serve and their families.

It is clear Ralph and Stephanie Stevens have made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for their service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

#### RECOGNIZING EAMON VANDYKE

##### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eamon VanDyke for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Eamon has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Eamon, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

This award is a testament to Eamon's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Three Creeks K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Eamon VanDyke on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

#### HONORING THE INCREDIBLE LIFE OF ALBERT EUGENE BARDINI

##### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Representative ADAM GRAY, to honor the incredible life of Albert Eugene Bardini, a true representative of the spirit of the Central Valley.

Albert Bardini was born on June 20, 1928, in Merced, California, to Pete and Adelaide Bardini, a proud third-generation farming family. He attended Merced High School, where he played both baseball and football. Following high school, he attended St. Mary's College before enlisting in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War.

During this time, Albert married the love of his life, Joanne McKim on June 25, 1950, whom he had met during high school at the Hopeton Festa. Together, they made Merced their lifelong home.

After his service, Albert and his two uncles established Bardini's Yosemite Suppliers—the first wholesale plumbing and electrical supply company in Merced. The business was a trailblazer, becoming the first private company awarded a contract by the Department of Defense to operate a supply store on a U.S. Air Force base.

After selling the business, Albert continued his commitment to public service by becoming a Merced County Supervisor. In that role, he worked tirelessly on public works and community development projects, from water infrastructure to programs supporting seniors and youth. He was appointed to numerous state and local committees, a testament to the trust and confidence others placed in his leadership and vision.

Albert was known to all for his vibrant personality and generosity. A longtime member of the Merced Elks Club and Breakfast Lions, he was also a dedicated Life Member of the Italo-American Lodge. His grandfather served as the first president of the Lodge in 1933, and Albert carried on that legacy with pride.

Together Joanne and Albert raised four sons, who all pursued careers in engineering. Their family has grown with the addition of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, bringing Albert and Joanne tremendous pride and joy.

In his later years, Albert could always be found at the heart of family gatherings, settled into a comfortable chair, watching a game, sharing stories, and offering his sharp, humorous commentary.

Albert was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 66 years, Joanne, and his parents, Pete and Adelaide Bardini. He leaves behind his four sons: Richard (Nancy), Randy (Agnes), Gary (Laura), and Greg (Danielle), along with nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Albert's life was one of service, joy, and family.

HONORING REVEREND ANTHONY Q. CORBETT, SR.

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a loving husband, dedicated father, doting grandfather, profound spiritual leader, committed public servant, and true man of God—Reverend Anthony Q. Corbett, Sr. Reverend Corbett transitioned from labor to reward on May 21, 2025. He leaves behind many heavy hearts among his church family, across the state of Georgia, America, and abroad. A funeral service to celebrate his remarkable life was held on May 31, 2025, at the Macon Centreplex in Macon, Georgia.

Pastor Corbett's journey in life began with his birth in Dublin, Georgia, on October 10, 1966, to the late Lillie Mae Corbett. He was a proud product of the Laurens County School System, graduating from West Laurens High School in 1984. He studied at Andersonville Baptist Seminary in Camilla, Georgia and received his Bachelor's of Biblical studies and Master's of Theology from the Emmanuel Bible College. In 2020, Pastor Corbett was awarded an honorary doctorate.

Reverend Corbett began his ministerial journey as the Pastor of Stewart Chapel Baptist Church and went on to serve as Pastor of Rose Hill Baptist Church, Driskell Tabernacle Baptist Church and Greater New Evergreen Baptist Church. At every stop of his journey, he served with an humble spirit and caring heart. Helen Keller once said that "The most pathetic person in the world is one that has sight, but no vision." Pastor Corbett always exhibited both sight and vision in carrying out God's purpose for his life. The Kingdom has been truly enriched by his love for God and people.

On May 31, 1998, Pastor Corbett was installed as the Senior Pastor of Lundy Chapel Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia. Under his visionary leadership, Lundy Chapel experienced remarkable growth, with an increase in membership and an expansion of its facilities to enhance the church's ability to reach souls for Jesus Christ. In 2001, Lundy Chapel celebrated the dedication of its new sanctuary, which boasts a seating capacity of 750. Always striving to upgrade facilities for the glory of God, Lundy Chapel completed its Education/Administrative Building and gymnasium in March of 2013. The most recent improvement project, initiated in November 2017 and completed in May 2019, included the addition of a spacious staging area, stage and broadcast lighting, improved audio and video systems, an atrium, café, and lofting areas conducive to meetings.

Through Reverend Corbett's dynamic leadership, Lundy Chapel embraced a cutting-edge technology across its 37,000 square feet of facilities. In September 2016, he led a major overhaul of the church's website, including the development of a church mobile app, which enabled Lundy Chapel to reach people around the world through various streaming services.

Perhaps the most impactful aspect of his ministry was the creation in 2005 of the Lundy

Higher Heights Community Enrichment Corporation. Reverend Corbett embraced the belief that ministry must extend beyond the church walls and embrace the entire community, not just the members of Lundy Chapel. The Lundy Higher Heights Community Enrichment Corporation aims to uplift young people by providing them with positive direction and inspiration. It also equips other community organizations with a blueprint to develop effective service programs. Reverend Corbett truly understood that education is the passport to the future which belongs to those who prepare for it today. The Community Enrichment Corporation offers scholarships and resources to young adults pursuing higher education.

A generous mentor to many ministers of the Gospel, Reverend Corbett licensed and ordained over 30 new ministers and installed countless others.

Never resting on his laurels, Reverend Corbett continually sought ways to improve himself, the Church, and his community. He was appointed by then President, Reverend Curtis Raines, Sr. as the State Coordinator for the Moderator and Ministers Division of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, (GMBC), to which he was later elected as President. The convention encompasses over 600 churches throughout Georgia with more than 500,000 members. During his tenure, Reverend Corbett pushed the convention to adhere to the ideals of Worship, Mission, Education, and Stewardship. He also pushed the convention to engage in activities to promote social activism and civic engagement. He previously served two terms as moderator for the Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Association. The President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., Reverend, Dr. Boise Kimber, appointed Reverend Corbett as Director of the Pastors and Ministers Division of the Convention.

Reverend Corbett boldly preached the good news of Jesus Christ to prisons, youth camps, and international worship services. In 2020, he and Lundy Chapel were invited to adopt the Gesore Joy in Christ Church in Nyamira, Kenya. As with all things he undertook, he embraced this challenge with excellence and led efforts to purchase and send essential items to Africa, supporting multiple organizations and orphanages of the Church there.

Always looking for ways to make a difference, Reverend Corbett made history during his tenure as President of GMBC by appointing the first woman, the Reverend Valerie Thompson, to serve on the board of the Convention. He also recommended Reverend Thompson to serve on the Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

Amid the great demands of his ministry, Reverend Corbett found time to give back to his community. It has been said that "service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Reverend Corbett certainly paid his rent, and he paid it well. Pastor Corbett's service and love for the community led him to share Lundy Chapel's campus and resources with social and civic organizations throughout the Middle Georgia area, including the Macon Day Reporting Center, the District Attorney's Rise Initiative, River Edge Behavioral Health, and the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power and Potential, among many others.

On a personal note, Reverend Corbett was a friend and supporter. He always had an en-

couraging word during difficult times, and I will be forever grateful for the strength of his character and the fidelity of his friendship.

Reverend Corbett accomplished much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God and the unwavering love and support of his wife of over 30 years, Juanita, as well as his six children, grandchildren and extended family.

Mr. Speaker, my wife, Vivian, and I, along with the more than 765,000 people of the Second Congressional District, salute Reverend Anthony Q. Corbett, Sr. for his outstanding accomplishments in ministry and his dedication to his community, state, nation, and the world. Moreover, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Pastor Corbett's family, Lundy Chapel Baptist Church, the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., and all who mourn his loss. We pray that they will all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
MR. TERRY FAHY ON THE OCCA-  
SION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. JAY OBERNOLTE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I use today to recognize Terry Fahy who is retiring from his position as Vice President and General Manager of the Salem Media Group in Los Angeles after forty-three years of dedicated service.

After earning his bachelor's degree in English Literature from the University of California, Santa Barbara, Terry became increasingly drawn to the copywriting and music industry. Born into a family of salesmen, Terry began his career in broadcast as a sales representative for two stations in Santa Barbara—99.9 KTYD-FM and 990 KBLA-AM. As a testament to his sales development, leadership, and organizational skills, Terry also led the sales and marketing department at the number one Christian Teaching and Talk station in the nation.

Throughout his successful career, Terry and his broadcast stations have earned numerous accolades, including the Marconi Radio Religious and Gospel Station of the Year in 1995, the National Religious Broadcasters' (NAB) Station of the Year in 2000, and Radio Ink Magazine's Best Radio Manager in 2022. In addition to these impressive awards, Terry served as board chair of the California Broadcasters Association and executive committee and board chair of the Southern California Broadcasters Association.

Beyond his service to the Salem Media Group, Terry is a devoted husband to his wife, Cindy, father to twin boys, Garrett and Brian, and grandfather to his six grandchildren. He is also a proud member of the Church at Rocky Peak.

Heather and I thank Terry for his years of service, and we wish him and his family well as they enter this well-earned next stage of life. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Terry Fahy and celebrating his retirement.

CELEBRATING WOOD LAKE NA-  
TURE CENTER'S GROUND-  
BREAKING

**HON. ILHAN OMAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the City of Richfield, Minnesota, as they break ground on their renovation of Wood Lake Nature Center.

Wood Lake Nature Center is one of Minnesota's first environmental education centers. Since 1971, the Center has been a destination for south metro residents looking to experience marsh, woodland, and restored prairie land in the heart of an urban setting. Over 100,000 people visit the center each year, including 25,000 who go for programming like summer camps, group hikes, archery, wilderness skill training, birding, and more. On a daily basis, around three separate schools bring their students to learn about the natural world. It has become an invaluable resource to inner city students who otherwise may not have access to the preserved natural spaces and environmental education provided at Wood Lake Nature Center.

While hosting such a diversity of guests and programs, Wood Lake Nature Center had found it difficult to keep up with rising demand. Their 4,000-square-foot visitors center had fallen into disrepair, and it couldn't adequately house all of the programs and visitors that have come to love the connection to nature they receive there.

The City of Richfield embarked on a multi-year capital campaign and planning process to reimagine what the Center could be. They worked with the Science Museum of Minnesota on educational nature exhibits, talked with architects and contractors on the building design, and passed a ballot initiative to help raise funds. Voters overwhelmingly approved this new funding. I was also proud to secure a Congressional appropriation of \$3,000,000 through Community Project Funding to make sure this project could move forward.

Richfield's groundbreaking ceremony is a celebration of what is possible when community members, elected leaders, non-profits, businesses, and philanthropic groups work together and dream big. Next fall, thousands of Minnesotans will get to walk through the doors of a visitors center that is a fitting centerpiece to this incredible nature preserve. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Richfield, and the whole Wood Lake Nature Center team, on this remarkable achievement.

HONORING CJ KIRST

**HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize CJ Kirst—a talented athlete, loyal teammate, and valued member of his community. CJ grew up in Bernardsville, New Jersey and attended Cornell University, where he recently completed one of the most historic men's lacrosse careers of all time.

During his senior year at Cornell, CJ broke the NCAA record for the most career goals

(247) and tied the NCAA record for single-season goals (82). These efforts led the Big Red to win the program's first national title since 1977.

CJ also became this year's first overall draft pick by the Premier Lacrosse League and was selected by the Philadelphia Waterdogs. As a result of his impressive time at the collegiate level, CJ is the most recent recipient of the Tewaaron Award—the highest honor bestowed upon a men's lacrosse player.

I am pleased to join the Bernardsville Community in congratulating CJ and wish him nothing but continued success in his lacrosse career.

HONORING OSCAR RENTERIA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Oscar Renteria on his selection by the Napa Valley Grapegrowers as the 2025 Napa Valley Grower of the Year. This award recognizes Mr. Renteria's steadfast commitment to sustainable farming, agricultural preservation, and community leadership, all of which have left a lasting impact on our Napa Valley grapegrowing community.

Born in St. Helena, Mr. Renteria graduated from St. Mary's College in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Shortly after graduation, he joined his family's business, Renteria Vineyard Management, founded two years earlier by his father Salvador Renteria, a respected vineyard worker who became a leading entrepreneur in our Napa Valley. While Mr. Renteria originally focused on administrative work, he quickly became engaged in the hands-on aspects of viticulture. By 1993 he had assumed proprietorship of the business, working directly with the company's prestigious clients.

In 1995, following his father's retirement, Mr. Renteria was named President of Renteria Vineyard Management. Under Mr. Renteria's leadership the company has grown to become one of the largest and most trusted vineyard management firms in the North Bay, with the company managing over 2,200 vineyard acres, nearly 80 full time employees, and 400 seasonal workers. In 1997, Mr. Renteria founded the Renteria family's wine brand, Tres Perlas Wines, a boutique wine label producing limited-production wines.

As President of Renteria Vineyard Management, and owner of Tres Perlas Wines, Mr. Renteria has championed environmentally responsible farming practices that elevate our Napa Valley's global reputation for premium viticulture. Mr. Renteria has committed his companies to environmental stewardship by utilizing the latest innovations in equipment, tools, software, fruit analysis, imaging, and data analysis. These resources enable precision farming and help his team respond effectively to the increasing challenges posed by climate change.

Mr. Renteria is also dedicated to supporting the farmworkers who work alongside him through leadership development, education, and legal assistance. Through his company's Farmworker Concierge Service, Renteria Vineyard Management offers services such as

driver's license assistance, document translation, housing support, citizenship guidance, notary services, English literacy classes, and high school scholarships for employees.

Mr. Renteria's leadership extends into community and philanthropic work. He currently serves on the boards of the Napa Valley Grapegrowers, the Napa Valley Farmworker Foundation, and the St. Helena Hospital Foundation. His previous service includes roles with the Napa Valley Community Foundation and serving on the Board of Trustees of his alma mater, Justin-Siena High School. Mr. Renteria has also made significant contributions to non-profit organizations that support educational opportunities for farmworker's and their families. His philanthropy has benefited institutions such as the Blue Oak School and the Napa Valley Community Foundation, empowering underserved communities and creating lasting opportunities for advancement and growth.

Outside of the wine community, Mr. Renteria is husband to Denise Renteria, and they are the proud parents of three daughters Isabella, Mia, and Gabriella. He is widely appreciated for his sense of humor, strong personal values, and wholehearted commitment to both his family and his work.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Renteria is a community member we should all strive to be. His passion for viticulture and dedication to his grape growing community make him deserving of the 2025 Napa Valley Grower of the Year. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Oscar Renteria here today.

RECOGNIZING NEIL QUINN

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Mr. Neil Quinn has made to our community through his work as an exceptional volunteer for Habitat for Humanity of Citrus County for the past five years. In 2024 alone, this retired electrical engineer volunteered nearly 400 hours across our construction sites and ReStores. Mr. Quinn's impact is profoundly felt by the partner families working toward homeownership. On construction sites, he shares his expertise by teaching them essential home building and maintenance skills. His mentorship empowers these families with practical knowledge and fosters a sense of ownership of their future homes. Beyond construction, Mr. Quinn repairs and revitalizes electrical appliances at the organization's ReStores. By increasing the inventory of resellable goods, he directly helps generate funds that enable the construction of more affordable homes in our community. Neil is the epitome of a team player, consistently willing to contribute his time and talents wherever needed. His dedication and positive attitude are respected by fellow volunteers, Habitat staff, and the partner families he supports. Neil Quinn's commitment embodies the spirit of Habitat for Humanity, making a tangible difference in the lives of families striving for safe, stable, and affordable housing in Citrus County.

It is clear that Neil Quinn has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and

I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

#### RECOGNIZING ISABELLA GARCIA

##### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Isabella Garcia for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Isabella has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Isabella, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Isabella's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Three Creeks K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Isabella Garcia on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

#### HONORING THE 2024 FELLOWS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS

##### HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 170 inventors who will be inducted as the 2024 Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI). An induction ceremony will take place June 23–26, 2025, in Atlanta, Georgia to celebrate these inventors and their incredible accomplishments. The ceremony will be presided over by the Acting Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Coke Morgan Stewart, and President of the National Academy of Inventors, Dr. Paul R. Sanberg. To be named as a Fellow, these individuals were nominated by their peers and underwent a review process by the NAI Selection Committee, which ultimately deemed their innovations as making a significant impact on the quality of life, economic development and the welfare of their communities, the residents of Florida and the United States.

The NAI Fellow program has 2,068 Fellows worldwide representing more than 300 prestigious universities and governmental and nonprofit research institutes. Collectively, the Fellows hold more than 68,000 issued U.S. patents, which have generated over 20,000 licensed technologies, 4,000 companies and created more than 1.2 million jobs. In addition, over \$3.2 trillion in revenue has been generated based on NAI Fellow discoveries.

Among NAI fellows, there are more than 170 senior leaders of research universities and nonprofit research institutes, over 755 members of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, 63 inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, 70 recipients of the U.S. National Medal of Technology and Innovation and U.S.

National Medal of Science, 57 Nobel Laureates, over 533 AAAS Fellows, over 395 IEEE Fellows and more than 232 Fellows of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, among other awards and distinctions.

Founded by Dr. Paul R. Sanberg at the University of South Florida in 2010, the NAI's mission is to recognize and encourage inventors with patents issued from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, enhance the visibility of academic technology and innovation, encourage the disclosure of intellectual property, educate, and mentor innovative students and translate the inventions of its members to benefit Florida and communities all throughout the United States. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my neighbors in Tampa Bay and the citizens of Florida, I am proud to honor the 2024 Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors for this outstanding achievement. We owe a debt of gratitude to these inventors for their invaluable contributions to society, which continually propel us forward. May their example inspire future generations to pursue their own paths of discovery and innovation, ensuring a bright and innovative future for us all. I include in the RECORD the 2024 National Academy of Inventors Fellows Class:

Ishwar Aggarwall, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Pierre Agostini, The Ohio State University; Mark Akeson, University of California, Santa Cruz; Yousef Al-Abed, The Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research; Herb Aldwinckle, Cornell University; Dan Ammon Jr., University at Buffalo, The State University of New York; Alain Aspect, Institut d'Optique Graduate School; Corinne E. Augelli-Szafran, Southern Research Institute; Clinton Ballinger, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Robert S. Balog, Texas A&M University; Prith Banerjee, University of Illinois at Chicago; Ronald Barrett-Gonzalez, University of Kansas; Robert Bartlett, University of Michigan; Peter J. Basser, National Institutes of Health; Mounji Bawendi, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dibakar Bhattacharyya, University of Kentucky; Pratim Biswas, University of Miami; Silvia Blemker, University of Virginia; William Branch, University of Georgia; Malcolm Brenner, Baylor College of Medicine; Richard K. Brow, Missouri University of Science and Technology; Edgar B. Cahoon, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Jianfeng Ca, University of South Florida; Hui Cao, Yale University; Arnold Caplan, Case Western Reserve University; John M. Cioffi, Stanford University; Corie L. Cobb, University of Washington.

Eric W. Cochran, Iowa State University; Daniel Codd, University of San Diego; Todd J. Cohen, New York Institute of Technology; Bruce N. Cronstein, New York University Grossman School of Medicine; Maria Croyle, The University of Texas at Austin; Anthony Czarnik, University of Nevada, Reno; Arvin Dar, Memorial Sloan Kettering Institute Cancer Center; Matthew Darr, Iowa State University; Hiranmoy Das, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center; Kenneth Dawson-Scully, Nova Southeastern University; Edward J. Delp, Purdue University; Horacio Dante Espinosa, Northwestern University; Ying Fang, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Aaron Franklin, Duke University; Eby Friedman, University of Rochester; Klaus Früh, Oregon Health & Science University; Lilit Garibyan, Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard University; Robert Garry, Tulane University; Manas Ranjan Gartia, Louisiana State University; Arun K. Ghosh, Purdue University; Simon Francis Giszter, Drexel University; Steven Goldman, University of Rochester; Andrea Goldsmith,

Princeton University; David Gracias, Johns Hopkins University; Joel S. Greenberger, University of Pittsburgh; Jaime Grunlan, Texas A&M University; Ephraim Gutmark, University of Cincinnati.

Keith Hearon, Boston University; Larry Heck, Georgia Institute of Technology; Wolfgang Heidrich, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology; Joseph P. Heremans, The Ohio State University; Mark Hoffman, University of Missouri-Kansas City; Kaibin Huang, The University of Hong Kong; Bertram Jacobs, Arizona State University; Hamid Jafarkhani, University of California, Irvine; Shihin Jiang, The University of Arizona; Christopher S. Johnson, Argonne National Laboratory; Sergei V. Kalinin, University of Tennessee, Knoxville/Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; Homayoon Kazerooni, University of California, Berkeley; Brian G. Kiernan, New Jersey Institute of Technology; Steven Koester, University of Minnesota; Johann Walter Kolar, ETH Zurich—Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich; Farinaz Koushanfar, University of California, San Diego; Ferenc Krausz, Max Planck Institute of Quantum Optics, Garching, Germany; Ashok Kumar, University of South Florida; Eren Kurshan, Princeton University; Ioannis Kymissis, Columbia University; Klaus Lackner, Arizona State University; Gregory Lanza, Washington University in St. Louis; Matthew Laskoski, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory; Chih-Kung Lee, National Taiwan University.

Hui (Helen) Li, Florida State University; Hai Li, Duke University; Wenbin Lin, University of Chicago; Walter Ian Lipkin, Columbia University; Xuedong Liu, University of Colorado Boulder; Devinder Mahajan, Stony Brook University; Abhijit Mahalanobis, The University of Arizona; Stanton F. McHardy, The University of Texas at San Antonio; Michael McLaughlin, The University of Adelaide; Shawn A. Mehlenbacher, Oregon State University; Charles L. Melcher, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Tommaso Melodia, Northeastern University; Rajesh Menon, The University of Utah; Theodore Moise, The University of Texas at Dallas; David Morse, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute; Javad Mostaghimi, University of Toronto; Naima Moustaid-Moussa, Texas Tech University; Christopher Murray, University of Pennsylvania; Tina M. Nenoff, Sandia National Laboratories; Gabriele Neumann, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Kytai T. Nguyen, The University of Texas at Arlington; Michael Niederweis, The University of Alabama at Birmingham; Thomas Nosker, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; Rafail Ostrovsky, University of California, Los Angeles.

Cynthia Owsley, The University of Alabama at Birmingham; Cengiz Ozkan, University of California, Riverside; Makarand Paranjape, Georgetown University; Dan Peer, Tel Aviv University; Yuri Karl Peterson, Medical University of South Carolina; Konstantin Petrukhin, Columbia University; Wellington Pham, Vanderbilt University; Edwin Piner, Texas State University; Darrin Pochan, University of Delaware; Francisco Quintana, Harvard University; Muhammad Rabnawaz, Michigan State University; P. Srirama Rao, Virginia Commonwealth University; Ramesh Raskar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Edward Ratner, University of Houston; Jeff Reed, Virginia Tech; Fan Ren, University of Florida; Catherine L. Riddle, Idaho National Laboratory; Guilermo Risatti, University of Connecticut; Carol Robinson, University of Oxford; Cliona Mary Rooney, Baylor College of Medicine; Alberto Sallao, Stanford University; Richard Samulski, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Gaurav N. Sant, University of

California, Los Angeles; Edward Sargent, Northwestern University; Charles Shoemaker, Tufts University; Daniel Siegwart, UT Southwestern Medical Center; Neal Sikka, The George Washington University; Blake Simmons, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Rajesh Singh, Morehouse School of Medicine; Anand Sivasubramaniam, The Pennsylvania State University; Yiqiao Song, Harvard University; Vivek Sujun, Oak Ridge National Laboratory; Zhaoli Sun, Johns Hopkins University; Nian Sun, Northeastern University; Yang Tao, University of Maryland, College Park; Ravi Thadhani, Emory University; Voon-Yew (Aaron) Thean, National University of Singapore; Ashley Parkinson Thrall, University of Notre Dame; Martin Thuo, North Carolina State University; Theo T. Tsotsis, University of Southern California; Francisco Valero-Cuevas, University of Southern California; Omid Veisheh, Rice University; Victor Veliadis, North Carolina State University; Uzi Vishkin, University of Maryland, College Park; Edmund Waller, Emory University; Angela Wandinger-Ness, The University of New Mexico; Guoan Wang, University of South Carolina; Grace J. Wang, Worcester Polytechnic Institute; Dean C. Webster, North Dakota State University; Di Wei, University of Cambridge; Marc Steven Weinberg, Draper Laboratory (CDSL), Ulrich Wiesner, Cornell University; Hugh E. Williams, RMIT University.

Peter Wipf, University of Pittsburgh; Gary E. Wnek, Case Western Reserve University; Jang-Yen Wu, Florida Atlantic University; Wei Wu, University of Southern California; Younan Xia, Georgia Institute of Technology; Longya Xu, The Ohio State University; Zhen Xu, University of Michigan; Mengsu (Michael) Yang, City University of Hong Kong; Yang Yang, University of California, Los Angeles; Jianhua Yu, University of California, Irvine; Carlos A. Zarate Jr., National Institutes of Health; Junshan Zhang, University of California, Davis; Zhongfei (Mark) Zhang, Binghamton University, State University of New York; Ji-Guang (Jason) Zhang, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; Min Zou, University of Arkansas.

#### HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF TEMPLE ISRAEL OF STOCKTON

##### HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 175th Anniversary of Temple Israel of Stockton, one of the oldest continuously operating Jewish congregations west of the Rocky Mountains. This milestone is a powerful testament to the endurance, faith, and contributions of Stockton's Jewish community since California's earliest days.

The Gold Rush of 1849 attracted several Jewish merchants to Stockton, who played a vital role in building Stockton's economic base, and in laying the foundations of both the city and the Jewish community. Founded in 1849 as Ryhim Ahoovim, a Jewish benevolent society, the congregation established a sacred foundation that has grown and thrived for generations. By 1851, Ryhim Ahoovim had acquired a cemetery for Jewish pioneers—still in use today—and the synagogue's first lot was gifted by Stockton's founder, Charles M.

Weber. Members of the congregation hauled lumber to the building site to complete the synagogue, which was dedicated in 1855.

Throughout its history, Temple Israel has reflected the resilience and leadership of Stockton's Jewish community—not only as a place of worship, but as a cornerstone of civic and cultural life. Under the guidance of devoted rabbis, the congregation grew in size and stature, creating a vibrant space for education, cultural programming, and social connection that continues to enrich Stockton to this day.

That spirit of compassion and responsibility was especially evident to the years leading up to World War II, when members of Temple Israel opened their arms to refugees fleeing Nazi Germany, and once again in the 1980's to Jews fleeing the Soviet Union. These new arrivals found safety and opportunity in Stockton, quickly becoming integral members of both the Jewish and broader Stockton communities. Their stories are a testament to the power of community and the enduring values that define Temple Israel's legacy.

Today, Temple Israel stands as a symbol of perseverance, compassion, and community. Temple Israel continues to nurture generations of Jewish life in Stockton, while honoring the vision and courage of those who laid its foundation 175 years ago.

I am proud to recognize Temple Israel of Stockton for its 175 years of spiritual guidance, community leadership, and enduring legacy. May it continue to inspire and uplift for generations to come.

#### HONORING RALPH VIGIL'S LIFE AND LEGACY

##### HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ralph Vigil's life and legacy. He lived a life of passion—passion for the protection of the water, the land, the ecosystems, and the community of our beautiful Pecos, New Mexico.

The first time I heard Ralph, he was talking about the importance of protecting our land as a place for everyone and everything, including our wildlife. He repeated the dicho, or Spanish saying:

“Un poquito para mi, un poquito para vos, un poquito para las criaturas de Dios” (“A little for me, a little for you, and a little for the creatures of God”)

as he spoke of how he farmed and left some of the bounties in the field.

Ralph was colorful and strong in his language when he asked me and others in leadership if we would stand with the people and the places we all loved. (You all are laughing because you can hear him now.) The lands we love don't fight for themselves. They need leaders like Ralph who understand our “herencia (heritage), cultura (culture), y futuro (future)”, to organize the parciales, organize the meetings, organize the hikes, and the advocacy. He was a tireless advocate for an array of conservation issues, from the Caja del Rio to our beloved acequias to protecting the Pecos watershed. There aren't many people in the Pecos Valley or in the conservation community who don't know the great Ralph Vigil

because if there was ever a problem to fix or knowledge to learn, he was the person to call.

New Mexico is blessed with a beautiful landscape. Ralph understood this better than anyone because there wasn't a day he wasn't recording footage or capturing photos of this beauty. His social media was sprinkled with beautiful sunsets and sunrises, clean flowing water, and the oasis of green that evokes awe in our desert landscape.

With his collaboration and leadership, some of the victories for our cultura, herencia y futuro include the moratorium on mineral development on state trust lands in the Pecos with Stephanie Garcia Richards, the two-year protection of the Pecos River Watershed from mining claims put in place by Secretary Haaland, and the inspiration he gave to leaders from Santa Fe to D.C.

Love is at its most powerful when it is unconditional when nothing is asked in return and setbacks and faults do not diminish the passion. Ralph loved New Mexico's lands and people unconditionally. Ralph was connected to the land and people of Northern New Mexico as if there were an umbilical cord that was never severed. He was connected to the land through his farming, his gentle care of acequias, and his protection of the watershed that in turn protected the water that is our lifeline. He embodied the definition of *querencia* (no translation—a place where one feels safe, happy, and strong, a place where they can truly be themselves).

He was a son, a father, a brother, an uncle and friend that everyone could look to for leadership and wisdom. Like so many, I cried when I learned of his passing.

I am honored to recognize the legacy that is Ralph Vigil. We are living through a historic moment where we need leaders like Ralph whose ability to transcend and translate is needed more than ever. His legacy will not only live on in his beloved rural communities but, today, also in the records of our great Nation—a Nation that Ralph made endlessly better during his incredible life.

#### HONORING THE LEGACY OF MADERA COUNTY SHERIFF JOHN ANDERSON

##### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Madera County Sheriff John Anderson. Born and raised in Williams, California, John enlisted in the United States Army directly out of high school and served four years in active duty with most of his service being based in West Germany and as an adviser in Laos.

After his honorary time served in the United States Army, John returned home and was working in a local feed mill for just a few months when he was approached, by the Police Chief of the City of Williams, to work a graveyard shift with the Williams City Police Department. This offer would be the start of a long and fulfilling career in law enforcement, later serving as a Deputy Sheriff in Stanislaus County.

By 1964, John joined the California Highway Patrol where he held significant roles over the

span of 35 years. Some of his assignments included being a special representative with the California State Legislature and United States Congress. He had received an educational assignment to achieve a master's degree in public administration for professional advancement and had initiated the "El Protector Program" which impacted traffic safety by assisting non-English speaking drivers, which went from statewide to national implementation. His achievements had awarded him many recognitions for his dedication and leadership which led to an appointment as Commander of the CHP Academy, Division Commander of the Northern Divisions and additionally the Central Divisions.

Elected as Madera County Sheriff in 1998, John held this position for 16 years until his retirement in 2014. Sheriff Anderson played a critical role in modernizing the Madera County Sheriffs Office by rewriting the department's policies and procedures, ensuring they met the highest contemporary law enforcement standards. His vision led to numerous technological upgrades, enhancing the department's ability to efficiently serve and protect Madera County residents.

Following his retirement as Sheriff, John was appointed by California State Senator Anthony Cannella to serve as the 12th District Law Enforcement Liaison and as a representative of the Madera and Fresno communities, a role he proudly fulfilled until 2018.

His legacy of service, innovation, and dedication will continue to inspire all who had the privilege of working with him. As we mourn his loss, let us celebrate his life and the indelible mark he left on our community after dedicating more than five decades to law enforcement and the protection of the communities.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in commemorating the legacy of Madera County Sheriff John Anderson. John is survived by his wife Kathleen Anderson, his two sons John and Charles Anderson, stepson Dylan Stone and stepdaughter Tricia Stone, along with eight grandchildren.

#### HONORING KATHLEEN GAGNE

#### HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible work of a lifelong leader in the Worcester community, Kathleen "Kathy" M. Gagne, as she ends her tenure as the Executive Director of Mechanics Hall.

Kathleen first arrived at Mechanics Hall in 1994 as the marketing communications and fundraising manager, eventually becoming Executive Director of the Hall in 2018. She has led Mechanics Hall's creative programming with recent initiatives including Many Voices: Mechanics Hall Youth Singers as well as a free choral program for 4th through 7th graders in Worcester, Massachusetts. She brought world-class performances to a wide range of audiences, fostering a love of the arts, and serving the rich diversity of cultures and communities in the region. During her tenure, the Hall commissioned three portraits of influential 19th century Black Americans and oversaw the installation of state-of-the-art lighting and sound upgrades in both performance halls.

Not only has Kathleen been a fabulous Executive Director at Mechanics Hall, but she has also been an important part of our vibrant Worcester community. Kathleen is a board member of the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, the WCIN radio community advisory board, and the American Antiquarian society. She is also a part of the Worcester Regional Research Bureau's Public Service Awards Committee and served as the board president for the Literacy Volunteers of Greater Worcester.

Beyond Worcester, Kathleen has been involved with so many initiatives to make not just her community, but the world a better place. She has been a freelance editor for clients that included the U.S. Geological Survey and the National Science Foundation. Kathleen has also served as the Director of the Vermont Institute for Teaching the Arts, doing writing workshops for middle schoolers and substitute teaching for secondary school students.

Mr. Speaker, Kathleen is an extraordinary leader and member of our community. And on behalf of both the United States Congress and the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I am proud to honor her incredible achievements and extend to her our best wishes for her continued success.

#### HONORING WILLIAM "BILL" HANNA

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William "Bill" Hanna, who has been selected as the recipient of the Napa Valley Grapegrowers Lifetime Achievement Award. This honor celebrates his decades of service as a steward of the land, a leader in sustainable agriculture, and a deeply respected member of our Napa Valley community.

Mr. Hanna is the great-grandson of legendary naturalist John Muir, whose legacy of environmental conservation shaped the Hanna family's enduring commitment to land stewardship and sustainability. He was born in Oakland, California, in 1945, and in 1950, his family moved to Napa, where they purchased a 100-acre ranch northwest of town. The property was originally planted with prunes and used for raising cattle, but in 1969, Mr. Hanna's father, John Hanna, began replanting the orchards with grapevines. After retiring in 1972, Mr. Hanna's father began farming full-time and laid the foundation for the family's future in viticulture.

Mr. Hanna graduated from the University of the Pacific in 1967 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and a minor in Geology. That same year, he began a 26-year career in the United States Air Force, where he served in roles including Nuclear Research Officer, Environmental Chemist, and Deputy of the Industrial Products Division. During his service, he completed advanced coursework in nuclear physics, electronics, and statistics, and graduated from the Air Command, Staff College, and the Air War College. He later pursued graduate studies at California State University, Sacramento.

In 1977, after transitioning from active-duty military service to the reserves, Mr. Hanna returned to Napa to join his father in managing the family vineyard. Together, Mr. Hanna and his father established Hanna Vineyards, Inc., which they operated together for two decades. In 2000, the family founded Muir-Hanna Vineyards and launched their first commercial wine. While the family has since retired the wine label, Muir-Hanna Vineyards continues to operate today, with Mr. Hanna serving as co-owner, growing and selling grapes to other producers.

Mr. Hanna's vineyard practices have long reflected a deep commitment to environmental responsibility. In the 1970's, his family eliminated insecticide use at their ranch, and by the 1980's, began adopting broader sustainable farming methods. In 2007, Mr. Hanna introduced organic practices across the vineyard's operations. These efforts, combined with cover cropping, composting vine prunings, and fostering wildlife habitat near irrigation channels, demonstrate his long-standing dedication to land stewardship as a grapegrower.

Mr. Hanna's commitment to the land is part of a broader family legacy in Napa Valley agriculture. Mr. Hanna's father, John Hanna, helped organize the Napa Valley Grapegrowers Association and played a key role in drafting language that shaped the Agricultural Preserve. That legacy continued through Mr. Hanna's son, Michael Hanna, who served as the winemaker for the family wine label and currently is the Vineyard Manager at Muir-Hanna Vineyards. Like his father and grandfather before him, Michael Hanna served as a board member of the Napa County Farm Bureau, cementing the Hanna family's agriculture legacy in our Napa Valley agriculture community.

In addition to his contributions to viticulture, Mr. Hanna has served our Napa Valley community through civic leadership. He is a past president and director of the Napa County Farm Bureau, where he helped shape local policy on land use, water, and natural resources. He also contributed to the development of ordinances protecting the Agricultural Preserve, refining winery definitions, and safeguarding environmental quality. Mr. Hanna also served as an advisor to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and spent 12 years on the ROP Agricultural Advisory Council. His local service also includes board positions with Napa County Farm Supply, the Napa Housing Foundation, and Jefferson Street Senior Housing. He currently chairs the Finance Committee at Napa First United Methodist Church.

Mr. Hanna is married to Claudia Hanna, and together they are the proud parents of Michael and Kristin. The Hanna family has long exemplified a life rooted in conservation, balance, and service to their community. From their passive-solar home to their shared love of hiking near Mono Lake, they continue to live out the environmental values passed down by their ancestor, John Muir.

Mr. Speaker, William Hanna's leadership in agriculture, conservation, and civic life reflects a lifetime of service grounded in science, tradition, and deep care for the land. It is fitting and proper that we recognize him today for receiving the Napa Valley Grapegrowers Lifetime Achievement Award.



RECOGNIZING PATRICIA  
SCHNEIDER

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Ms. Patricia Schneider has made to our community through her volunteerism with the Pregnancy & Family Life Center. Ms. Schneider is part of a team of selfless and dedicated women who have worked at the Center in Inverness for several years. Their roles include working each week in the food pantry and clothing room. Last year, 472 clients were served, and more than 65,000 pounds of food was distributed. These critical volunteers also ensure families receive essential items for their infants and young children to include: formula, diapers, pull ups, baby wipes and wash, as well as age specific clothing. In 2024, more than 44,000 diapers and 9,500 items of clothing were distributed. These volunteers have a 'can do' attitude no matter how large the challenge.

They also have tremendous teamwork. They sort through all donations, retain those appropriate for a pregnancy center and then share other serviceable items with community partners. Ms. Schneider also makes personal birthday cards for each client to help them feel connected. When volunteers are united in an important mission, it naturally fosters camaraderie which is great for anyone who works or volunteers at the Center. All of these women maintain a loving demeanor and greet each client with a warm smile and conversation (and sometimes a hug). The Center's clients feel welcomed and cared for because of the lived values of love, respect, compassion, and family centeredness that is regularly displayed by these dedicated volunteers. The benefit to the community is great and the impact far reaching.

It is clear that Patricia Schneider has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING JOURNEY BOLEJACK

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Journey Bolejack for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Journey has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Journey, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Journey's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wayne Carle Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Journey Bolejack on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

SUPPORTING THE FALUN GONG  
PRACTITIONERS

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Falun Gong practitioners and supporters in the District of Columbia and around the world who are working to end the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners.

As a former assistant legal director for the American Civil Liberties Union, constitutional lawyer and a lifelong human and civil rights advocate, I take this moment not only to speak out against the persecution of Falun Gong practitioners, but also to remember those who have died for their beliefs.

Falun Gong is a peaceful religion that teaches self-improvement through meditation based on slow movements and regimented breathing. For over two decades, Falun Gong practitioners have suffered from detention, torture and organ harvesting at the hands of the Chinese government.

We must fight to raise awareness of those persecuted in China who cannot raise awareness themselves. On May 5, 2025, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1540, the Falun Gong Protection Act, which I strongly supported. I will continue to work with colleagues in the House and Senate to pass this bill.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in solidarity with the many Falun Gong practitioners who fight for the freedom to speak and to practice the religion of their choice.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL WILLIAM G.  
SOTO

**HON. HERBERT C. CONAWAY, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career and service of Colonel William G. Soto, United States Air Force as he prepares to retire after an extraordinary twenty-four years of dedication to our Nation. Colonel Soto's legacy of service, most recently as Deputy Commander, 305th Air Mobility Wing, Joint Base McGuire Dix Lakehurst, New Jersey is a testament to his unwavering commitment to the security of the United States.

Colonel Soto received his commission in the Air Force in May 2001 after graduating from the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He went on to complete undergraduate pilot training in 2002 and has served as an aircraft commander, instructor pilot and evaluator pilot in multiple airframes. Colonel Soto has commanded several garrison and deployed squadrons, to include the 75th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, the 86th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, and the 65th Operations Support Squadron at Lajes Field, Portugal. He also served overseas in support of several combat, contingency, and support missions, and has combat experience in airlift, aerial refueling and operational support airlift.

Colonel Soto's staff appointments have spanned the operational, planning, policy, and diplomatic arenas. He previously served as Deputy Chief of the Iran, Iraq, and Syria Division within the Joint Staff J-5 where he developed policy options to inform U.S. government senior leaders, advance the President's policy priorities, and promote U.S. national security strategy interests. Other staff assignments included service as Deputy Chief of the Commander's Action Group for the Commander of U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa, and Aide-de-Camp to the Director of the U.S. Embassy Military Liaison to U.S. Forces in Afghanistan.

Colonel Soto retires as a command pilot with more than 3,800 flying hours, including 913 combat hours, and qualifications in the KC-135R/T, C-130J, C-20H, C-37A and KC-46 aircraft. Over Colonel Soto's distinguished career, he has earned numerous Joint and Air Force decorations including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, six Meritorious Service Medals, four Air Medals and an Aerial Achievement Medal.

Currently, as Deputy Commander, 305th Air Mobility Command, Colonel Soto is second in command of a strategic wing, comprised of nearly 2,700 joint personnel responsible for maintaining, supporting and operating a fleet of 24 KC-46 Pegasus and 14 C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, providing rapid global mobility for national security objectives, combat operations, contingencies and humanitarian relief efforts worldwide, through aerial refueling and airlift capabilities. The wing is also responsible for controlling two airfields, some of the busiest airspace in the Nation, and two of Air Mobility Command's aerial ports, ensuring uninterrupted flow of forces and material in support of ongoing global operations.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Colonel William G. Soto's exemplary service to the United States. His selfless dedication, exceptional leadership, and many contributions have left a lasting impact on our Nation's security. I would also like to extend my deepest appreciation to his wife, Brittany, and their children, Amelie and Gavin, for their sacrifices and unwavering support throughout Colonel Soto's distinguished career. The Nation owes a debt of gratitude to our veterans, service members, and their families who give so much to defend our freedom and way of life.

HONORING LUIS HERRERA  
CAMPINS ON THE CENTENNIAL  
OF HIS BIRTH

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Luis Herrera Campíns was born on May 4, 1925, in Acarigua, Venezuela.

Born into a middle-class family, Herrera Campíns was educated at a university in Caracas. Along with Rafael Caldera Rodríguez, he founded the Social Christian Party in 1946. This moderate party also known as the Christian Democrats, became the second-largest political party in Venezuela, after Democratic Action, in the decades following World War II.

In 1952, Herrera Campíns was arrested and sent into exile due to his activities against the

dictatorial regime of President Marcos Pérez Jiménez. He returned to Venezuela after the overthrow of Pérez in 1958 and was elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies, the lower house of parliament, in 1959. Successively reelected, he served as chairman of the Social Christian faction in parliament until his election to the Senate in 1973. He was also secretary-general of the Latin American Congress of Christian Democratic organizations from 1969 to 1977.

Herrera Campíns was nominated as his party's presidential candidate in 1977 and went on to win the presidential election in 1978. He took office when the economic boom that Venezuela had enjoyed since world oil prices had quadrupled in 1973 had begun to show serious defects. His administration is remembered for its lasting efforts to promote education, culture, and infrastructure development, and for championing Latin American unity and international cooperation—principles that are more relevant today than ever. Herrera Campíns died in Caracas on November 9, 2007.

This centennial is not only a moment to remember the life of a former President of Venezuela, but also a time to reflect on the principles of leadership, service, and civic responsibility that he so passionately embodied. His vision and values continue to resonate across generations and borders.

RECOGNIZING REMARKS BY  
UNITED STATES ARMY COLONEL  
JEFFERY R. McGEARY ON MEMO-  
RIAL DAY 2025

**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD, remarks given by United States Army Colonel Jeffrey R. McGeary at The Revolutionary War Soldiers Gravesite at Washington Crossing Historic Park on May 25, 2025 for Memorial Day:

A special thanks to the staff and friends of Washington Crossing Historic Park. Thank you, Mr. Alex Robb, for the invitation, and MAJ Garrison for your assistance. To our attendees, I see a lot of familiar faces in the audience, it is great to have you here. I truly appreciate this honor to stand before you all today. I'm a native of Bucks County, born and raised in Newtown (Council Rock High School). I joined the Army to serve my country, at the influence too of my Father who was a proud United States Navy veteran. I thought I would serve my six years and punch out, but here we are over 25 years later and still going strong. Humbled to be here.

There are plenty of other places you could be, but you choose to be here. I salute you.

This year is a special year, as we begin the 250th anniversary events around our fight for independence many years ago and the birth of our great Republic. It's also the 250th birthday of the United States Army!

Memorial Day is a day of national recognition to honor the military men and women who died in service to the United States of America during peacetime and war.

Over the span of 250 years, millions of our fellow citizens have raised their right hand and taken an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. As we re-

member those who fought and died for our country, we remember the Continental Army's battle cry, which is also our theme for the anniversary of our Army's founding "This we'll defend," reminds us that our purpose is clear, ONE MISSION: To fight and win the nation's wars.

We in uniform remain committed to honing our warfighting skills, enforcing standards and discipline, and living the values that have defined Western Civilization in this nation for the past 250 years. On Memorial Day, we reflect on our rich history and legacy of service, sacrifice and dedication. From the Revolutionary War to present-day overseas operations and defending our border right here at home, our service members have consistently demonstrated their resolve to defend freedom at home and abroad.

First observed after the Civil War, Memorial Day was initially called "Decoration Day" because families gathered to remember their loved ones by decorating gravesites with flowers or flags.

This tradition continues across America today. Every Memorial Day, the Soldiers from the Third U.S. Infantry Regiment—the Old Guard—place American flags at every grave marker in Arlington National Cemetery. In proclaiming that first Decoration Day in 1868, General John Logan, National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, wrote that we should not only remember those "who died in defense of their country," but also, "renew our pledge to aid and assist those whom they have left among us . . . the widows and orphans." This is so true and so important.

We continue to honor those left behind who paid a personal price for us and our Nation. I'm speaking of our Gold Star families.

Would all the Gold Star Family members in the audience please stand.

Allow me to express my appreciation to you on behalf of all those present today and on behalf of our Great Nation. We are humbled by your sacrifice, inspired by your resilience and grateful for your continued service to our communities.

Looking back the first people to die in the service of their country were fighting for what would become the United States of America. They were not the disciplined, professional Army and service members we have today. They were farmers, shopkeepers, teachers and blacksmiths. They all came together to fight for the right to govern themselves and to live free, and to determine their own destiny on God's green earth.

By 1775, the Revolution had been brewing for years. The first shot was fired in Massachusetts in July, and a month later, General George Washington was commissioned as Commander in Chief of the Army. The month after he received his commission, Washington expressed his concerns and frustrations . . .

He'd been at an Army camp in Cambridge for a week. He wrote ". . . we have but about 16,000 effective men in all this department, whereas, by the accounts which I received from even the first officers in command, I had no doubt of finding between 18,000 and twenty thousand 20,000; out of these, there are only 14,000 fit for duty." And getting an accurate count of soldiers wasn't his only problem.

He didn't have the firepower. He didn't have the logistics. He didn't have a command structure.

Yet, with his leadership and determination, he crafted an Army out of disparate militias, haphazard supplies and undisciplined freedom fighters. And with that Army, General Washington marched into battle, in places like Lexington and Concord, and Washington Crossing. In the winter of 1776, right here on these grounds, General Wash-

ington and his ragged Army had experienced setback after setback in the War for Independence. As the harsh Pennsylvania winter set in, the morale of the American troops was at an all-time low. A series of defeats had forced Washington's troops to retreat across New Jersey to Pennsylvania.

On Christmas Day 1776, he crossed right here, his men were freezing yet resilient and determined. They pushed on. And they pushed the British and the Hessians back, right here. They said no more to tyranny. No more allegiance to a Crown halfway around the world. We are patriots, we are Americans. And we will fight and win.

We won the War for Independence, ensuring that citizens today enjoy freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

By the end of the Revolution, at least 6,800 American soldiers had given their lives in battle to ensure those freedoms. 17,000 died of disease and nearly 12,000 died while prisoners of war. Over the next few years, more died from wounds sustained during the Revolution.

Many lived long lives with devastating wounds received in those early battles of our Republic.

On Memorial Day, as remember those who first served our country, we remember that, as the American Creed states, they gave their lives and their fortunes for the freedoms we enjoy today. We remember the service of all veterans, throughout the history of our great Nation, who have defended our Constitution and our country at all times, and from all who would threaten it.

I would like to ask all military veterans to rise as we thank you for your service and sacrifice to our Nation. You are my brothers and sisters, and you answered the call when your country needed you most.

I would now like all the veteran spouses and family members to please rise, you know the real sacrifice of a husband or a wife or a son or daughter deployed or overseas. The weeks and months and sometimes years without seeing your loved one, yet you maintain the home front and stand proudly behind your service member. Thank you. A quick special thanks to my wife Lauren, looking back we didn't anticipate this at the time, but we actually had to speed up our wedding—two months after we were married I was in Afghanistan. Army Strong, Army Wife!

From the Revolutionary War to present-day operations, our service members have consistently demonstrated their resolve to defend our sovereignty and freedom at home and abroad.

Our military also stands ready to assist in times of need, such as disaster relief and recovery. We are focused on ensuring that our Armed Forces remain the world's most combat-credible fighting force capable of maintaining peace through strength. One mission: If called upon, to fight and win our nation's wars.

This Memorial Day, remember the common bond we have with the Soldiers and service members who have gone before us, who selflessly served our country and paid the ultimate sacrifice.

We are here today because words like faith, family, country, patriotism, sovereignty and freedom . . . mean something. We are here because as Americans we believe the unalienable—non-negotiable—rights granted to each and every one of us in our founding documents will endure forever in this land of the free and home of the brave.

Tomorrow, on Memorial Day, let us honor and remember our Nation's battlefield heroes. We must remember what they gave for us and honor them this day, and always.

God bless each of you, and God bless our great country—the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING IAM DISTRICT 751'S  
NEW EVERETT UNION HALL

**HON. RICK LARSEN**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) District 751 on the opening of the new Everett Union Hall.

The new union hall replaces a previous hall that was dedicated in 1996 and provided space for meetings, town halls, solidarity barbecues, celebrations and other union business.

While the old hall served IAM for nearly 30 years, the building was not suitable to meet the needs of the nearly 16,000 IAM members working at Boeing's Everett facility. In particular, the old hall did not have the capacity to support training for new and future aerospace workers. The new Everett Union Hall will house business representatives, support staff, classrooms, shops, labs and a full training area that will allow IAM to offer certification programs and training in conjunction with Boeing and other organizations.

One of the hardest things in high tech industries is finding a workforce that has the skills and training required to do the work.

This new hall will allow the union to provide hands-on training for generations of aerospace workers, allowing current workers to learn new skills and providing an opportunity for future aerospace workers to get the training they need to find family-wage aerospace manufacturing jobs.

This new union hall is not just a building—it is an investment that will benefit the entire region by building the workforce in Washington state and incentivizing aerospace businesses to keep their work in the region.

Congratulations to IAM, and I look forward to visiting the new hall.

HONORING LATINOS UNITED OF  
LAKE COUNTY (LULC)

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Latinos United of Lake County (LULC) as they celebrate their 30th Annual Cinco de Mayo Festival. This celebration not only honors cultural heritage but also highlights the LULC's three decades of outstanding service to the Latino community in Lake County.

Founded as a grassroots, volunteer-led organization, Latinos United of Lake County has long served as a cornerstone of leadership and support within our region's Latino community. For thirty years, LULC has remained committed to improving the lives of our Lake County's Latino community by promoting education, health, and cultural connection in our area. Its mission includes providing scholarships to local Latino students pursuing or continuing their higher education, organizing cultural events celebrating and preserving Latino heritage, and offering resources supporting the health and well-being of individuals in need.

In addition to its longstanding scholarship program, LULC is involved in broader efforts to support public health, community awareness, and resource accessibility. The organization plays a key role in health-related outreach through its participation in the Climate Health Adaptation and Resilience Mobilization (CHARM) project, where it has been a part of the project's working group and has supported the project's outreach to Spanish-speakers. LULC also uses its Facebook social media page to share countywide news, promote mutual aid efforts such as food and clothing drives, and connect residents with vital services. Furthermore, the organization regularly collaborates with other local partners, including Lake County Tribal Health and Hospice Services of Lake County, and the Lake County Office of Education, to host community events and educational forums.

LULC's Cinco de Mayo Festival, now in its 30th year, is not only a major fundraising event for the scholarship program but also a vibrant celebration of culture and community. The event annually brings together families, local agencies, performers, vendors, and neighbors from all backgrounds in a shared space that highlights Lake County's rich cultural diversity. The festival serves as a reminder of the strength that comes from unity, inclusivity, and honoring the many traditions that shape our region.

The success of this year's event, and the continued strength of the organization, would not be possible without the leadership of its current board: Angela Cuellar-Marroquin, President; Roman Arroyo, Vice-President; Ana Santana, Secretary; Maggie Gonzalez, Treasurer; and Anahy Olmedo, Public Relations Chair. Their dedication ensures that Latinos United of Lake County continues to grow and evolve while staying true to its founding purpose.

Mr. Speaker, the story of Latinos United of Lake County is one of resilience, generosity, and community-building. By investing in education, LULC strengthens not only individual lives but the fabric of our entire community, affirming that when we uplift one another, we all rise together. It is fitting and proper that we recognize their 30 years of impact and honor their ongoing contributions to the district and the state.

RECOGNIZING MIKE LASTRA

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Mr. Mike Lastra has made to our community in the aftermath of Hurricane Milton. In addition to providing countless hours of direct support to neighbors and flood victims, he helped coordinate the collection and distribution of emergency supplies, meals and donated services to help those who needed help. A truly selfless leader, Mr. Lastra was a strong advocate for bringing in government and non-profit resources to aid in the recovery process.

It is clear Mike Lastra has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING JULISSA MARTINEZ

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Julissa Martinez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Julissa has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Julissa, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Julissa's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wheat Ridge High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Julissa Martinez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE CU CENTER FOR  
COMBAT AND BATTLEFIELD RESEARCH AND THE MARCUS INSTITUTE FOR BRAIN HEALTH

**HON. GABE EVANS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. EVANS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Center for Combat and Battlefield Research (COMBAT) and the Marcus Institute for Brain Health (MIBH) at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado. I honor their commitment to improving the health of our military, veterans, and first responders.

The MIBH is a global leader in brain injury research and health care delivery, providing individualized, innovative brain health care for our nation's heroes. To this date, MIBH has served more than 1,200 of our nation's heroes, including over 1,000 veterans, establishing a course of treatment for physical, emotional, and cognitive changes that can accompany trauma to the head for these individuals. In 2025, the MIBH is expected to serve 300 patients, including active-duty military and first responders.

Since its founding in 2019, the CU COMBAT Center has grown into the largest military medicine-focused research center, charged with solving our warfighters' toughest medical challenges through high-impact research, education, and innovation. Due to their work, the military has updated 14 clinical practice guidelines, including defining optimal oxygen delivery targets. It is continuing to lead efforts in clinical trials to identify, test, and evaluate autonomous medical devices for prehospital use, such as autonomous oxygen titration, to improve military medical capability and capacity. Not only does the COMBAT Center drive innovation to improve outcomes following physical injury and trauma, but it is also a national leader in advancing psychological health and readiness. COMBAT investigators have contributed to federal and DOD policy, instructions, and programs to reduce suicide among service members, first responders, and their families.

As a veteran and former first responder, I know that the research, innovation, and clinical work that the COMBAT Center and MIBH conduct are critical for caring for veterans, active-duty military personnel, and first responders who risk their lives daily for their communities. I am proud to honor the care and medical research being led by the CU COMBAT Center and MIBH and thank them for their service to Colorado and our Nation.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS FRESNO MEDICAL CENTER

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of the Veterans Affairs Fresno Medical Center and their commitment to providing quality health care and services to Central Valley Veterans.

The official dedication ceremony for the Fresno Veterans Hospital was held on March 19, 1950. This marked the establishment of VA Central California Health Care System's (VACCHCS) primary facility on an 18.5-acre lot in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley.

With the vision to empower veterans through partnership, the hospital partnered with the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Medical School in 1975 to enhance clinical studies and medical training opportunities, this partnership still exists today. Several construction projects were completed from 1981 to 1982 including a new outpatient clinic, 60-bed Geriatric and Extended Care Unit, Milo E. Rowell Auditorium, and Liberty and Education buildings. These new buildings housed numerous new and improved services such as primary care, community development and civic engagement, research and education services, and the Women's Health Program.

In 2008, the Women's Health Clinic moved into their new office on the 4th floor where they continue to support the health and dignity of female veterans. Two years later, the Research and Development Department was established to develop VA scientists and innovations to advance health care practices in hospitals across the Nation. The Fresno hospital's mental health services and capacity were greatly expanded through the completion of the Valor, Freedom, and Independence buildings. Physical medicine, rehabilitation, and prosthetics services were also upgraded in this expansion. Most recently, the Community Living Center (CLC) was built, providing 60 additional beds for veterans that require long-term nursing and rehabilitative care.

Today, more than 41,000 veterans choose to receive their healthcare from the VA Fresno Medical Center. The biggest contributors to the hospital's sustained success are the staff and volunteers dedicated to improving the lives of veterans and their families. They are the reasons the VA Fresno Medical Center has been a staple of the veteran community and the Central Valley for 75 years and counting.

Mr. Speaker, for the past 20 years, I've had the honor of representing the Fresno VA Medical Center in Congress, and it has been a privilege to witness the continued success of

the hospital over the years. I proudly invite my esteemed colleagues to join me to celebrate VA Fresno Medical Center's legacy of quality care. May we continue to support their service to Central Valley Veterans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
DELEGATE BARNIE DAY

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of a colleague and member of the Virginia House of Delegates, Delegate Bernie Day, who passed away on May 12th at the age of 72.

Born in 1952, Delegate Day grew up in North Carolina. An early part of his character development came in high school when Delegate Day started a job working in an aluminum factory for \$1.85 per hour.

After finishing school at the University of North Carolina in 1975, Delegate Day looked for opportunities in journalism. He worked for small newspaper organizations in North Carolina and Kansas City. During this time, he developed a great journalistic acumen.

Southwest Virginia soon became home to Delegate Day and his wife, Debbie. They first moved to Floyd County before settling in Patrick County.

It was in Patrick County where Mr. Day blossomed as a local official and community leader. As county administrator, he strived for the best interests of Patrick County and worked to improve his community.

His service to Patrick County included stints with critical institutions like the First Bank of Stuart Board of Directors, Tri-Area Health Clinic and the Patrick County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

The people of Patrick County appreciated and praised Mr. Day for his work on their behalf. He earned such high marks that they elected him to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1997.

I served in the state legislature alongside Delegate Day during his two terms in office. He showcased incredible oratory skills and passionate advocacy for rural Virginia. Members of both parties appreciated his storytelling.

Delegate Day's stories often featured "Cornbread", a fictional character whose endeavors served as the building blocks of Day's arguments on legislation.

Given his exceptional verbal skills and mastery of the English language, one Virginia political commentator called him "Virginia's Mark Twain."

The legacy of Delegate Day is to be commended and celebrated by rural Virginians. His life of honorable service and love for helping others made Delegate Day an outstanding figure that future community leaders can look to as inspiration.

HONORING DR. ROSE M.Z. GOWEN  
FOR SIXTEEN YEARS OF PUBLIC  
SERVICE

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Rose M.Z. Gowen for 16 noble years of public service as City Commissioner At-Large "B" for the City of Brownsville, Texas.

Dr. Gowen was elected in 2009 and has served in office since then. In her time as City Commissioner, she has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to public health and improving the quality of life for all the residents of Brownsville.

Dr. Gowen's dedication to promoting healthy lifestyles in our community has not gone unnoticed. Her work has led to many programs which have proven beneficial to the health and wellbeing of our community. These programs include the establishment of the Brownville Farmers' Market and the CycloBia event, which provide nutritious food and exercise through cycling, respectively.

In addition, Dr. Gowen also spearheaded the RGV Challenge, an annual 12-week health initiative which has encouraged massive community change in health and wellness. This in addition to her leadership in advocating for sustainable infrastructure such as the Carcara Trails, which is nearly 430 miles of outdoor trails connecting communities across South Texas.

All these projects highlight Dr. Gowen's loyal commitment to the betterment of our community. Brownsville is lucky to have public servants who display this level of dedication and drive to create positive change in our region. I am proud to represent communities like Brownsville and the wonderful public servants who continue to make it a better place to live.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Dr. Rose Gowen for celebrating 16 years of public service.

HONORING KIARA D. BURRELL'S  
SERVICE TO THE COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, as Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, I rise to honor Ms. Kiara D. Burrell upon the conclusion of her service to the committee as a detailee from the U.S. Secret Service.

Over the course of her 15-year career with the Secret Service, Ms. Burrell has distinguished herself as a dedicated public servant and a strategic leader. Ms. Burrell has led long-term fraud investigations and protective operations in support of dignitaries and major public events. Ms. Burrell has consistently been selected above her peers to coordinate domestic and international visits for several Presidents of the United States and their families. She also served as the Lead Advance Agent for the longest domestic visit involving

several protectees in Secret Service history. More, Ms. Burrell's efforts to improve recruitment of Secret Service agents and her service as a mentor to newer agents demonstrate her commitment to keeping America safe from threats to our national security and to our Nation's leaders.

Since joining the committee over 18 months ago, Ms. Burrell has made valuable contributions to our work by sharing her considerable expertise. She has been a reliable resource to committee staff and significantly advanced our legislative and oversight efforts. During her tenure on the committee, Ms. Burrell played a pivotal role in the preparation for hearings on organized retail crime and transnational repression. Additionally, Ms. Burrell assisted in the development of a package of three bipartisan bills that responded to the testimony received during a Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence hearing.

Throughout her time on the committee, Ms. Burrell has displayed a high degree of professionalism and personal commitment to providing Members of Congress and staff valuable insight and information. Ms. Burrell has demonstrated commendable dedication, enthusiasm, and good humor, which has helped all of us enormously.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I thank Ms. Burrell for her service to the committee and our country, and I wish her the very best as she returns to the Secret Service.

#### HONORING THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF DAVIS (UUCD)

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis (UUCD) on its 70th anniversary and to commend its unwavering dedication to fostering an inclusive, compassionate, and justice-oriented community. Since its inception in 1954, UUCD has been a beacon of progressive values and community engagement in our Davis community.

Founded by a group of liberal-minded parents seeking meaningful religious education for their children, UUCD was chartered as a Unitarian Fellowship in 1958 and became a Unitarian Church in 1962. Over the years, the congregation has grown to over 300 members, reflecting its welcoming and inclusive ethos. The church's governance reflects its democratic principles, with a seven-member Board of Trustees overseeing operations and legal responsibilities. This structure ensures that UUCD remains responsive to the needs and aspirations of its congregation. The church embraces individuals from diverse faith backgrounds, including Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Humanism, Judaism, Islam, Paganism, atheism, and agnosticism, exemplifying the church's belief that "we need not think alike to love alike."

UUCD's commitment to social justice is deeply embedded in its identity. The church has a legacy of "deeds not creeds," actively engaging in service, projects, educational initiatives, and efforts to foster sustainable living and international understanding. This dedica-

tion is evident through various church teams and groups, such as the Climate Crisis Action Team and the Uniting for Racial Justice Team, which work tirelessly to address pressing societal issues in our community.

In 2003, UUCD was certified as a "Welcoming Congregation" by the Unitarian Universalist Association, recognizing its proactive efforts to include LGBTQ+ individuals. The church's commitment to environmental stewardship led to its designation as a Green Sanctuary in 2006, following a comprehensive initiative to integrate sustainable practices and environmental justice into the church community. In 2017, UUCD declared itself a sanctuary congregation standing in solidarity with immigrant and undocumented individuals.

For seven decades the Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis has exemplified the values of inclusivity, social justice, and environmental responsibility. Its unwavering dedication to creating a diverse and compassionate community serves as an inspiration to all.

Mr. Speaker, it is both fitting and proper that we recognize and celebrate the Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis for its 70 years of invaluable contributions to the community and its steadfast commitment to fostering a more just and inclusive society.

#### RECOGNIZING MIKE PHILLIPS

#### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Mr. Mike Phillips has made to our community in the aftermath of Hurricane Milton. In addition to providing countless hours of direct support to neighbors and flood victims, he helped coordinate the collection and distribution of emergency supplies, meals and donated services to help those who needed help. A truly selfless leader, Mr. Phillips was a strong advocate for bringing in government and non-profit resources to aid in the recovery process.

It is clear Mike Phillips has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

#### RECOGNIZING KAI WEISS

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kai Weiss for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Kai has overcome many challenges along his journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Kai, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Kai's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Three Creeks K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Kai Weiss on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

#### RECOGNIZING CHIEF BRIAN THOLEN ON HIS CAREER AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND SERVICE TO MINNESOTA

#### HON. KELLY MORRISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. MORRISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Chief Brian Tholen for his distinguished career in law enforcement and his lifelong commitment to serving the people of Minnesota through education, volunteerism, and public safety advocacy.

For over 25 years, Chief Tholen served with dedication and integrity as a police officer for the City of Edina. He then continued his service as Chief of Police for the South Lake Minnetonka Police Department for three and a half years, leading with courage and professionalism.

A graduate of the University of St. Thomas and the 275th class of the FBI National Academy, Chief Tholen exemplified Minnesotan excellence throughout his law enforcement career. His tenure included a decade in the patrol division, where he served as a field training officer, a defensive tactics instructor, and a member of the Southwest Metro SWAT Team Consortium.

In the past 12 years, Chief Tholen has worked to train officers, paramedics, firefighters, and civilians across the metro area in active shooter response protocol. Through this work, he has emphasized the importance of awareness, prevention, and survival, equipping individuals and businesses with life-saving tools and strategies.

Chief Tholen's service-oriented mindset was shaped early in life. Raised in a family-owned plumbing business, he learned the values of hard work and responsibility by going on service calls with his father as a teenager. He carried that ethic into every aspect of his public service career.

Chief Tholen has retired to Shorewood with his wife of 23 years, Lauren. He is an active member of the Excelsior Morning Rotary and enjoys boating, hunting, traveling, and spending time outdoors with Lauren and their Border Collie, Ike.

On behalf of myself and the Minnesotans who have benefited from his decades of leadership and service, I offer my sincere gratitude to Chief Brian Tholen—and I wish him many more good hikes with Lauren and Ike.

#### CELEBRATING ARIANA LEON: A CHAMPION FOR LEADERSHIP

#### HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the outstanding contributions of Ms. Ariana Leon, a compassionate leader, dedicated coach, and tireless advocate for authentic leadership. As a Congressional

Excellence Partner, Ariana has played a vital role in developing the leadership capacity of Members and teams here in the U.S. House of Representatives. Her guidance has helped create cultures grounded in authenticity, resilience, and service.

With over 25 years of experience in management, cross-cultural education, and international development, Ariana has helped countless individuals and organizations communicate more effectively, lead more intentionally, and bring clarity and inclusivity to their missions. Her passion for empowering others is matched only by her skill in creating environments where diverse perspectives are not only welcomed but celebrated.

Ms. Leon's background includes a Master's in International Affairs, certification as a Co-Active Professional Coach, and recognition from the International Coaching Federation. But beyond her impressive credentials, it is her human touch, her ability to truly listen, connect, and guide, that sets her apart.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to Ariana Leon for her service as a leadership coach. Her work has made a lasting impact on me and the people she has coached and the institutions she has strengthened, including in this very Congress. I thank Ariana, for reminding us that leadership is about presence, coinage, and compassion.

She inspires all who strive to lead with compassion and purpose. From the bottom of my heart, I thank her.

#### RECOGNIZING THE ZETA RHO OMEGA CHAPTER OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC

#### HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the Zeta Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA) on its 70th Anniversary.

Founded on April 16, 1955, the Zeta Rho Omega chapter is the oldest and largest chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in Broward County. The chartering of the Fort Lauderdale chapter began with the vision of Willard Lamar and 14 young women. This aspiring group organized for approximately one year, locating members and completing the necessary requirements to become an established chapter.

Charter Members included: Gladys Cohen, Sylvia Epps, Jean Everett, Parthenia Hamm, Virginia Hamm, Hazel Hankerson, Daphne Harrison, Cecelia Hayes, Eula Mosby, Betty Smith, Millicent Sworn, Gloria Talbot, Albertha Latimer, and Willard Lamar, the first chapter president.

Zeta Rho Omega Chapter continues to be an active and integral part of the Ft. Lauderdale community and has received many awards and recognitions for its youth leadership programs, health fairs, and volunteer services, voter registration drives, and scholarships. Zeta Rho Omega Chapter will always strive to exhibit excellence in community service by providing "Service to all Mankind."

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is an international service organization founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington,

D.C. in 1908. It is the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African American college-educated women, and service and sisterhood have been the cornerstone of AKA since its founding.

Alpha Kappa Alpha is comprised of more than 360,000 initiated members in graduate and undergraduate chapters located in 12 nations and territories including the United States, Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, United Arab Emirates, Germany, Japan, Liberia, Nigeria, South Korea, South Africa and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Led by International President & CEO Danette Anthony Reed of Dallas, Texas, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, often is hailed as "America's premier Greek-lettered organization for African American women."

#### HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MECKLENBURG DECLARATION

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 250th anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration, or what we call the Meck Dec, that took place on May 20, 2025.

A pivotal moment in the history of both the United States and North Carolina, when brave North Carolinians—united by their common pursuit of freedom—became the very first Americans to declare independence from the British. The Mecklenburg Declaration is the earliest known document to formally declare independence and paved the way for the establishment of the United States and our great democracy. Signed on May 20, 1775, the Mecklenburg Declaration marked one of North Carolina's most consequential actions during the Revolutionary period.

The history of the Mecklenburg Declaration not only prompted independence for our entire nation but showed the passion of the citizens of our state. This passion led British Commander General Cornwallis to describe Charlotte as "a hornet's nest of rebellion." After American victories at the battles of Lexington and Concord, Mecklenburg delegates gathered to draft the document severing ties with the British Crown. In the same spirit, our community continues to stand for liberty, justice and freedom.

Sadly, all that has survived are copies based on oral recollections from some of the original delegates after an 1800 fire. Despite the physical paper's destruction, our great state commemorates this on our flag and through celebrations every year.

I am proud of our heritage and our forefathers' stand for freedom I will always strive to represent our state with the same passion as those leaders so long ago.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 250th anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration that took place on May 20, to honor the Mecklenburg Declaration and its historical anniversary for both the United States and the great state of North Carolina.

I welcome all of my colleagues to join us in celebration of 250 years of freedom, thanks to the great North Carolinians who risked it all.

#### HONORING THE LEGACY OF THE VISALIA RAWHIDE

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of the Visalia Rawhide in commemoration of their 80th Professional Minor League Season.

The historical heritage of baseball in Visalia begins in the early days of 1873. The newly organized Empire Club represented Visalia and played their first baseball game against Bakersfield's team, The Two Orphans.

This historic game was played on the school playground of Visalia Normal School located at Willis and Acequia Streets, which was enriched with the sounds of Bakerfield's brass band to sweeten the occasion. Although the first game ended in the Empire Club's first loss, the comradery of baseball sparked enthusiasm within the City of Visalia, which led them to continue the sport for more than 100 years after.

The fever of baseball had spread like wildfire by 1899 which led to the San Joaquin Valley Baseball League being formed. It was operated independently and contained city group members such as Visalia, Bakersfield, Hanford, Merced, Selma, Porterville and Tulare. The City of Fresno joined in 1910, but the baseball league was dismembered by 1911 to become individual minor league teams.

The Visalia Empire Club had gone through a time of transition from a Class D Minor League Baseball Team to Class C by 1946. Eventually the change from Class C to Class A was instituted by 1975, Class A to Class A-Advanced by 1990 and eventually entered the Single-A class in 2021.

The minor league baseball team had gone through nine name changes, aligning with their major league affiliations. By 2009, the team had been rebranded as the Visalia Rawhide and would maintain this name until present day. Playing under the Major League affiliate, the Arizona Diamondbacks, the Visalia Rawhide name had quickly become popular throughout the community. It is believed to have secured the professional baseball team's home in Visalia, California where they had played their games at Valley Strong Ballpark since inception in 1946.

Being the only professional sports team in Tulare and King's County, Visalia Rawhide paid tribute to the vast agricultural industry in the area. The decision to elect a cow as the official team mascot created the fan favorite cheer that is symbolized with the glorious ringing of a cowbell.

#### HONORING THE ROTARY CLUB OF LAKEPORT, CALIFORNIA

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rotary Club of Lakeport and congratulate them on their centennial celebrations. For one hundred years, the club has exemplified the Rotary motto of



"Service Above Self," carrying out thousands of local and international service projects and strengthening our Lakeport community and beyond.

The Rotary Club of Lakeport was founded in 1925 after the Oakland Rotary Club sponsored its creation. Today, the club stands as one of more than 46,000 Rotary Clubs worldwide, with Rotary International encompassing over 1.2 million members of all races, colors, and creeds. The Lakeport club is composed of a diverse membership that includes business owners, religious leaders, attorneys, judges, educators, and other community leaders. The club also sponsored the creation of the Clearlake and Kelseyville Sunrise Rotary Clubs, showcasing its commitment to the development of our Lake County community.

Over the years, the club has made a lasting impact in our region through numerous initiatives. Its annual community Easter Egg Hunt, first held in 1925, remains their longest-standing event and will mark its 99th occurrence this year. Members also helped construct the bleachers for Clear Lake High School's football stadium, enhanced amenities at Westside Community Park, and restored the historic Lakeport Curfew Bell, which now stands in the newly completed Xabatin Lakeside Park. The club has also completed countless beautification projects in our area and helped found the Lake Area Rotary Club Association (LARCA), which provides vital disaster relief to victims of wildfires and other natural disasters in our Lake County.

The club has also generously supported healthcare institutions. It has donated medical equipment, refrigeration units and TV's to Lakeside Community Hospital and created a Hospice Memory Garden in honor of those who have passed. Their commitment to service includes the creation of a community garden, a medical equipment Lending Library, and the construction of restrooms and showers at the Lake Berryessa Boy Scout Camp. The club has also funded playgrounds for our local Safe House and a teen parenting facility and has maintained the Pearl Harbor Mast to honor the many veterans in our community.

Beyond local work, the Rotary Club of Lakeport has made notable contributions to international causes. Members have hosted numerous foreign exchange students and spearheaded projects across the globe, which include delivering clean water, constructing playgrounds and providing medical services to those in need. They have raised thousands of dollars to support Rotary International's mission to eradicate polio, with members even traveling village to village across the African continent to administer vaccines. Additionally, the club has shipped 100 hospital beds to Haiti, sent two tons of gardening tools to various countries, and supported humanitarian efforts in South Korea through the Lakeport Friendship Center. The club also formed a sister club in Loreto, Mexico, where it has helped build a children's playground, construct a Red Cross building, and have donated an ambulance to the area. Members have also participated in RotoPlast, offering cleft palate surgeries, and supported school infrastructure projects in Mexican orphanages.

Mr. Speaker, the Rotary Club of Lakeport's century of service is a powerful example of community dedication, international outreach, and compassion in action. It is fitting and proper that we recognize and honor their 100th anniversary here today.

#### RECOGNIZING PATRICIA FURLONG

#### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Ms. Patricia Furlong has made to our community through her volunteerism with the Pregnancy & Family Life Center. Ms. Furlong is part of a team of selfless and dedicated women who have worked at the Center in Inverness for several years. Their roles include working each week in the food pantry and clothing room. Last year, 472 clients were served, and more than 65,000 pounds of food was distributed. These critical volunteers also ensure families receive essential items for their infants and young children to include: formula, diapers, pull ups, baby wipes and wash, as well as age specific clothing. In 2024, more than 44,000 diapers and 9,500 items of clothing were distributed. These volunteers have a 'can do' attitude no matter how large the challenge.

They also have tremendous teamwork. They sort through all donations, retain those appropriate for a pregnancy center and then share other serviceable items with community partners. Ms. Furlong also visits the Center each weekend when the facility is closed to check the donation box and bring donated items inside to ensure they reach the intended recipients. When volunteers are united in an important mission, it naturally fosters camaraderie which is great for anyone who works or volunteers at the Center. All of these women maintain a loving demeanor and greet each client with a warm smile and conversation (and sometimes a hug). The Center's clients feel welcomed and cared for because of the lived values of love, respect, compassion, and family centeredness that is regularly displayed by these dedicated volunteers. The benefit to the community is great and the impact far reaching.

It is clear that Patricia Furlong has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

#### RECOGNIZING ALYSSA SAYERS

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alyssa Sayers for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Alyssa has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Alyssa, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Alyssa's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Three Creeks K-8 and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Alyssa Sayers on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JAMES E. "RED WARRIOR" RAWLINGS, R. PH., MPH

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with the heaviest of hearts that I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of an outstanding community leader and my dear friend, James E. "Red Warrior" Rawlings, who we lost this week. Over the course of his life, Jim was many things to many people, but at his core, he was a loving family man, a fearless advocate, and a dedicated member of the New Haven community. There are many who talk about visionary leadership and commitment to service. Jim Rawlings was the embodiment of these ideals, dedicating a lifetime to public health and the betterment of our community.

Jim came to New Haven via Providence, Rhode Island where he grew up. After attending Yale University where he earned his Master's in Public Health, Jim began what would be a 35-year distinguished career at Yale New Haven Hospital. He was dedicated to improving the quality of care people received, particularly those in marginalized communities. Jim brought an innovative and creative mind to the hospital. He pioneered Connecticut's first hospital based adult AIDS and Sickle Cell programs, receiving national recognition, as well as overseeing the administrative operations of critical departments like the emergency department, laboratory medicine, and medical/surgical units. When Jim retired, he did so as the hospital's first African American Assistant Vice President and Executive Director of Community Health.

Jim was not only a leader in public health, but in the community as well. Jim served four terms as President of the Greater New Haven branch of the NAACP during which time he modernized the organization and elevated its community impact. His steadfast leadership allowed the organization to grow its potential and its members to make meaningful and transformative contributions to every facet of the New Haven community. Jim was also a respected member of the Connecticut State NAACP, where he served as Health Chair for more than two decades, and at the national level where he served as a Trustee. In all of these roles, Jim gave voice to the multitude of challenges faced by the African American community while also providing a roadmap to overcome those obstacles. He was never one to identify a problem without also pointing to a potential resolution. Though Jim stepped down from his role as President of the Greater New Haven NAACP in 2014, he remained engaged and involved with the organization until his last day. Jim was also well-known for his dedication to conserving and celebrating Native American culture. As an elder of the Seaconke Wampanoag Tribe, based in Massachusetts, he dedicated countless hours to ensure that the traditions and teachings of his tribe would be preserved for new generations to learn, under stand, and appreciate.

Though Jim was passionate about many things throughout his life, Sickle Cell Disease may have been his greatest. After his retirement from Yale New Haven Hospital, he served as President and CEO of the Sickle

Cell Disease Association of America, CT Chapter (SCDAA.CT). It was here that he founded Michelle's House, the first Sickle Cell Community Center in the Northeast, and championed academic support for students living with Sickle Cell Disease. Jim spearheaded outreach programs for individuals unaware of their SCD and Sickle Cell Trait status. He also advocated for and successfully achieved a partnership with CVS Health to advance equity in healthcare for the Sickle Cell community. It was, in fact, only a few months ago that I met with Jim to discuss his latest project, a Sickle Cell van which would provide a mobile operation to bring testing, counseling, and other services to those who would not otherwise have access to such care. Jim believed this effort could significantly enhance early detection and outreach to those affected by SCD, enabling individuals with the Sickle Cell trait to make more informed decisions and ultimately preventing more children from being born with Sickle Cell Disease. It is my hope that we will one day see that vision come to fruition.

In his obituary, Jim was described as "a man of unwavering purpose, humility, and compassion." I cannot think of a more fitting illustration of his character—of his soul. With his trademark Stetson and wonderful bolo ties, James E. "Red Warrior" Rawlings was a force of nature who left an indelible mark on our community and the many lives he touched. He will be missed by all those fortunate enough to have known him and his loss will be deeply felt by all those who called him friend as I was honored to do. My deepest condolences to his wife, Jennifer; sons Devol "Skip" Joyner, Andre Joyner, James "Jimmy" Rawlings and Jason Rawlings, and daughters Julie Rawlings-Dias and Jennifer Rawlings, as well as his eight beloved grandchildren Andre, Isaiah, Brooke, Miles, Maya, Dyami, Jaylyn and Bentley.

NEWSLETTER FROM  
CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS

**HON. CHUCK EDWARDS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following newsletter to give an update to my constituents on the budget reconciliation process, reforming our education system, and bills that have been introduced:

DEAR FRIEND,

Congress is working through a budget reconciliation process to:

Keep taxes low for families and small businesses

Strengthen our borders

Bolster our economy

Support domestic energy production

Make the federal government more effective and efficient for the American people

As a member of the House Budget Committee, I helped craft a budget resolution that is serving as the framework to accomplish an agenda that puts America First.

Now that this budget resolution has passed out of the House, it is up to the Senate to move it forward so that we can deliver on the priorities that an overwhelming number of Americans have been asking for.

We are at a pivotal moment in which we can pave the way to implement significant changes in policies to get our nation back on

track, and I will continue to support opportunities to make life better for Western North Carolinians.

Strengthening and protecting our education systems:

President Trump took a major step forward in reforming our education system by signing an executive order to shut down the Department of Education.

This order paves the way for education authorities to finally be back in the hands of the states and parents who know what their students need to succeed best.

The historically high tax dollars funding the department have not paid off, with repeatedly low test scores among students, and it's time that we take a hard look at the root causes that are preventing students from achieving their potential.

The House is also working to protect our education system with the passage of the Defending Education Transparency and Ending Rogue Regimes Engaging in Nefarious Transactions Act (DETERRENT Act). I voted for this bill to strengthen oversight and disclosure requirements for gifts and contracts with foreign donors or entities. If a foreign entity is found to be of concern, for example—if they are connected with the Chinese Communist Party—then this bill allows for contracts with those concerning entities to be banned.

The CCP should not have the ability to influence our higher education institutions or students through expensive gifts and large donations. This bill will stop the infiltration and influence of bad actors on college and university campuses and make our education systems more transparent by staying focused on the core mission—preparing America's youth for the workforce.

Bringing contaminated properties back to life in our mountains:

Many investors who are interested in developing properties that have environmental challenges decide not to invest because the cost of cleanup exceeds the business' benefit. Due to the challenges associated with cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites, contaminated properties will sit unoccupied for years.

The current Opportunity Zone program, which offers tax incentives for investors to redevelop areas that are designated as "Opportunity Zones," focuses solely on low-income communities and fails to consider the need for similar investment in communities with additional hardships, such as brownfields and Superfund sites.

To address this overlooked issue, I introduced the bipartisan Economic Opportunity for Distressed Communities Act, to designate all Superfund and brownfield areas as Opportunity Zones and to encourage the clean-up, redevelopment, and revitalization of these contaminated sites.

If cleaned, brownfields and Superfund sites can be redeveloped into new housing or business space, and promoting cleanup and development of these sites will create jobs, business opportunities, and increase property values in Western North Carolina and nationwide.

Supporting small businesses in the aftermath of disaster:

The destruction left by Hurricane Helene has forced many Western North Carolinians to depend on federal resources to rebuild their homes and businesses.

One obstacle that stands in the way of recovery is a current law that restricts hurricane survivors from double-dipping in the disaster aid system by prohibiting folks from receiving a "duplication of benefits."

Unfortunately, wrapped up in this law is limitation from accessing federal loans and federal grants for the same disaster. That means if a business owner receives a federal

disaster recovery loan from the Small Business Administration, they are ineligible to receive a federal recovery grant from the \$1.65 billion Community Development Block Grant—Disaster Recovery funding that I authored and secured in the American Relief Act.

Even though SBA loans are required to be repaid and CDBG-DR grants are one-time payments to victims that do not require repayment, the federal government views the two as a "duplication of benefits."

That's why I introduced the Helene Small Business Recovery Act, which would temporarily waive loans from being considered as a duplication of benefits for disasters occurring in calendar year 2023 or 2024. This clarification would provide an exemption to the duplication of benefits issue for all WNC businesses that received an SBA loan from Hurricane Helene.

Hurricane Helene caused nearly \$60 billion in damage in WNC's mountains, and the state of North Carolina estimates at least \$30 billion of the damage was to the economy and housing. With damage far exceeding currently available resources, our communities must be able to access every possible dollar appropriated for Helene recovery.

Congress must pass this bill so that disaster survivors are not restricted from accessing critical federal aid needed to sustain our region's businesses and keep our families in our mountains.

Now accepting Congressional Art Competition submissions:

The 2025 Congressional Art Competition is open, and my office is accepting submissions from high school students living in North Carolina's 11th congressional district.

The winner of the competition will have their artwork displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year.

After the Congressional Art Competition winner is selected by a panel of judges, I'll also hold a "Facebook Favorite" competition posted on my official Facebook page, @RepChuckEdwards, for Western North Carolinians to vote for their favorite piece of art.

The annual Congressional Art Competition is a great way for students in WNC to showcase their talent, creativity, and passion, and I hope you'll share this with a high school artist whom you know.

For details about the competition requirements and to submit your artwork, visit [edwards.house.gov/artcompetition](https://edwards.house.gov/artcompetition) or contact my Hendersonville office with further questions.

With my warmest regards,

CHUCK EDWARDS,  
Member of Congress.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE KRAKOW UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS

**HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary milestone—the 50th anniversary of Grand Valley State University's long-standing partnership with the Krakow University of Economics in Poland. For five decades, these two institutions have stood as a shining example of the power and promise of international collaboration in higher education, and I could not be prouder of the great work they have achieved together.

GVSU is a pillar of our community. Year after year, their commitment to academic excellence and innovation has led generations of students to reach their full potential. With a dedication to fostering global understanding, GVSU has always known the importance of offering students opportunities that extend beyond our borders, and they have worked tirelessly to connect their students with experiences that broaden their global understanding. This is why their partnership with the Krakow University of Economics is so meaningful—a true testament to their mission.

This partnership began in 1975, at a time when the United States and Poland shared more differences than they did similarities. Still, they came together with a mission to educate, building a strong connection based on mutual respect and a shared goal of helping students grow through global learning. Over the course of 50 years, their partnership has helped foster not only academic excellence, but cultural exchange and understanding between our two nations. As our world becomes more interconnected than ever, this partnership continues to serve as a shining example of what can be achieved when we come together to learn and grow from each other.

On behalf of Michigan's Third Congressional District, congratulations to those at both Grand Valley State University and the Krakow University of Economics who have maintained this collaboration over the years. This partnership has touched the lives of countless students, faculty, and communities across the globe. Today and every day, we thank both institutions for their lasting impact on the communities they serve.

#### RECOGNIZING PARVIN AHMADI

#### HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the outstanding contributions of Parvin Ahmadi, a lifelong educator whose 36 years of service in public education have profoundly shaped the lives of students, families, and educators across California.

Parvin Ahmadi began her career as a classroom teacher in San Jose before taking on administrative roles in Fremont and ultimately serving as Superintendent of the Castro Valley Unified School District for the past decade. Her unwavering belief that “nothing you do for children is ever wasted” has guided her leadership and inspired a generation of educators to pursue equity, access, and excellence in every classroom.

Over the course of her distinguished career, Superintendent Ahmadi has served as a teacher, principal, director, assistant superintendent, and superintendent—holding the latter position for 15 years. Throughout her journey, she has built inclusive learning environments by collaborating with school boards and communities to ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive.

Superintendent Ahmadi holds a bachelor's degree from San Jose State University, a master's in teaching from Chicago, and a master's in educational leadership from Saint

Mary's College of California. She also earned a School Management Certificate from UCLA.

In addition to her district leadership, Parvin Ahmadi has made a lasting impact at the state level. As President of the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), she represented more than 18,000 administrators serving six million students. She continues her advocacy as Past President, mentoring new superintendents through ACSA's professional development academies. In 2019, she was named Senate District 10 Woman of the Year by Senator Bob Wieckowski and also contributed her expertise as a member of Assemblymember Anthony Rendon's State Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood.

It is my honor to recognize Parvin Ahmadi for her decades of service, leadership, and enduring impact on public education. Her legacy is one of integrity, dedication, and a deep commitment to the belief that every child deserves a champion. We thank her for her remarkable career and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING TOHICKON MIDDLE SCHOOL'S HONORING THE LEGACY OF VETERANS FROM BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AND THE USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62)

#### HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound respect and admiration that I rise today to recognize the extraordinary efforts of the students from Tohickon Middle School, part of the Central Bucks School District, in Bucks County Pennsylvania, who have demonstrated exceptional civic commitment through their participation in the Central Bucks Veterans Recognition Project, the Library of Congress Veterans History Project, and the United States Navy Memorial Student Interview Program.

These students embody the very best of American youth—curious, compassionate, and committed to preserving the legacy of those who have selflessly served our Nation. Through countless hours spent interviewing and documenting the personal histories of our Veterans, they have become stewards of memory, ensuring that the voices of our heroes are not lost to time but instead honored and heard by future generations.

For over a decade, students from Tohickon Middle School, Lenape Middle School, Central Bucks High School East, and Central Bucks High School West have gone above and beyond the classroom. After school hours, they have dedicated themselves to capturing the lived experiences of local Veterans—contributions that now form part of a national archive of living history. These stories, rich with courage, sacrifice, and resilience, serve not only as a tribute to those who served but also as a powerful educational resource for all Americans.

Today, I especially commend the Tohickon Middle School History Corps, led with vision and dedication by Dr. Fash, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Girardi, Mr. Neely, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Pakstis. Under their guidance, students have conducted interviews with Veterans from every

branch of the Armed Forces, spanning from World War II to the present day. Many of these Veterans had never before shared their stories on record. By capturing these memories, the students have created an irreplaceable bridge between generations—one that deepens our collective understanding of service, sacrifice, and patriotism.

One particularly moving example of their work took place during the reunion of over 100 Veterans from the *USS New Jersey*, the most decorated battleship in U.S. Navy history. Invited to document this historic gathering, the students traveled to the ship to interview its crew members—many of whom were returning to their vessel for the first time in decades. From September through May, the students meticulously crafted short documentaries that not only chronicled the Veterans' experiences but also honored their enduring legacy.

These documentaries were presented on May 22, 2025, at the United States Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C., before an audience that included *USS New Jersey* Veterans, retired military personnel, and leadership from both the Navy Memorial and the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. This moment was not only a celebration of the Veterans' service but also a testament to the students' remarkable ability to preserve and elevate the stories that define our national character.

Mr. Speaker, the work of these students is more than an academic exercise—it is a profound act of remembrance and gratitude. Their efforts remind us that history is not merely written in textbooks but lives in the hearts and voices of those who lived it. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending these young historians for their dedication, their empathy, and their unwavering respect for those who have worn their uniform of the United States of America.

I include in the RECORD the following who have documented the Service Memories of Veterans and their families from Bucks County, Pennsylvania:

Dr. Matthew Fash  
Mr. James Neely  
Mrs. Bridget Fox  
Mrs. Amanda Girardi  
Mr. Marcus Smith  
Mr. William Pakstis  
Paige Badiali  
Lucy Cavallo  
Zoey Gabriel  
Jack Gabriel  
Sanjana Kishore  
Whitaker Leyland  
Surina Manojkumar  
Ella Menard  
Chisom Oraedu  
Charlotte Raynor  
Thea Ritenbaugh-Martinez  
Jette Rodriguez  
Madeline Sawarynski  
Nihitha Vadicharla  
Timothy Wojciechowski

#### RECOGNIZING AMELIA BROWN

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amelia Brown for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Amelia has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Amelia, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Amelia's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Warren Tech North and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Amelia Brown on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING KATE MILLER

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kate Miller, the Executive Director of the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTa). After 12 years of service at NVTa, Ms. Miller is retiring, ending her 30 year career in transportation and leaving behind a lasting impact on our Napa County community and the broader Bay Area.

Born and raised in the Bay Area, Ms. Miller earned a Bachelor of Arts in U.S. and International Studies from the University of Washington and a Master's in Public Administration, Urban Studies, and Transportation from San Francisco State University. She began her career in transportation in 2000 at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, where she worked as a Senior Planner before moving to AC Transit as the Manager of Capital Development, Legislation, and Grants. In 2012, she became Executive Director of NVTa.

Ms. Miller's leadership at NVTa has resulted in significant improvements to our Napa County's transportation infrastructure. She led the passage of Measure U, a sales tax expected to generate \$1.2 billion over 30 years for local streets and road projects. Under her direction, NVTa completed the \$56 million Soscol Junction Interchange, reducing traffic congestion and improving mobility. She also played a key role in expanding the Napa Valley Vine Trail, securing funding, and guiding its construction from Napa to Yountville and from Calistoga to St. Helena.

Ms. Miller oversaw the operations of Vine Transit, which serves over 600,000 passengers annually and connects Napa County to Vallejo Ferry, Amtrak, and BART. During the 2017 Tubbs Fire, Vine Transit worked with emergency services to evacuate residents and visitors while maintaining limited bus service, earning NVTa and its partners the Bay Area Metro (Grand) Award from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in 2019. The agency later provided similar emergency response efforts during the 2020 Glass Fire. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Vine Transit also played a critical role by delivering meals to shelters and isolation sites, transporting high-risk individuals to quarantine facilities, assisting emergency staff, and ensuring access to testing and vaccination sites for those without transportation.

Beyond our Napa Valley community, Ms. Miller has been a key voice in statewide transportation policy. She served as Chair of the Bay Area Partnership Board at the Metropoli-

tan Transportation Commission and was appointed to the California Transit Transformation Task Force, where she worked on long-term funding solutions and operational improvements for public transit. Ms. Miller is also a well-respected mentor, collaborator, and advocate for sustainable transportation. Known for her ability to bring together local governments, agencies, and private partners, she has strengthened Napa's position in regional and statewide transportation planning.

Outside of her professional life, Ms. Miller is a dedicated family member and friend. She has been married to her husband, Greg, for 21 years and is a devoted aunt to her nieces and nephew Ashley, Natalie, and Wesley. A proud Napa resident, Ms. Miller is an cyclist and enjoys spending time with friends, sharing meals, and walking her dog, Lilly, through the streets of Browns Valley.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Miller's leadership has improved transportation infrastructure, expanded transit services, and advanced sustainability efforts in our Napa Valley and beyond. It is fitting and proper that we recognize her contributions here today.

RECOGNIZING PRICILLA CRUZ-SEADO

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Pricilla Cruz-Seado has made to our community through her work with New Beginnings Youth Shelter, which serves homeless kids aged 10 to 17 who are between foster homes, abandoned, or homeless. The whole team jumps in to take care of the kids that have no one else looking out for them. They teach kids structure, respect, understanding and so much more in a loving environment. The team really cares, and each member is deeply invested in the kids' long-term success.

It is clear Pricilla Cruz-Seado has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

HONORING SUNAYANA DUMALA FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL FLORIDA DURING ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Sunayana Dumala is an Indian immigrant who moved to the United States in 2007 to pursue her master's degree, hopeful about building a new future and achieving the American Dream.

While working as a data integration engineer in Olathe, Kansas, her life was tragically altered on February 22, 2017, when her husband, Srinivas Kuchibhotla, was murdered in a hate crime that shocked the Nation. In the face of unimaginable loss, Sunayana chose to

rise with purpose. She emerged as a leading advocate for immigrants, founding the Forever Welcome Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting immigrant and refugee communities through advocacy, education, and programs that foster unity and bridge diverse communities.

Through Forever Welcome, Sunayana leads dialogue workshops that create space for understanding and connection between immigrants and non-immigrants, and runs a family support program that provides emergency assistance to refugee and low-income immigrant families.

Her advocacy has extended to national platforms. She has worked with Immigration Voice to advance policy solutions for high-skilled immigrants and participated in campaigns like Spread AAPI Love by Stop AAPI Hate.

She has also been featured in national documentaries, including PBS's "Healing Hate" and ABC's "Divided States: Olathe," which highlight her journey and the broader fight against hate. Sunayana's work has earned her honors, including the Heart Award by Med Ad News, the Peace Award from the Crescent Peace Society, and the Humanitarian Award from the Olathe Human Relations Commission.

Apart from focusing on her foundation, since relocating to Lake Nona, Florida, in 2022, Ms. Dumala has been actively involved with Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Coming Together (ACT), a nonprofit organization dedicated to civic engagement and community empowerment. Through her work with ACT, she is helping increase civic engagement and voter awareness across Central Florida.

Sunayana's story is especially remarkable considering that when tragedy struck, she had no immediate family in America, was not born here and was still learning the nuances of American culture. In the face of devastating loss, she had a choice: to turn away from the country that had become her home, or to stay and fight against hate.

Her journey is a testament to resilience, compassion, and a deep commitment to building a country where everyone has a place to belong.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HMONG EXODUS

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Hmong Exodus, the mass displacement and migration of Hmong people from Laos to the United States beginning in 1975.

The Hmong people originated in North Central Asia before migrating to Southeast Asia to settle in Laos. Despite achieving independence from French colonial rule in 1954, their relations to foreign powers remained complex, particularly during the Vietnam War. From 1961 and 1975, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), employed a secret army of Hmong soldiers led by General Vang Pao to assist U.S. war efforts during the Vietnam War era. Known as the Special Guerrilla Unit (SGU), they fought in the "Secret War," often against insurmountable odds, to stop the spread of

communism inside and beyond Laos. In one of the most devastating and traumatic wars in our nation's history, the Hmong people bravely fought side by side with U.S. troops resulting in 35,000 SGU casualties.

Following the Paris Peace Accords, all U.S. military personnel exited Southeast Asia in 1973, but General Vang Pao and the SGU remained. Laos was then split into three factions, but after the city of Long Cheng fell in 1975, the communist-backed Pathet Lao seized power and retaliated against the CIA-sponsored soldiers and their families. This forced an estimated 20,000 Hmong to flee to Thailand to avoid persecution before relocating to the United States. This marked the first wave of the Hmong Exodus, in which over 100,000 Hmong emigrated to the U.S. between 1975 and 1997. They settled primarily in California, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

Today, the Hmong population in the United States is approximately 345,000. The City of Fresno has the second-largest Hmong population in the country, behind only Minneapolis, with roughly 35,000 people living in the region. To recognize their cultural, social, political, and economic contributions to the city, Mayor Jerry Dyer proclaimed May 14th as Hmong American Day in Fresno. This day commemorates the anniversary of the final airlift that brought Hmong veterans and their families to the U.S. It also serves as a reminder to celebrate generations of Hmong Americans and their contributions in business, education, government, healthcare, and public safety. Fresno also has the distinction of hosting the largest Hmong New Year celebration in the country, attracting over 100,000 visitors each year.

In the 115th Congress, I introduced the Hmong Veterans' Service Recognition Act to secure burial rights in national cemeteries for SGU veterans. It was signed into law as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 and serves as a symbol of grateful Nation for the service and loyalty of the SGU soldiers and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in commemorating the resilience and enduring spirit of the Hmong people and their contributions to the United States over the last five decades. May their story be our story.

#### RECOGNIZING AVERY KENKEL

#### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Avery Kenkel for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Avery has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Avery, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will

guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Avery's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wayne Carle Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Avery Kenkel on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

#### HONORING INTERNATIONAL HOUSE DAVIS (I-HOUSE)

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize International House Davis (I-House) as the organization celebrates 40 years of service. Since its founding, I-House has helped make our Davis community a more welcoming and inclusive place by building cultural understanding and supporting international residents.

I-House was originally established in 1981 to connect international students attending UC Davis to our greater Davis community. In 1984, the organization opened its permanent location at 10 College Park, which has since become a central space for cultural exchange, language learning, and public programming in our area. What began as a small, volunteer-led effort has grown into a well-established nonprofit reaching thousands of people each year.

Each year, over 250 international residents participate in I-House's English language programs. In addition, more than 2,500 individuals take part in the organization's cultural events and community programs. These include music and dance classes, parenting groups, public speaking workshops, and the I-House World Tour, a program that features cultural traditions from around the world and partners with local organizations to deepen community ties.

After the COVID-19 pandemic, I-House reevaluated its operation norms, and decided to begin work on expanding its programming and reaching a broader cross-section of our Davis community. The organization has since strengthened its support for immigrants, refugees, and newcomers by launching new English language offerings and volunteer-driven initiatives. It has also added more community-led cultural programming, including classes in Persian drumming, French and Peruvian dance, and other areas that reflect the diversity of its participants.

Throughout its four decades of work, I-House Davis has remained committed to the values of community, curiosity, collaboration, culture, and belonging. These principles are reflected in the organization's day-to-day efforts to promote civic engagement, foster cross-cultural understanding, and support individuals as they navigate life in a new place. Whether through language instruction, cultural

exchange, or shared community space, I-House has created opportunities for people from many different backgrounds to learn from one another and feel connected.

As part of its 40th anniversary, I-House has launched a community storytelling project titled "40 Years of Stories," highlighting the organization's history and its continued importance to the region. Under the leadership of Executive Director Shelly Gilbride and a dedicated staff and board, I-House Davis remains a trusted and active presence in the Davis community.

Mr. Speaker, International House Davis has spent four decades promoting cultural exchange and supporting our international and immigrant communities. It is fitting and proper that we recognize the organization today for its 40 years of dedicated service to our district.

#### RECOGNIZING MERLYN LEWIS

#### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Merlyn Lewis has made to our community through her work as an exceptional volunteer for Service Dog Alliance, an all-volunteer nonprofit, which promotes and supports the rights and responsibilities of service dog teams, businesses, and the community. Merlyn Lewis exemplifies servant leadership by empowering volunteers, the community, and individuals with disabilities to ensure safe and unfettered access for service animal handlers. Volunteering more than 10,000 hours, Ms. Lewis has served as President of the Board and Lead Trainer for the organization. She currently serves on the Executive Board as Secretary/Treasurer. Ms. Lewis and her service dog, Sterling, have traveled throughout Florida as role models of what to expect from a well-trained team. She has assisted individuals with disabilities in becoming better handlers and in understanding how to follow state and federal law. Her training for health care professionals, first responders, government staff, and private businesses about the vital work service animals perform has reduced barriers to access in housing, employment, and places of public accommodation and increased community partnerships to combat the misrepresentation of service animals. Service Dog Alliance achieves its mission because Merlyn Lewis is on the front lines and in the trenches doing whatever is necessary to ensure the organization and those served have all that is needed to be successful.

It is clear that Merlyn Lewis has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S3189–S3210*

**Measures Introduced:** Eleven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1927–1937, and S.J. Res. 56. **Page S3205**

**Measures Passed:**

**ACES Act:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 201, to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

**Pages S3209–10**

Moran (for Kelly/Cotton) Amendment No. 2296, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S3209–10**

**Authorizing the Use of Emancipation Hall:** Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 24, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I. **Page S3210**

**Message from the President:** Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of 22 rescissions of budget authority; referred jointly, pursuant to the order of January 30, 1975, as amended by the order of April 11, 1986; which was referred to the Committees on Appropriations; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and Foreign Relations. (PM–28) **Page S3203**

**Eisenberg Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General. **Pages S3199–S3200**

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 James O'Neill, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

**Pages S3199–S3200**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S3199**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3199**

**Shumate Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Brett Shumate, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

**Page S3200**

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 John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

**Page S3200**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S3200**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S3200**

**Bowman, Walsh, and O'Neill Nominations—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, at 11:45 a.m., on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on 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, and if cloture is invoked, all post-cloture time be expired, and at 6 p.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Michelle Bowman; that following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Michelle Bowman, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination



of Edward Walsh, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to Ireland, and if cloture is invoked, all post-cloture time be expired, and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of Edward Walsh following disposition of the nomination of Michelle Bowman; that at 2 p.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of James O'Neill, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, and if cloture is invoked, all post-cloture time be expired, and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at 11:30 a.m., on Thursday, June 4, 2025.

Page S3200

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, Senate resume 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 S3210

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 51 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 283), Michael Duffey, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.

Pages S3189–95

By 59 yeas to 36 nays (Vote No. EX. 285), Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs).

Pages S3195–96

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 59 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 284), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

Page S3195

By 72 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. EX. 287), Dale Marks, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Pages S3196–99

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 66 yeas to 28 nays (Vote No. EX. 286), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

Page S3196

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army.

Page S3210

**Executive Communications:** Pages S3203–05

**Executive Reports of Committees:** Page S3205

**Additional Cosponsors:** Pages S3205–07

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** Pages S3207–08

**Additional Statements:** Pages S3202–13

**Amendments Submitted:** Pages S3208–09

**Notices of Intent:** Page S3209

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** Page S3209

**Record Votes:** Five record votes were taken today. (Total—287) Pages S3195–96, S3198

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:08 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4, 2025. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3210.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee ordered favorably reported 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, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

### NOMINATION

*Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Michael Boren, of Idaho, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Risch, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for the Department of Education, after receiving testimony from Linda McMahon, Secretary of Education.

### APPROPRIATIONS: SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government concluded hearings to examine proposed budget estimate for fiscal year 2026 for the Securities and Exchange Commission, after receiving testimony from Paul S. Atkins, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission.

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Finance:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of William Long, of Missouri, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Department of the Treasury.

**NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing 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, and Brian Morrissey, Jr., of Virginia, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

**DISTRICT JUDGES V. TRUMP**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on the Constitution with the Subcommittee on Federal Courts,

Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights concluded joint hearings to examine District Judges v. Trump, after receiving testimony from Josh Blackman, South Texas College of Law, Houston; Kate Shaw, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, Philadelphia; and Jose Joel Alicea, Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, Washington, D.C.

**INTELLIGENCE**

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

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# House of Representatives

**Chamber Action**

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 26 public bills, H.R. 3673–3698; and 11 resolutions, H.J. Res. 98; and H. Res. 459–468, were introduced.

Pages H2418–19

**Additional Cosponsors:**

Pages H2420–21

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3394, to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to codify certain qualifications of individuals as accredited investors for purposes of the securities laws, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–115);

H.R. 3381, to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to expand the ability to use testing the waters and confidential draft registration submissions, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–116);

H.R. 3422, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation to provide educational resources and host events to promote capital raising options for traditionally underrepresented small businesses, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–117);

H.R. 3351, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify that actions of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation are not a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–118, Part 1);

H.R. 3343, to amend the Federal securities laws to specify the periods for which financial statements are required to be provided by an emerging growth company, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–119);

H.R. 3357, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require issuers with a multi-class stock structure to make certain disclosures in any proxy or consent solicitation material, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–120);

H.R. 3301, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify certain registration statement contents for emerging growth companies, to permit issuers to file draft registration statements with the Securities and Exchange Commission for confidential review, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–121);

H.R. 1190, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to expand access to capital for rural-area small businesses, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–122);

H.R. 3352, to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise rules relating to general solicitation or general advertising to allow for presentations or other communication made by or on behalf of an issuer at certain events, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–123);

H.R. 1469, to create an interdivisional taskforce at the Securities and Exchange Commission for senior investors, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–124);

H.R. 3382, to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study and rulemaking on the definition of the term “small entity” under the securities laws for purposes of chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–125);

H.R. 2225, to permit a registered investment company to omit certain fees from the calculation of

Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–126);

H.R. 3339, to require certification examinations for accredited investors, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–127);

H.R. 3395, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study of the costs associated with small- and medium-sized companies to undertake initial public offerings, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–128);

H.R. 1713, to amend the Defense Production Act of 1950 to include the Secretary of Agriculture as a member of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–129, Part 1);

H. Res. 458, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2483) to reauthorize certain programs that provide for opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2931) to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to relocate certain offices of the Small Business Administration in sanctuary jurisdictions, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2966) to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to require an applicant for certain loans of the Administration to provide certain citizenship status documentation, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2987) to amend the Small Business Act to require a limit on the number of small business lending companies, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–130); and

H.R. 2056, to require the District of Columbia to comply with federal immigration laws, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–131). **Pages H2417–18**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Taylor to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2385**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:35 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H2389**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:09 p.m. and reconvened at 3 p.m. **Page H2390**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 4:26 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H2402**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

**Aerial Firefighting Enhancement Act of 2025:** S. 160, to amend the Wildfire Suppression Aircraft Transfer Act of 1996 to reauthorize the sale by the Department of Defense of aircraft and parts for wildfire suppression purposes; **Page H2390**

**Esophageal Cancer Awareness Act:** H.R. 3490, amended, to require the Government Accountability Office to produce a report on esophageal cancer; **Pages H2390–92**

**Connecting Small Businesses with Career and Technical Education Graduates Act of 2025:** H.R. 1642, to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs for small business development centers and women's business centers, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 396 yeas to 5 nays, Roll No. 146; **Pages H2392–93, H2402–03**

**WOSB Accountability Act:** H.R. 1816, amended, to establish requirements relating to certification of small business concerns owned and controlled by women for certain purposes; **Pages H2393–95**

**Plain Language in Contracting Act:** H.R. 787, amended, to require plain language and the inclusion of key words in covered notices that are clear, concise, and accessible to small business concerns; **Pages H2395–96**

**Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act:** H.R. 789, amended, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules for cancelled covered solicitations, to amend the Small Business Act to provide assistance to small business concerns relating to certain cancelled solicitations; **Pages H2396–98**

**7(a) Loan Agent Oversight Act:** H.R. 1804, to amend the Small Business Act to require a report on 7(a) agents, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 405 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 147; **Pages H2398–99, H2403–04**

**ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act:** H.R. 1634, amended, to provide for a memorandum of understanding between the Small Business Administration and the National Council on Disability to increase employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities; and **Pages H2399–H2401**

**Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Reporting Act of 2025:** H.R. 1621, amended, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to submit to Congress a report on the entrepreneurial challenges facing entrepreneurs with a disability. **Pages H2401–02**

**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President transmitting in accordance with section 1012(a) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, a report of 22 rescissions of budget authority, totaling \$9.4 billion—referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 119–55). **Page H2402**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2402–03 and H2403–04.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### **SUPPORT FOR PATIENTS AND COMMUNITIES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2025; SAVE SBA FROM SANCTUARY CITIES ACT OF 2025; AMERICAN ENTREPRENEURS FIRST ACT OF 2025; CAPPING EXCESSIVE AWARDING OF SBLC ENTRANTS ACT OF 2025**

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 2483, the “SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025”; H.R. 293, 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”. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 9–3, a rule providing for consideration of 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”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2483, the “SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025”, under a structured rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees. The rule provides that, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 119–4 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in part A of the Rules Committee report. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives

all points of order against the amendments printed in part A of the Rules Committee report. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 2931, the “Save SBA from Sanctuary Cities Act of 2025”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Small Business now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Small Business or their respective designees. The rule provides for one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 2966, the “American Entrepreneurs First Act of 2025”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Small Business now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Small Business or their respective designees. The rule provides for one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 2987, the “CEASE Act of 2025”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Small Business now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Small Business or their respective designees. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Guthrie and Representatives Pallone, Van Duyne, Velázquez, McClellan, and Bonamici.

## *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

### Senate

*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, 10 a.m., SD-192.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* to hold hearings to examine dismantling transnational criminal organizations in the Americas, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy, to hold hearings to examine China's malign influence in Africa, 1 p.m., 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, 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine pending nominations, 10:15 a.m., SH-216.

*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, 4 p.m., SR-418.

*Special Committee on Aging:* to hold hearings to examine the aging farm workforce, focusing on America's vanishing family farms, 4:15 p.m., SH-216.

### House

*Committee on Agriculture,* Full Committee, hearing entitled "American Innovation and the Future of Digital Assets: From Blueprint to a Functional Framework", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

*Committee on Appropriations,* Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Federal Aviation Administration, 10 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, budget hearing on the Office of Management and Budget, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services,* Full Committee, hearing entitled "Department of the Army Fiscal Year 2026 Posture", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled "Update on Navy Programs and Capabilities for Seapower and Projection Forces", 3 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and Workforce,* 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.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation, hearing entitled "Stopping Illegal Robocalls and Robotexts: Progress, Challenges, and Next Steps", 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

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,* Full Committee, hearing entitled "American Innovation and the Future of Digital Assets: From Blueprint to a Functional Framework", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs,* Europe Subcommittee, hearing entitled "Assessing the Challenges Facing NATO", 10 a.m., 2200 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* 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.

*Committee on Natural Resources,* Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing entitled "Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness", 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform,* Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled "Safeguarding Procurement: Examining Fraud Risk Management in the Department of Defense", 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Delivering on Government Efficiency, hearing entitled "Public Funds, Private Agendas: NGOs Gone Wild", 2 p.m., HVC-210 Capitol.

*Committee on Small Business,* Full Committee, hearing entitled "Budgeting for Growth: Testimony from SBA Administrator Kelly Loeffler", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,* Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled "FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024: Stakeholder Perspectives on Implementation One Year Later", 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence,* 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.

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.

# Résumé of Congressional Activity

## FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House.  
The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

### DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through May 31, 2025

	<i>Senate</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Total</i>
Days in Session .....	86	74	..
Time in Session .....	588 hrs., 37'	256 hrs., 40'	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings .....	S3153	H2379	..
Extensions of remarks .....	..	E488	..
Public bills enacted into law .....	7	9	..
Private bills enacted into law .....	..	..	..
Bills in conference .....	..	..	..
Measures passed, total .....	165	234	399
Senate bills .....	18	2	..
House bills .....	1	149	..
Senate joint resolutions .....	9	5	..
House joint resolutions .....	11	12	..
Senate concurrent resolutions .....	5	4	..
House concurrent resolutions .....	5	8	..
Simple resolutions .....	116	54	..
Measures reported, total .....	*70	112	182
Senate bills .....	47	..	..
House bills .....	..	80	..
Senate joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
House joint resolutions .....	..	2	..
Senate concurrent resolutions .....	1	..	..
House concurrent resolutions .....	..	2	..
Simple resolutions .....	22	28	..
Special reports .....	8	2	..
Conference reports .....	..	..	..
Measures pending on calendar .....	64	48	..
Measures introduced, total .....	2229	4239	6468
Bills .....	1904	3652	..
Joint resolutions .....	55	97	..
Concurrent resolutions .....	13	34	..
Simple resolutions .....	257	456	..
Quorum calls .....	3	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes .....	281	124	..
Recorded votes .....	..	20	..
Bills vetoed .....	..	..	..
Vetoes overridden .....	..	..	..

### DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3 through May 31, 2025

Civilian nominees, totaling 369, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed .....	68
Unconfirmed .....	282
Withdrawn .....	19
Other Civilian nominees, totaling 273, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed .....	266
Unconfirmed .....	7
Air Force nominees, totaling 4,087, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed .....	1,077
Unconfirmed .....	3,010
Army nominees, totaling 3,059, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed .....	1,899
Unconfirmed .....	1,160
Navy nominees, totaling 852, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed .....	100
Unconfirmed .....	752
Marine Corps nominees, totaling 92, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed .....	42
Unconfirmed .....	50
Space Force nominees, totaling 2, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed .....	1
Unconfirmed .....	1

#### Summary

Total nominees carried over from the First Session .....	0
Total nominees received this Session .....	8,734
Total confirmed .....	3,453
Total unconfirmed .....	5,262
Total withdrawn .....	19
Total returned to the White House .....	0

\*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 24 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 114 reports have been filed in the House.



*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Wednesday, June 4

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Senate will resume 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, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 11:45 a.m. Following the cloture vote on the nomination of Michelle Bowman, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Edward Walsh, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to Ireland. At 2:00 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of James O'Neill, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services. If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Michelle Bowman, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 6:00 p.m. Following disposition of the nomination of Michelle Bowman, and if cloture has been invoked, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Edward Walsh.

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Wednesday, June 4

## House Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Consideration of H. Res. 458—Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2483) to reauthorize certain programs that provide for opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2931) to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to relocate certain offices of the Small Business Administration in sanctuary jurisdictions; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2966) to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to require an applicant for certain loans of the Administration to provide certain citizenship status documentation; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2987) to amend the Small Business Act to require a limit on the number of small business lending companies.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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